

The Order for
the Administration
of the Ante-Communion
on the
Feast of the Ascension of our Lord
May 21st, 2020 at 11 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 47. *Omnes gentes, plaudite.*

(Prayer Book p. 399)

A Psalm of Christ's ascension "who sitteth at the right hand of the Father", reigning as King of kings and Lord of lords, to whom "all authority in heaven and in earth is given" (Matthew 28:18). "God is gone up with a merry noise, and the Lord with the sound of the trump".

CLAP your hands together, all ye peoples:

* O sing unto God with the voice of melody.

2 For the Lord is high, and to be feared;

* he is the great King upon all the earth.

3 He shall subdue the peoples under us,

* and the nations under our feet.

4 He shall choose out an heritage for us,

* even the excellency of Jacob, whom he loved.

5 God is gone up with a merry noise,

* and the Lord with the sound of the trump.

6 O sing praises, sing praises unto our God;

* O sing praises, sing praises unto our King.

7 For God is the King of all the earth:

* sing ye praises with understanding.

8 God reigneth over the nations;

* God sitteth upon his holy seat.

9 The princes of the peoples are joined *

unto the people of the God of Abraham;

for God, which is very high exalted, *
doth defend the earth, as it were with a shield.

Glory 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. 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.

THOU 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.

GRANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that like as we do believe thy only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens; so we may also in heart and mind thither ascend, and with him continually dwell, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

The Lesson: Daniel 7:2a, 9-10, 13-14

Clerk. Here beginneth the 9th verse of the 7th chapter of the book of Daniel.

In those days: Daniel spake and said: I saw in my vision by night, and I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire. ¹⁰ A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened. ¹³ I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. ¹⁴ And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.

The Epistle: Acts 1:1 - 11

Clerk. The Lesson for the Epistle is written in the 1st chapter of the Acts of the Apostles, beginning at the 1st verse.

THE former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen: to whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God: and, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father which, saith he, ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judæa, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

The Gospel: St. Mark 16:14 - 20 *(as appointed in the BCPs of 1549 - 1892)*

Priest. The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, in the 16th chapter, beginning at the 14th verse.

Answer: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

AT that time: Jesus appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen. And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they

cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following.

Answer: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Nicene Creed *said by all*

IBELIEVE in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And of all things visible and invisible:

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God; Begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of very God; Begotten, not made; Being of one substance with the Father; By whom all things were made: Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, And was made man: And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried: And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures: And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father: And he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord, and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; Who spake by the Prophets: And I believe one Catholic and Apostolic Church: I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins: And I look for the Resurrection ☩ of the dead: And the Life of the world to come. Amen.

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.

ALmighty 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*)

God is gone up with a merry noise, and the Lord with the sound of the trump, alleluia.

Minister. Christ, when he ascended up on on high, alleluia.

Answer. Led captivity captive, and received gifts for men, alleluia.

BLESSED art thou, O Lord God Almighty, the Ancient of Days, who hast set thy Son Christ Jesus our Lord upon the glorious throne of thy Kingdom, exalted far above all peoples, all places, all times, eternally; that he who hath worn our flesh, and borne our manhood into the holy of holies, should henceforth pour down heavenly gifts upon his brethren, and be both our righteous judge and most merciful intercessor; to whom with thee, O Father, and thee, O Holy Spirit, one God, be ascribed all might, majesty, dominion, and praise, now and for ever. *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.

*In the ten days between the Ascension and Pentecost,
it is fitting to pray with one accord for the promise of the Holy Ghost.*

Veni creator spiritus.

Come down, Creator Spirit, find
A harbour in thy people's mind;
With grace celestial consecrate
The heart of clay thou didst create.

Thy very name is Comforter,
The highest gift the skies confer
The flow of life, the fire, the love
The unction poured from God above.

Thou finger stretched from heaven's throne
Whose touch is sevenfold benison;
Thou promise of the Father, rich
In sudden dower of golden speech;

Infuse our soul with kind desire,
Our senses light with shining fire;
Confirm with lasting hardihood
The cowardice of flesh and blood.

Bring peaceful hours, and banish far
All enmities that augur war.
With such a guide to go before
No hurtful thing can harm us more.

Make through thyself the Father known,
Reveal the person of the Son,
And grant a constant faith, to see
Their Spirit equally in thee. Amen.

(transl. Austin Farrer)

