

The Order for  
the Administration  
of the Ante-Communion  
on the  
Vigil of the Ascension of our Lord  
and Rogation Wednesday  
May 20th, 2020 at 10 a.m.

*Where it is desired to have a very short and simple service (as when children are taking part), it shall suffice to say the Collect, the Epistle, and Gospel, for Easter Sunday, together with the Nicene Creed, and the Lord's Prayer.*

*In the absence of opportunities to administer the sacrament, please note the rubric in the Communion of the Sick, p. 323 in the 1928 Book of Common Prayer:*

*¶ But if a man, either by reason of extremity of sickness, or for want of warning in due time to the Minister, **or by any other just impediment**, do not receive the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood, the Minister shall instruct him, that if he do truly repent him of his sins, and stedfastly believe that Jesus Christ hath suffered death upon the Cross for him, and shed his Blood for his redemption, earnestly remembering the benefits he hath thereby, and giving him hearty thanks therefor, he doth eat and drink the Body and Blood of our Saviour Christ profitably to his soul's health, although he do not receive the Sacrament with his mouth.*

# THE ANTE-COMMUNION

## THE INTROIT

**Psalm 66 *Jubilate Deo.***

(Prayer Book, p. 417)

*The Church called to joy in Christ's resurrection.*

*All the earth called to joy in Christ's victory over death.*

**O** be joyful in God, all ye lands;  
\* sing praises unto the honour of his Name;  
make his praise to be glorious.

2 Say unto God, O how wonderful art thou in thy works!  
\* through the greatness of thy power  
shall thine enemies bow down unto thee.

3 For all the world shall worship thee,  
\* sing of thee, and praise thy Name.

*Israel's redemption of Israel at the Red Sea – the pattern of the Church's deliverance by Christ*

4 O come hither, and behold the works of God;  
\* how wonderful he is in his doing toward the children of men.

5 He turned the sea into dry land,  
\* so that they went through the water on foot;  
there did we rejoice thereof.

6 He ruleth with his power for ever; his eyes behold the nations:  
\* and such as will not believe  
shall not be able to exalt themselves.

*The deliverance of the faithful through trials and persecutions*

7 O praise our God, ye peoples,

\* and make the voice of his praise to be heard;

8 Who holdeth our soul in life;

\* and suffereth not our feet to slip.

9 For thou, O God, hast proved us;

\* thou also hast tried us, like as silver is tried.

10 Thou broughtest us into the snare;

\* and laidest trouble upon our loins.

11 Thou sufferedst men to ride over our heads;

\* we went through fire and water,  
and thou broughtest us out into a wealthy place.

*The thankfulness of the faithful for their deliverance*

12 I will go into thine house with burnt-offerings,  
and will pay thee my vows,

which I promised with my lips, and spake with my mouth,  
when I was in trouble.

13 I will offer unto thee fat burnt-sacrifices, with the incense of rams;

\* I will offer bullocks and goats.

*Testimony of the faithful to answered prayer*

14 O come hither, and hearken, all ye that fear God;

\* and I will tell you what he hath done for my soul.

15 I called unto him with my mouth,

\* and gave him praises with my tongue.

16 If I incline unto wickedness with mine heart,

\* the Lord will not hear me.

17 But God hath heard me;

\* and considered the voice of my prayer.

18 Praised be God, who hath not cast out my prayer,  
\* nor turned his mercy from me.

**G**LORY be to the Father, and to the Son, \*  
and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, \*  
world without end. Amen.

*Minister.* Alleluia, the Lord is risen  
*Answer.* He is risen indeed, alleluia.  
*Minister.* the Lord be with you.  
*Answer.* And with the spirit.  
*Minister.* Let us pray.

## **OPENING PRAYERS**

*said by the priest alone*

OUR Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil. Amen.

### **The Collect for Purity**

ALMIGHTY God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### **PREPARING IN PENITENCE.**

*Priest.* Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith.

**T**HOU shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

Lord, have mercy upon us.  
*Christ, have mercy upon us.*  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

¶ *Here shall be said,*

*Answer.*           The Lord be with you.  
                          And with thy spirit.  
*Minister.*         Let us pray.

