

**A Service of Morning Prayer
for May 16, 2021
The Ascension of the Lord**



The Ascension, Rembrandt 1636

Go and make disciples of all nations, says the Lord; I am with you always,
to the close of the age. *Matthew 28:19, 20*

CP 9 Today I Awake

1. Today I awake and God is before me.
At night, as I dreamt, he summoned the
day;
for God never sleeps, but patterns the
morning
with slithers of gold or glory in grey.

2. Today I arise and Christ is beside me.
He walked through the dark to scatter new
light.
Yes, Christ is alive, and beckons his
people
to hope and to heal, resist and invite.

3. Today I affirm the spirit within me
at worship and work, in struggle and rest.
The Spirit inspires all life which is changing
from fearing to faith, from broken to blest.

4. Today I enjoy the Trinity round me,
above and beneath, before and behind;
the Maker, the Son, the Spirit together
they called me to life and call me their
friend.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

May his grace and peace be with you.

May he fill our hearts with joy.

Almighty God,

**to you all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hidden.
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Alleluia! The Sun of righteousness has risen: O come, let us worship.

Psalm 47

- ¹ Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy.
² For the LORD, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth.
³ He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet.
⁴ He chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom he loves.
⁵ God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.
⁶ Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.
⁷ For God is the king of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm.
⁸ God is king over the nations; God sits on his holy throne.
⁹ The princes of the peoples gather as the people of the God of Abraham.
 For the shields of the earth belong to God; he is highly exalted.

A Reading from Acts 1:1-11

- ¹ In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning ² until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen.
³ After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.
⁴ While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have 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, is this the time when you will restore
 the kingdom to Israel?"
⁷ He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set 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, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."
⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.
¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them.
¹¹ They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward 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."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CP 444 Your Hand, O God, Has Guided

1 Your hand, O God, has guided
 your flock from age to age;
 the wondrous tale is written
 full clear on every page;
 our forebears knew your goodness,
 and we their deeds record,
 and both of this bear witness,
 'One church, one faith, one Lord.'

2 Your heralds brought glad tidings
 to greatest, as to least;
 they summoned all to hasten
 to share the great King's feast,
 and this was all their teaching,
 in every deed and word,
 to all alike proclaiming,
 'One church, one faith, one Lord.'

3 When shadows, thickly falling,
 Engulfed the world in night,
 You summoned forth your servants,
 Your messengers of light.
 On them and on your people
 Your plenteous grace was poured,
 And this was still their message:
 One church, one faith, one Lord.

4 And we, shall we be faithless?
 Shall hearts fail, hands hang down?
 Shall we evade the conflict,
 and cast away our crown?
 Not so; in God's deep counsels
 some better thing is stored:
 The covenant of promise
 'One church, one faith, one Lord.'

5 Your mercy will not fail us,
 nor leave your work undone;
 with your right hand to help us,
 Your people shall be one,
 and then by all creation,
 Your name shall be adored,
 and this shall be their anthem,
 'One church, one faith, one Lord.'

A Reading from Ephesians 1:15-23

¹⁵ I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason

¹⁶ I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers.

¹⁷ I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him,

¹⁸ so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints,

¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power.

²⁰ God put this power to work 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 age to come.

²² And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church,

²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

CCLI 7084823 Hope Has a Name

1. There is a song I know it well
 A melody that's never failed
 On mountains high in valleys low
 My soul will rest
 My confidence in You alone

Chorus

**Hope has a name His name is Jesus
 My Savior's cross has set this sinner
 free
 Hope has a name His name is Jesus
 Oh Christ be praised I have victory**

2. There is a light salvation's flame
 Christ undefeated trampled the grave
 See now the cross be lifted high
 The light has come the light has won
 Behold the Christ

Chorus

3. There'll be a day my hope complete
 Now home in glory Your face I'll see
 My pain no more my fear will cease
 I bow my life I fix my eyes
 On Christ my king
 I bow my life I fix my eyes
 On Christ my king

Chorus**The Gospel**

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Luke 24:44-53

⁴⁴ Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled."

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,

⁴⁶ and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day,

⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.

⁴⁹ And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

⁵⁰ Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them.

⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven.

⁵² And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy;

⁵³ and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

The Gospel of Christ
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon by the Rev. Heather Liddell

CCLI 4196620 The Voice of Truth

1. Oh what I would do to have
 The kind of faith it takes
 To climb out of this boat I'm in
 Onto the crashing waves
 To step out of my comfort zone
 Into the realm of the unknown
 Where Jesus is
 And He's holding out His hand

Pre-Chorus

But the waves are calling out my name
 And they laugh at me
 Reminding me of all the times
 I've tried before and failed
 The waves they keep on telling me
 Time and time again
 Boy you'll never win you'll never win

Chorus

But the voice of truth tells me a different
 story
 The voice of truth says do not be afraid
 And the voice of truth says this is for My
 glory
 Out of all the voices calling out to me
 I will choose to listen
 And believe the voice of truth

2. Oh what I would do
 To have the kind of strength
 It takes to stand before a giant
 With just a sling and a stone
 Surrounded by the sound
 Of a thousand warriors
 Shaking in their armor
 Wishing they'd have
 Had the strength to stand

Pre-Chorus

But the giant's calling out my name
 And he laughs at me
 Reminding me of all the times
 I've tried before and failed
 The giant keeps on telling me
 Time and time again
 Boy you'll never win you'll never win

Chorus

But the voice of truth tells me a different
 story
 The voice of truth says do not be afraid
 And the voice of truth says this is for My
 glory
 Out of all the voices calling out to me
 I will choose to listen
 And believe the voice of truth

Bridge

But the stone was just the right size
 To put the giant on the ground
 And the waves they don't seem so high
 From on top of them looking down
 I will soar with the wings of eagles
 When I stop and listen to the sound
 Of Jesus singing over me

Chorus

But the voice of truth tells me a different
 story
 The voice of truth says do not be afraid
 And the voice of truth says this is for My
 glory
 Out of all the voices calling out to me
 I will choose to listen
 And believe the voice of truth

Affirmation of Faith (The Apostles' Creed)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.
 I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
 He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
 and born of the Virgin Mary.
 He 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
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
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.**

Prayers of the People led and compiled by Lesley Lambert

Let us pray.

