

The Holy Eucharist – full text --

Ascension Sunday (Easter 7)

ST. PAUL'S ON THE GREEN

MAY 17, 2026 – 9:00AM & 11:00AM

PRELUDE

Andante 'Choeur de Voix humaines' - L.J.A. Le Lefébure-Wély (1817–1869)

Please stand as the bell sounds.

HYMN IN PROCESSION

Hymn 216

Refrain

Hail thee, fes - ti - val day! blest day that art hal - lowed for
ev - er, day when the Christ a - scends, high in the
hea - vens to reign. *First time only* 2
1 He who was nailed to the cross is Lord and the
ru - ler of na - ture; all things cre -
a - ted on earth sing to the glo - ry of God: *Repeat Refrain*
4 Je - sus the health of the world, en - light - en our
6 Praise to the Giv - er of good! Thou Love who art
minds, thou Re - deem - er, Son of the Fa - ther su -
au - thor of con - cord, pour out thy balm on our
preme, on - ly - be - got - ten of God: *Repeat Refrain*
souls, or - der our ways in thy peace:

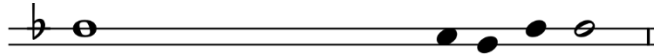
Words: Venantius Honorius Fortunatus (540?–600?); tr. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.
Music: *Salve festa dies*, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The Celebrant intones

Alleluia. Christ is Risen.

The People respond



The Lord is risen indeed. Al-le-lu-ia.

SONG OF PRAISE

Hymn 417

Antiphon

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and

1 blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. [Ant.]
 2 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. [Ant.]
 3 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion. [Ant.]

Final Antiphon

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Setting: *Festival Canticle*, Richard Hillert (b. 1923)

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

The Celebrant prays the Collect.

**God of majesty,
yours is the power that raised Christ from death,
yours the glory that exalted him to your right hand.
By the mystery of the Ascension,
sustain our hope as we bear witness to our baptism.
By the perpetual outpouring of your Spirit,
confirm your church in its mission of salvation.
Grant this through Jesus Christ, the first-born from the dead,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE LESSON *seated*

Acts 1:1-11

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. 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. 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; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. 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." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. 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."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

Thanks be to God.

At 9:00am the Psalm is sung reflectively, with a slight pause at the asterisk.
 At 11:00am, the Psalm is sung by the Choir.



God is Sovereign, clothed in | splendid apparel; *
 God is robed in majesty and is | girded with strength.

God has made the whole | world so sure *
 that it | cannot be moved;

Ever since the world began, your throne has | been established; *
 you are from | everlasting.

The waters have lifted up, O God, the waters have lifted | up their voice; *
 the waters have lifted up their | pounding waves.

Mightier than the sound of many waters, mightier than the breakers | of the sea, *
 mightier is the Holy One who | dwells on high.

Your testimonies are | very sure, *
 and holiness adorns your house, O God, for ever and for | evermore.

Anglican Chant: George Elvey (1816 – 1893)

THE EPISTLE

Ephesians 1:15-23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. 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, 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, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. 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, 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. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

Thanks be to God.

1 O Lord Most High, e - ter - nal King, by
 2 A - scend - ing to the Fa - ther's throne, thou
 3 Be thou our joy, O Might - y Lord, as
 4 O ris - en Christ, a - scend - ed Lord, all

thee re - deemed thy praise we sing. The bonds of
 claim'st the king - dom as thine own; and an - gels
 thou wilt be our great re - ward; let all our
 praise to thee let earth ac - cord, who art, while

death are burst by thee, and grace has won the
 won - der when they see how changed is our hu -
 glo - ry be in thee both now and through e -
 end - less a - ges run, with Fa - ther and with

After stanza 4

vic - to - ry.
 man - i - ty.
 ter - ni - ty.
 Spi - rit, One. Al - le - lu - ia!

