

May 17, 2026

**The Ascension of the Lord
(A)**

First Reading

Acts 1:8–11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Jesus told his disciples:

“The Holy Spirit will come upon you and give you power.

Then you will tell everyone about me in Jerusalem,
in all Judea, in Samaria, and everywhere in the world.”

After Jesus had said this and while they were watching,
he was taken up into a cloud.

They could not see him, but as he went up,
they kept looking up into the sky.

Suddenly two men dressed in white clothes
were standing there beside them.

They said, “Why are you men from Galilee
standing here and looking up into the sky?

Jesus has been taken to heaven.

But he will come back in the same way that you have seen him go.”

The word of the Lord.

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Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 47:1–2, 5–6, 7–8

All: *God mounts the throne to shouts of joy.*

*All of you nations,
clap your hands and shout
joyful praises to God.
The LORD Most High is fearsome,
the ruler of all the earth.*

All: *God mounts the throne to shouts of joy.*

*God goes up to his throne,
as people shout
and trumpets blast.
Sing praises to God our King.*

All: *God mounts the throne to shouts of joy.*

*God is ruler of all the earth!
Praise God with songs.
God rules the nations
from his sacred throne.*

All: *God mounts the throne to shouts of joy.*

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Second Reading

Ephesians 1:17–21

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians

Brothers and sisters:

I ask the glorious Father and God of our Lord Jesus Christ
to give you his Spirit.

The Spirit will make you wise and let you understand
what it means to know God.

My prayer is that light will flood your hearts
and that you will understand the hope that was given to you
when God chose you.

Then you will discover the glorious blessings that will be yours
together with all of God's people.

I want you to know about the great and mighty power
that God has for us followers.

It is the same wonderful power he used when he raised Christ
from death
and let him sit at his right side in heaven.

There Christ rules over all forces, authorities, power, and rulers.
He rules over all beings in this world
and will rule in the future world as well.

The word of the Lord.

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Gospel

Matthew 28:16–20

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

Jesus' eleven disciples went to a mountain in Galilee,
where Jesus had told them to meet him.
They saw him and worshiped him,
but some of them doubted.

Jesus came to them and said:
“I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth!
Go to the people of all nations and make them my disciples.
Baptize them in the name of the Father,
the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
and teach them to do everything I have told you.

“I will be with you always,
even until the end of the world.”

The Gospel of the Lord.