Today I will be using Litany #5 in the Book of Alternative Services.

Let us pray to the Lord, saying "Lord, hear our prayer".

We pray today for the Anglican Church of Korea, and in Canada, for the Diocese of Yukon, the Rt. Rev. Lesley Wheeler-Dame, Bishop. In our diocese, we pray for all the hospital visitors , and for the Hospital Chaplaincy: Regula Brandle, Chaplain and Co-ordinator of Hospital Visitors, Lee Bezanson, Kevin Kraglund, and Regula Brandle, Chaplains. We ask your presence and blessing on all those who are called to this very special ministry especially during these challenging times.

We pray for our own parish home of St. Peter's, for our ministry, Heather and Alison, and for our musician Nadine who brings the joy and comfort of music into our homes every week. We give thanks also for all those who support our parish life in so very many ways using talents and gifts unique to them alone and precious to those who receive them.

In our prayers we hold close the Buye Diocese, the Gireranyi Parish, Papias Masengesho, Rector, and also the Metis Nation of Alberta.

As our diocesan search committee begins the process of installing a new Bishop, let us pray for them and for all lay and clergy delegates who are involved in this process, that we will choose wisely a new shepherd to lead us forward in the years to come.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Let us pray today for this country of Canada, our Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, and all in authority here and throughout the world, most especially at this time for the people of East Jerusalem during this escalating conflict. Grant to their leaders the wisdom and compassion to make good choices for the many people affected by the violence, who wish only to live their lives in peace.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We remember today the many young people whose education and all its social interactions and benefits have been disrupted this year, who miss their friends and their playdates. Let us pray for children and young people and for the parents and teachers who guide them: may the Lord guide their growth and development.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Let us pray for the sick and those who care for them in the home, the hospital and the residences during these most challenging times. We remember today the people of India and all those, here and around the world, who are suffering from the virus or its many repercussions....loneliness, loss of jobs and income and removal of all daily normality. We also pray for those for whom our prayers have been most particularly requested: Sandra, Merle, Mona, Nicole, Lois, Ray, Evelyn, Irene and Sandy, Joyce, Jim and Par, Kathryn, Trevor, Helen, Brent, Jennifer, Judy, Tony, Thelma, Luisa, Carey and Olga. May the Lord bless them, deliver them and keep them in his love.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Let us pray for all who are condemned to exile, prison, harsh treatment or hard labour, for the sake of justice and truth, remembering especially Canadians Michael Korvig and Michael Spavor imprisoned in China. Keep them safe, and watch over them with your infinite and loving compassion.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray today for those whom we love whose earthly journey is now completed, and we pray for the peaceful repose of the soul of Rev. Lorna Howell and your comfort to those who mourn her loss. We remember Peter and all the saints: the Lord direct our lives in the same spirit of service and sacrifice.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Compassionate Father, it has been a while since we have been able to gather as one body in your presence to worship you in fellowship and community. We long for the time that we can gather together at our beloved St. Peter's and experience the joy and fellowship of shared worship in a shared space. We ask for trust and patience, not only for ourselves but for all worshipping communities, so that, when the time is right, we can open our doors and once again, carefully and with the safety of all in our minds and hearts, come together again in love and fellowship.

**Until that time, we thank you for the many opportunities you have granted us to worship in different ways and we ask that you make us always mindful that the church is not the building where worship happens but that the church lives in us as you live in us, for ever and ever,
Amen.**

Collect

Almighty God,
 your Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven
 that he might rule over all things as Lord.
 Keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit
 and in the bond of his peace,
 and bring the whole of creation
 to worship at his feet,
 who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever.

And now, as our Saviour Christ has 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,
 the power, and the glory,
 for ever and ever. Amen.**

CCLI 7119246 Magnificent, Marvelous, Matchless Love

1. Magnificent, marvelous, matchless love
 Too vast and astounding to tell
 Forever existing in worlds above
 Now offered and given to all
 Oh fountain of beauty eternal
 The Father the Spirit the Son
 Sufficient and endlessly generous
 Magnificent marvelous matchless love

2. Creation is brimming with thankfulness
 The mountains exultant they stand
 The seasons rejoice in Your faithfulness
 All life is sustained by Your hand
 You crown every meadow with color
 You paint every shade in the sky
 Each day the dawn wakes as an encore of
 Magnificent marvelous matchless love

Chorus
How great how sure
His love endures forevermore
Magnificent, marvelous, matchless love

3. What grace that You entered our
 brokenness
 You came in the fullness of time
 How far we had fallen from righteousness
 But not from the mercies of Christ
 Your cross is our door to redemption
 Your death is our fullness of life
 That day how forgiveness flowed as a flood
 Magnificent, marvelous, matchless love

Chorus
How great how...

Bridge
 United in Your resurrection
 You lift us to infinite heights
 Could anything sever or take us from
 Magnificent, marvelous, matchless love

Chorus
How great how sure
His love endures forevermore
Magnificent, marvelous, matchless love

The Dismissal

Go and make disciples of all nations, says the Lord; I am with you always,
to the close of the age. *Matthew 28:19, 20*

As we wait expectantly for the promised Holy Spirit,
Let us go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia.