

The Order for
the Administration
of the Ante-Communion
on the Wednesday in the Octave
of the Ascension of our Lord

May 27th, 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 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 Collects.

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.*

Let us pray:

ALmighty and everlasting God: make us always to bear a will devoted to thee, and to serve thy majesty with a pure heart;

O GOD, the King of glory, who hast exalted thine only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph unto thy kingdom in heaven; We beseech thee, leave us not comfortless; but send to us thine Holy Ghost to comfort us, and exalt us unto the same place whither our Saviour Christ is gone before, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

The Lesson: 2 Kings 2:1-15 *The prophet Elijah taken up bodily into heaven.*

Clerk. Here beginneth the 2nd chapter of Second Book of the Kings.

In those days: it came to pass, when the LORD would take up Elijah into heaven by a whirlwind, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal. ² And Elijah said unto Elisha, Tarry here, I pray thee; for the LORD hath sent me to Bethel. And Elisha said unto him, As the LORD liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. So they went down to Bethel. ³ And the sons of the prophets that were at Bethel came forth to Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the LORD will take away thy master from thy head to day? And he said, Yea, I know it; hold ye your peace. ⁴ And

Elijah said unto him, Elisha, tarry here, I pray thee; for the LORD hath sent me to Jericho. And he said, As the LORD liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. So they came to Jericho. ⁵ And the sons of the prophets that were at Jericho came to Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the LORD will take away thy master from thy head to day? And he answered, Yea, I know it; hold ye your peace. ⁶ And Elijah said unto him, Tarry, I pray thee, here; for the LORD hath sent me to Jordan. And he said, As the LORD liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. And they two went on. ⁷ And fifty men of the sons of the prophets went, and stood to view afar off: and they two stood by Jordan. ⁸ And Elijah took his mantle, and wrapped it together, and smote the waters, and they were divided hither and thither, so that they two went over on dry ground. ⁹ And it came to pass, when they were gone over, that Elijah said unto Elisha, Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken away from thee. And Elisha said, I pray thee, let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me. ¹⁰ And he said, Thou hast asked a hard thing: nevertheless, if thou see me when I am taken from thee, it shall be so unto thee; but if not, it shall not be so. ¹¹ And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. ¹² And Elisha saw it, and he cried, My father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof. And he saw him no more: and he took hold of his own clothes, and rent them in two pieces. ¹³ He took up also the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and went back, and stood by the bank of Jordan; ¹⁴ And he took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and smote the waters, and said, Where is the LORD God of Elijah? and when he also had smitten the waters, they parted hither and thither: and Elisha went over. ¹⁵ And when the sons of the prophets which were to view at Jericho saw him, they said, The spirit of Elijah doth rest on Elisha. And they came to meet him, and bowed themselves to the ground before him.

The Epistle: Ephesians 4:7-13 (14-16) *The gifts of the Ascended Lord.*

Clerk. The Epistle is written in the 4th chapter of the Epistle of Saint Paul the Apostle to the Ephesians, beginning at the 7th verse.

BRETHREN: unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. ⁸ Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. ⁹ (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰ He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.) ¹¹ And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; ¹² For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: ¹³ 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: [¹⁴ 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; ¹⁵ But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: ¹⁶ 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. Luke 24:49- 53 *The promise of the ascending Lord.*

Priest. The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, in the 24th chapter, beginning at the 49th verse.

Answer: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

AT that time: Jesus said unto his disciples: behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high. ⁵⁰ And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. ⁵¹ And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven. ⁵² And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy: ⁵³ And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.

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 – David Svihel, Minister with Youth

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.

*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)