### **The Collect.**

**G**RANT, we beseech thee, Almighty Father, that our minds may be ever intent upon that place whither thy only-begotten Son our Lord hath entered in before; and that we may in our manner of life attain to that which by our faith we reach toward ; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

*For Rogation Wednesday*

**A**LMIGHTY God, Lord of heaven and earth; We beseech thee to pour forth thy blessing upon this land, and to give us a fruitful season; that we, constantly receiving thy bounty, may evermore give thanks unto thee in thy holy Church;

*For the Fifth Sunday after Easter*

**O** Lord, from whom all good things do come; Grant to us thy humble servants, that by thy holy inspiration we may think those things that are good, and by thy merciful guiding may perform the same; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

### **THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD**

**The Lesson for the Epistle: Acts 4:32-35**

*The church in Jerusalem after Christ's Ascension.*

*Clerk.* The Lesson for the Epistle is written in the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter of the Acts of the Apostles, beginning at the 32<sup>nd</sup> verse.

In those days: the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common. <sup>33</sup> And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup> Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold, <sup>35</sup> And laid them down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need.

**The Epistle:** Ephesians 4:7-16  
*The gifts of the ascended Lord.*

*Clerk.* The Epistle is written in the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter of the Epistle to the Ephesians, beginning at the 7<sup>th</sup> verse.

Brethren: unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. <sup>8</sup> Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. <sup>9</sup> (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? <sup>10</sup> He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.) <sup>11</sup> And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; <sup>12</sup> For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: <sup>13</sup> Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: <sup>14</sup> That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; <sup>15</sup> But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: <sup>16</sup> From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

**The Gospel:** St. John 17:1- 11 *Christ's Prayer at the Last Supper.*

*Priest.* The Holy Gospel according to St. John, in the 17<sup>th</sup> chapter, beginning at the 1<sup>st</sup> verse.

*Answer:* Glory be to thee, O Lord.

**A**T that time: Jesus lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee: <sup>2</sup>As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. <sup>3</sup>And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. <sup>4</sup>I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do. <sup>5</sup>And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was. <sup>6</sup>I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word. <sup>7</sup>Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee. <sup>8</sup>For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me. <sup>9</sup>I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine. <sup>10</sup>And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them. <sup>11</sup>And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee.

*Answer:* Praise be to thee, O Christ.

**The Address – The Rector**

## **THE OFFERTORY**

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. Revelation 5:12

**The Biddings**

**The Commemoration of the Faithful Departed**

*Minister.* I bid your prayers for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed:

Rest ☩ eternal grant unto them, O Lord;

*Answer.* and let light perpetual shine upon them.

May they rest in peace. *Amen.*

### **The Prayer for Christ's Church.**

¶ *Then shall the Priest say,*

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church.

**A**LMIGHTY and everliving God, who by thy holy Apostle hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men; We humbly beseech thee most mercifully to receive these our prayers, which we offer unto thy Divine Majesty; beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord: And grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

We beseech thee also, so to direct and dispose the hearts of all Christian Rulers, that they may truly and impartially administer justice, to the punishment of wickedness and vice, and to the maintenance of thy true religion, and virtue.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all Bishops and other Ministers, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy People give thy heavenly grace; and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear, and receive thy holy Word; truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succour all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless ☩ thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear; beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service, and to give us grace so to follow their good examples, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

And now, as our Saviour Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

OUR Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

### **Closing Prayers**

**Antiphon** (*said together*)

The crucified hath risen from the sepulchre, and redeemed us, alleluia, alleluia.

*Minister.* Tell it out among the heathen, alleluia.

*Answer.* That the Lord hath reigned from the tree, alleluia.

ALMIGHTY God, who for our sakes didst send thy Son to suffer death upon the Cross, that thou mightest deliver us from the power of the enemy: mercifully grant to us thy servants; that we may attain unto the grace of his resurrection; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

*And the Blessing, or if there be no priest to pronounce the blessing, then:*

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all ever more. Amen.