



Christ Church New York City

a gospel-centered anglican church

*"So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."
– Romans 10:17*

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Morning Prayer – May 24, 2020
The Sunday After Ascension Day

The Joy of Jesus' Ascension

Q. What do you mean by saying, "He ascended to heaven"?

A. That Christ, while his disciples watched, was taken up from the earth into heaven and remains there on our behalf until he comes again to judge the living and the dead.

– *The Heidelberg Catechism, Question 46*

O what a change this is! Here he sweated, but there he sits. Here he groaned, but there he triumphs. Here he lay upon the ground, there he sits in the throne of glory.

– John Flavel

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea;
A great High Priest, whose name is Love,
Who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on His hands,
My name is written on His heart.

– Charitie Bancroft

Worship | Community | Mission

Christ Church NYC is a community of Christians committed to glorifying God, glorying in God, and serving the city through our worship, our life together, and our gospel mission.

A Pastoral Note —

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This worship bulletin has been put together for you during this time that our public worship gatherings have been canceled due to the COVID-19 outbreak. As you meet with your family, roommates, neighbors in your building, other members of CCNYC, or just by yourself, I hope it will be of help to you as you seek to worship and draw near to the Lord.

Though worship in the home and among families is not intended to and can never replace the corporate gathering of the whole congregation, it is nonetheless a good practice for all of us to develop. If you are not accustomed to doing ‘family worship’ it may seem odd at first, but I want to encourage you to keep pressing forward with it. As you do so, remember that it need not be complicated. The essence of family worship consists simply in singing, praying, and studying God’s Word together.

As we meet in our various homes and in small groups scattered throughout the city and region, please know that I am praying for all of you and longing to be meeting with you in person. In fact, I pray that our love and desire for meeting together will be strengthened because of this absence. What a sweet time of fellowship it will be when the Lord once again allows us to be together in person to worship Him!

Your pastor,
Keith

“The more we worship God in secret, the fitter shall we be for family worship, and the more we worship God in our families, the fitter shall we be for public worship.” – Rev. John Angier (1605-1677)

Reflection

A quiet moment to prepare our hearts

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. (*Colossians 3:1*)

A period of silence is kept.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

O Lord, open our lips;

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

O God, make speed to save us;

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Rejoice the Lord Is King



Re - joi - ce, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King a -
Je - sus, the Sav - ior, reigns, The God of truth and
His king - dom can - not fail, He rules o'er earth and
Re - joi - ce in glo - rious hope! Our Lord the judge shall



dore! Re - joi - ce, give thanks, and sing, and tri - umph ev - er -
love; When He had purged our stains, He took His seat a -
heaven; The keys of death and hell are to our Je - sus
come, And take His ser - vants up to their e - ter - nal



more: Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re -
bove: Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re -
given: Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re -
home: Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re -



joice, A - gain I say, re - - - joi - ce!
joice, A - gain I say, re - - - joi - ce!
joice, A - gain I say, re - - - joi - ce!
joice, A - gain I say, re - - - joi - ce!

Confession

After a brief silence for reflection, all reply saying the words in bold.

**Most merciful Father, we humbly admit that we need your help.
We confess that we have wandered from your way like lost sheep.
We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts,
and have failed to do what is right.
You alone can save us.
Have mercy upon us, Lord;
wipe out our sins and teach us to forgive others.
Turn our hearts to love and obey you.
Bring forth in us the fruit of the Spirit that we may live as disciples of Christ.
This we ask in the name of Jesus our Savior. Amen.**

Words of Comfort and Assurance

But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defence — Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins. (1 John 2:1b-2a)

Hear and receive the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

Blessed Assurance



Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! Oh, what a
Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light, vi - sions of
Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest, I in my



fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine! Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of
rap - ture now burst on my sight; an - gels de - scend - ing, bring from a -
Sav - ior am hap - py and blest; watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a -



God, born of His Spir - it, washed in His blood. This is my
bove ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.
bove, filled with His good - ness, lost in His love.



sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long; this is my



sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

Words: Fanny Crosby, 1873; Music: Phoebe P. Knapp, 1873 CCLI 2361806

A Prayer for the Hearing of God's Word

Blessed Lord, who has caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant that we might hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, so that by patience and the comfort of your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Responsive Psalm – Psalm 45

To the choirmaster: according to Lilies. A Maskil of the Sons of Korah; a love song.

