

MORNING PRAYER – 24th May 2020 – Sunday after Ascension Day

(Using the Book of Common Prayer - BCP)

Introduction and Opening Hymn 431 Lord enthroned in heavenly splendour

The Easter Greeting

Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

A Sentence of Scripture

Blessed by the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. 1 Peter 1:3

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Beloved in Christ, today we offer to Almighty God our worship and praise and thanksgiving, to confess our sins and to receive God's forgiveness, to hear his holy word proclaimed, to bring before him our needs and the needs of the world, and to pray that in the power of his Spirit we may serve him and know the greatness of his love.

A Prayer of Penitence

Heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault; by what we have done and by what we have failed to do. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

The Absolution

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Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O Lord, open our lips: **and our mouth will proclaim your praise**

O God, make speed to help us: **O Lord make haste to help us.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:

As it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever, Amen

Praise the Lord: **The Lord's name be praised.**

Psalm 68

- 1 Let God arise and let his enemies be scattered; ◆
let those that hate him flee before him.
- 2 As the smoke vanishes, so may they vanish away; ◆
as wax melts at the fire,
so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.
- 3 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; ◆
let them make merry with gladness.
- 4 Sing to God, sing praises to his name;
exalt him who rides on the clouds. ◆
The Lord is his name; rejoice before him.

- 5 Father of the fatherless, defender of widows, ◆
 God in his holy habitation!
- 6 God gives the solitary a home
 and brings forth prisoners to songs of welcome, ◆
 but the rebellious inhabit a burning desert.
- 7 O God, when you went forth before your people, ◆
 when you marched through the wilderness,
- 8 The earth shook and the heavens dropped down rain,
 at the presence of God, the Lord of Sinai, ◆
 at the presence of God, the God of Israel.
- 9 You sent down a gracious rain, O God; ◆
 you refreshed your inheritance when it was weary.
- 10 Your people came to dwell there; ◆
 in your goodness, O God, you provide for the poor.
- 32 Sing to God, you kingdoms of the earth; ◆
 make music in praise of the Lord;
- 33 He rides on the ancient heaven of heavens ◆
 and sends forth his voice, a mighty voice.
- 34 Ascribe power to God, whose splendour is over Israel, ◆
 whose power is above the clouds.
- 35 How terrible is God in his holy sanctuary, ◆
 the God of Israel, who gives power and strength to his people!
 Blessed be God.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
 and to the Holy Spirit;
**as it was in the beginning, is now,
 and shall be for ever. Amen.**

1st Reading: Acts 1:6-14

The first reading is from the Acts of the Apostles, chapter 1, beginning at verse 6

6 So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' ⁷He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.' ¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. ¹³When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

CANTICLE : Hymn 695: God of mercy, God of Grace

2nd Reading: **John 17: 1-11**

A reading from the Gospel according to St John, chapter 17, beginning at the first verse.

17After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ²since you have given him authority over all people, ³to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. ⁶I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Thought for the Day

Apostles' Creed

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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.

Hymn 494 Beauty for brokenness

Prayers

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The Lord be with you; **and also, with you.**

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy; **Christ, have mercy.** Lord, have mercy.

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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Show us your mercy, O Lord; **and grant us your salvation.**

N.I. [O Lord, save the Queen; **and grant her government wisdom.**]
R.I. [O Lord, guide and defend our rulers; **and grant our government wisdom.**]
Let your ministers be clothed with righteousness; **and let your servants shout for joy.**
O Lord, save your people; **and bless those whom you have chosen.**
Give peace in our time, O Lord; **and let your glory be over all the earth.**
O God, make clean our hearts within us; **and renew us by your Holy Spirit.**

THE COLLECTS

Collect of the Sunday after Ascension Day

O God the King of Glory,
you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:
Mercifully give us faith to know
that, as he promised,
he abides with us on earth to the end of time;
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen

Collect

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord,
to know you is eternal life, and to serve you is perfect freedom:
Defend us in all assaults of our enemies,
that we, surely trusting in your protection,
may not fear the power of any adversaries;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Heavenly Father, in whom we live and move and have our being:
We humbly pray that your holy Spirit may so guide and govern us,
That in all the cares and occupations of our daily life,
We may never forget your presence,
But may remember that we are always walking in your sight,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

INTERCESSIONS –

Ending *BCP – page 116*

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, ^[SEP]so that by the Holy Spirit you may
abound in hope. **Amen.** Romans 15: 13

BLESSING

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, raise you up to walk with him in the newness
of his risen life:

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Amen**

Hymn 443 Sent forth by God's blessing