Words: Medieval Latin; sts. 1-3, tr. F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984); st. 4, tr. Benjamin Webb (1819-1885)
 Music: *Gonfalon Royal*, Percy Carter Buck (1871-1947)

THE GOSPEL *The Deacon intones*

Luke 24:44-53

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

Glory to you, O Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, "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." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, 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, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. 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." Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *standing*

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father.
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.
Through Him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit,
He became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.
For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered death and was buried.
On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and His kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son, She* is worshipped and glorified.
She has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**Holy Spirit in biblical languages is a feminine-gendered word,
and we use the feminine pronoun here to highlight that aspect of God's fullness.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Deacon bids the prayers, saying

**God of new creation, you promise to hear and answer as we pray in faith.
Risen Lord,
hear our prayer.**

The response after each prayer is

**Risen Lord,
hear our prayer.**

We pray for the world: Lead all peoples into the ways of justice and peace; teach us to respect one another in freedom and truth; awaken in us wonder for the earth, and a deep care for all you have made. (Risen Lord, hear our prayer.)

We pray for the Church: Enliven your Church for its mission; make us salt of the earth and light to the world; breathe fresh life into your people, that we may reveal Christ in word and action. (Risen Lord, hear our prayer.)

We pray for communities in which we live: Inspire those who make decisions that shape our lives, that they may act with integrity and courage; give grace to all whose lives are bound to ours, that we may serve Christ in one another and love as he loves us. (Risen Lord, hear our prayer.)

We pray for those in need, especially those who have asked for our prayers. [long pause for people to add their own prayers]... Comfort and restore all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; let them know the power of your healing love, and make us agents of your compassion. (Risen Lord, hear our prayer.)

We remember those who have died and those who mourn. [long pause for people to add their own prayers]... Give comfort to those who grieve, and bring them peace in their loss. We give thanks for the faithful in every generation; may their example inspire our witness in our own day. (Risen Lord, hear our prayer.)

The Celebrant concludes with a collect

**Almighty God,
through your Son Jesus Christ you overcame death
and opened to us the gate of everlasting life;
grant us so to die daily to sin,
that we may evermore live with him
in the joy of his resurrection;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE PEACE

The peace of the Risen and Ascended Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

Please share a sign of peace with those around you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

seated

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Thank you for your participation and support!



2026

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MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY *sung by the Choir*

Ave verum corpus

W.A. Mozart (1756 – 1791)

*Ave verum corpus,
Natum de Maria virgine;
Vere passum immolatum
In crucis pro homine.
Cuius latus perforatum
Unda fluxit sanguine.
Esto nobis praegustatum
In mortis examine.
O dulcis, o pie,
O Jesu Fili Mariae.*

Hail, true body,
Born of the virgin Mary;
Who has truly suffered, slaughtered
On the Cross for humanity.
Whose side was pierced,
Pouring out water and blood.
Be a foretaste for us
During our ordeal of death.
O sweet, O holy,
O Jesus Son of Mary.

1 Hail the day that sees him rise, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 There the glo - rious tri - umph waits; Al - le - lu - ia!
 *3 See! he lifts his hands a - bove; Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Lord be - yond our mor - tal sight, Al - le - lu - ia!

glo - rious to his na - tive skies; Al - le - lu - ia!
 lift your heads, e - ter - nal gates! Al - le - lu - ia!
 See! he shows the prints of love; Al - le - lu - ia!
 raise our hearts to reach thy height, Al - le - lu - ia!

Christ, a - while to mor - tals given, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Wide un - fold the ra - diant scene; Al - le - lu - ia!
 Hark! his gra - cious lips be - stow, Al - le - lu - ia!
 there thy face un - cloud - ed see, Al - le - lu - ia!

en - ters now the high - est heaven! Al - le - lu - ia!
 take the King of glo - ry in! Al - le - lu - ia!
 bless - ings on his Church be - low. Al - le - lu - ia!
 find our heaven of heavens in thee. Al - le - lu - ia!

Words: Charles Wesley (1707–1788), alt.
 Music: *Llanfair*, Robert Williams (1781–1821)

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly,
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

Setting: William Mathias (1934 -1992)

The prayer continues until

We give thanks to you, O God,
for your goodness and love made known in creation;
in the calling of your people into a covenant of love;
in your Word spoken through the prophets;
and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son.
For in these last days you sent him to be born of Mary,
to dwell among us, full of grace and truth.
Crucified and risen,
he has broken the power of evil
and made us worthy to stand before you.
In the light of his resurrection,
you have brought us out of error into truth,
out of sin into righteousness,
out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us,
our Lord Jesus Christ took bread;
and when he had given thanks,
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said,
“Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you.”

After supper he took the cup of wine;
and when he had given thanks,
he gave it to them, and said,
“Drink this, all of you:
This is my Blood of the new Covenant,
which is shed for you and for all
for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it,
do this for the remembrance of me.”