- 1 My heart overflows with a pleasing theme;
I address my verses to the king;
my tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe.
- 2 **You are the most handsome of the sons of men;**
grace is poured upon your lips;
therefore God has blessed you forever.
- 3 Gird your sword on your thigh, O mighty one,
in your splendor and majesty!
- 4 **In your majesty ride out victoriously**
for the cause of truth and meekness and righteousness;
let your right hand teach you awesome deeds!
- 5 Your arrows are sharp
in the heart of the king's enemies;
the peoples fall under you.
- 6 **Your throne, O God, is forever and ever.**
The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness;
7 you have loved righteousness and hated wickedness.
Therefore God, your God, has anointed you
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions;
- 8 **your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia.**
From ivory palaces stringed instruments make you glad;
- 9 daughters of kings are among your ladies of honor;
at your right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir.
- 10 **Hear, O daughter, and consider, and incline your ear:**
forget your people and your father's house,
- 11 and the king will desire your beauty.
Since he is your lord, bow to him.

- ¹² **The people of Tyre will seek your favor with gifts,
the richest of the people.**
- ¹³ All glorious is the princess in her chamber, with robes interwoven with gold.
- ¹⁴ **In many-colored robes she is led to the king,
with her virgin companions following behind her.**
- ¹⁵ With joy and gladness they are led along
as they enter the palace of the king.
- ¹⁶ **In place of your fathers shall be your sons;
you will make them princes in all the earth.**
- ¹⁷ I will cause your name to be remembered in all generations;
therefore nations will praise you forever and ever.

First Bible Reading – Acts 1:1-11

¹ In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, ² until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³ He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

⁴ And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me; ⁵ for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷ He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” ⁹ And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, ¹¹ and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Bible Reading – Ephesians 1:15-23

¹⁵ For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, ¹⁶ I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, ¹⁸ having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰ that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ²² And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Bible Reflection – Acts 1:1-11

The Joy of Jesus' Ascension

To help you reflect on Acts 1:1-11, you can find recordings of teaching from Keith on our website under 'Sermons'. You can also find study questions on our blog.

Notes:

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

On the third day he rose again;

**he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic* church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**The 'catholic' church is the totality of God's people through the ages who hold firm to the classic teachings of Christ's apostles.*

Prayers

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

Let us pray.

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your Name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done on earth, as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins,

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours

now and for ever. Amen.

The leader continues,

Lord, show us your mercy,
and grant us your salvation.

Lord, govern the leaders of the nations,
and mercifully hear our prayers.

Clothe your ministers with righteousness,
and make your chosen people joyful.

Lord, save your people,
and bless your inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord,
for you are our help and strength.

Create in us clean hearts, O God,
and renew us by your Holy Spirit.

A Prayer for Today

O God the King of glory, who has exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph unto your kingdom in heaven: We beseech you, leave us not comfortless; but send to us your Holy Spirit to comfort us, and exalt us unto the same place where our Savior Christ is gone before, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.** (BCP 1662)

Almighty God, our strong tower of defense in time of trouble: We offer you praise and heartfelt thanks for our deliverance from the dangers which lately surround us and for your gracious gift of peace. We confess that your goodness alone has preserved us; and we ask you still to continue your mercies toward us, that we may always know and acknowledge you as our Savior and mighty Deliverer; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers for God's people, the nations, and people in need are said, concluding with:

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.

Crown Him with Many Crowns



Crown Him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on His throne. Hark!
Crown Him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave, And
Crown Him the Lord of peace, whose pow'r a scep - ter sways From
Crown Him the Lord of love; be - hold His hands and side, Rich



how the heav'n - ly an - them_ drowns all mu - sic but its own. A -
rose vic - tor - ious in the_ strife for those He came to save. His
pole to pole that wars may_ cease and all be prayer and praise. His
wounds yet vi - si - ble a - bove in beau - ty glo - ri - fied. All



wake, my soul, and sing of Him who died for thee, and
glor - ies now we sing, who died and rose on high. Who
reign shall know no end, and 'round His pier - ced feet fair
hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For Thou hast died for me; Thy



hail Him as thy match - less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.
died e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives, that death may die.
flow'rs of par - a - dise ex - tend their fra - grance e - ver sweet.
praise and glo - ry shall not fail through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

Words: Matthew Bridges, 1852, & Godfrey Thring, 1874; Music: George Elvey, 1868 CCLI 2361806

Benediction

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may abound in hope. (*Romans 15:13*)

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all
crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye
heav - enly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Words: Thomas Ken, 1709; Music: Louis Bourgeois, 1551 CCLI 2361806

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Please join us today at 4:30 PM for a Hymn Sing with Bible Readings and a short Reflection by Keith from Psalm 95. For more information on how to join in our Christ Church NYC's Zoom Meeting, please check the invitation email or contact info@christchurchnyc.com.




Sundays at Christ Church New York City

111 East 87th Street
between Park & Lexington Avenues
10:00 AM Morning Church


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