Alive in him, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Dying, you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in glory.

Made one with him,
we offer you these gifts of bread and wine,
and with them ourselves,
Pour out your Holy Spirit upon these gifts +
that they may be for us the Body and Blood of Christ.
Unite us to your Son in his risen life, +
that we may be made alive in him
and share in his victory over death.

Bring us, with all your saints,
into the fullness of your new creation,
where death is no more
and all things are made new;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
the firstborn from the dead,
the head of the Church,
and the author of our salvation.

By whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit
all honor and glory is yours, Source of life,
now and for ever.

The prayer continues until



Setting: Will Doreza

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:

Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hall - owed be your Name, your king - dom come,
your will be done, on earth as in hea - ven. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.
And for - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.
Save us from the time of trial, and de - liv - er us from e - vil.
For the king - dom, the po - wer, and the glo - ry are yours, now and for ev - er. A - men.

setting: Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov (1844-1908); adapted.

THE COMMUNION

The Celebrant breaks the bread and bids the People to Communion.

The disciples knew the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread.

Everyone is welcome to receive Communion. Please follow the direction of the ushers. Gluten-free bread is available upon request; non-alcoholic grape juice is available in the blue-dot cups at the side altars. If you don't wish to drink from the chalice, you may simply touch its base when it is brought to you. (For the health of all, we are no longer dipping the bread into the chalice wine by hand.)

All sing as the distribution of Communion begins:



Loaves are bro-ken, words are spo-ken, as in faith we ga-ther here. Je-sus speaks a-cross the
a - ges: "I am with you, do not fear!" By your bo - dy bro-ken for us, by your wine of life out-
poured, Je - sus, feed a - gain your peo - ple. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.

Words: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., (1923-2007)
Music: Marty Haugen (b. 1950)

MUSIC AT COMMUNION *sung by the choir*

Draw us in the Spirit's Tether

Harold Friedell (1905 – 1958)

Draw us in the Spirit's tether;
For when humbly, in thy name,
Two or three are met together,
Thou art in the midst of them:
Alleluia! Touch we now thy garment's hem.

All our meals and all our living
Make as sacraments of thee,
That by caring, helping, giving,
We may true disciples be.
Alleluia! We will serve thee faithfully.

As the brethren use to gather
In the name of Christ to sup,
Then with thanks to God the Father
Break the bread and bless the cup,
Alleluia! So knit thou our friendship up.

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The People join in the final part of the prayer, in bold.

**Ever-living God, we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off you met us in your Son
and revealed the way to life in his name.
Dying and rising, he declared your love, gave us grace,
and opened the gate of glory.**

*May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope that you have set before us,
so that we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name. Amen.*

[SENDING FORTH OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS]

When Lay Eucharistic Visitors are sent out to bring the Sacrament to the sick or homebound, the Celebrant sends them out:

**In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that
those to whom you go may share with us in the Communion of Christ's body
and blood.**

The People respond

We, who are many, are one body, because we all share one bread and one cup.

THE BLESSING

**The wonder and wildness of God,
who shakes heaven and earth,
whom death could not contain,
who lives to disturb and heal us,
bless you with power to go forth and live the Gospel.**

**And the blessing of God Almighty:
Source of all being,
Incarnate Word,
and Abiding Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you,
now and always. Amen.**

1 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the
 *2 Al - le - lu - ia! not as or - phans are we
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! bread of Hea - ven, Thou on

1 scep - ter, his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the
 2 left in sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is
 3 earth our food, our stay! Al - le - lu - ia! here the

1 tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone; Hark! the
 2 near us, faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how: though the
 3 sin - ful flee to thee from day to day: In - ter -

1 songs of peace - ful Zi - on thun - der like a
 2 cloud from sight re - ceived him, when the for - ty
 3 ces - sor, friend of sin - ners, earth's Re - deem - er,

1 might - y flood; Je - sus out of ev - ery
 2 days were o'er, shall our hearts for - get his
 3 plead for me, where the songs of all the

1 na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.
 2 prom - ise, "I am with you ev - er - more?"
 3 sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.

Words: William Chatterton Dix (1837–1898)
 Music: *Hyfrydol*, Rowland Hugh Prichard (1811–1887)

THE SENDING

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Sortie in B-flat – L.J.A. Le Lefébure-Wély (1817 – 1869)

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