

The Parish of Sanderstead and Hamsey Green
All Saint's Church, Sanderstead

ASCENSION DAY EUCHARIST

Thursday 26 May 2022, 7.30pm



*Extending God's Welcome to All.
Committed to Grow – in Discipleship, Service and Numbers*

Today we commemorate Christ's ascension into heaven, 40 days after his resurrection. "Stay here", he told his disciples, "until you have been clothed with power from on high".

Introit: Eternal Monarch" (Plainsong).



HAIL THE DAY THAT SEES HIM RISE, ALLELUIA!

to his throne beyond the skies. Alleluia!
Christ, the Lamb for sinners given, Alleluia!
enters now the highest heaven. Alleluia!

There for him high triumph waits; Alleluia!
lift your heads, eternal gates. Alleluia!
He has conquered death and sin; Alleluia!
take the King of glory in. Alleluia!

Highest heaven its Lord receives; Alleluia!
yet he loves the earth he leaves. Alleluia!
Though returning to his throne, Alleluia!
still he calls us all his own. Alleluia!

Still for us he intercedes; Alleluia!
his atoning death he pleads, Alleluia!
near himself prepares our place, Alleluia!
he the firstfruits of our race. Alleluia!

There we shall with you remain, Alleluia!
partners of your endless reign, Alleluia!
see you with unclouded view, Alleluia!
find our heaven of heavens in you. Alleluia!

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

The president introduces the service:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, for forty days we have been celebrating with joyful hearts the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, his bursting from the tomb and his defeat of the power of sin and death. He appeared to his disciples many times and told them about the kingdom of God.

Today we recall how he left this earth and returned to his Father, ascending into heaven to take his throne over all dominions and powers. Trusting in his reign over all creation, and submitting to his kingly yet loving rule, let us hear the story of his parting.

As we remember his sending out of the disciples may we also remember his promise to them, us and to the church in every age, "Lo I am with you always, even to the end of time".

Silence is kept

Preparation. This prayer is said

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom 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.**

Prayers of Penitence

In baptism we died with Christ, so that as Christ was raised from the dead, we might walk in newness of life. Let us receive new life in him as we confess our sins in penitence and faith.

Lord Jesus, you have shown us the way to the Father:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, your word is a light to our path:
Christ have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd, leading us into everlasting life.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

May the Father forgive you
by the death of his Son
and strengthen you to live in the power of the Spirit
all your days.

Amen.

'Gloria in Excelsis'

**Glory to God in the highest
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly king,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord.
You alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen**

The minister leads us in the special prayer (the 'Collect') for today

**Risen Christ,
you have raised our human nature to the throne of heaven:
help us to seek and serve you,
that we may join you at the Father's side,
where you reign with the Spirit in glory,
now and forever.
Amen**



A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles 1: 1-10

Jesus Taken Up Into Heaven

In my former book, *Theophilus*, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach ² until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. ³ After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. ⁴ On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵ For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

⁶ Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

⁷ He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

⁹ After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

¹⁰ They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Ephesians 1:15-end

Thanksgiving and Prayer

¹⁵ For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, ¹⁶ I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷ I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that

you may know him better. ¹⁸ I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, ¹⁹ and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength ²⁰ he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, ²¹ far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. ²² And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn



THE HEAD THAT ONCE WAS CROWNED WITH THORNS

is crowned with glory now;
a royal diadem adorns
the mighty Victor's brow.

The highest place that heav'n affords
is His, is His by right,
the King of kings and Lord of lords,
and heav'n's eternal Light.

The joy of all who dwell above,
the joy of all below,
to whom He manifests His love,
and grants His name to know.

To them the cross with all its shame,
with all its grace, is giv'n,
their name, an everlasting name,
their joy, the joy of heav'n.

They suffer with their Lord below,
they reign with Him above,
their profit and their joy to know
the myst'ry of His love.

[cont.]

The cross He bore is life and health,
though shame and death to Him:
His people's hope, His people's wealth,
their everlasting theme!

Thomas Kelly (1769-1855)



Alleluia, alleluia.

Go and make disciples of all nations, says the Lord. Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Alleluia!

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel Reading: Luke 24:44-end

⁴⁴ He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

The Ascension of Jesus

⁵⁰ When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵² Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. ⁵³ And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.



The 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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and 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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and
glorified,
who 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.**



Let us join our prayers with those of our Saviour Christ, seeking the Father's blessing and the gifts of the Spirit.

Jesus Christ, great high priest,
living for ever to intercede for us,
pray for the Church, your broken body in the world ...
Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus Christ, king of righteousness,
enthroned at the right hand of the majesty on high,
pray for the world, and make it subject to your gentle rule ...
Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus Christ, Son of Man,
drawing humanity into the life of God,
pray for your brothers and sisters in need, distress or sorrow ...
Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus Christ, pioneer of our salvation,
bringing us to glory through your death and resurrection,
surround with your saints and angels
those who have died trusting your promises ...
Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus Christ, Lord over all things,
ascended far above the heavens and filling the universe,
pray for us who receive the gifts you give us for work in your
service ...

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus Christ,
keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of
peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at your
feet; for you are alive and reign with the Father and the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.



The priest greets the people in peace

Jesus says:

'Peace, I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Rejoice because I am going to the Father.' Alleluia!

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

We offer one another a sign of peace.

Hymn

CHRIST TRIUMPHANT, EVER REIGNING

Saviour, Master, King,
Lord of heav'n, our lives sustaining,
hear us as we sing:

*Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name.*

Word incarnate, truth revealing,
Son of Man on earth!
Pow'r and majesty concealing
by your humble birth:

Suff'ring servant, scorned, ill-treated,
victim crucified!
Death is through the cross defeated,
sinners justified:

Priestly King, enthroned for ever
high in heav'n above!
Sin and death and hell shall never
stifle hymns of love:

So, our hearts and voices raising
through the ages long,
ceaselessly upon you gazing,
this shall be our song:

The Liturgy of the Sacrament



The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation.
You bring forth bread from the earth
Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation.
You create the fruit of the vine.
Blessed be God for ever.

The Eucharistic Prayer (Prayer H)

The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation; in your love you made us for yourself. When we turned away you did not reject us, but came to meet us in your Son.
**You embraced us as your children
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life that we might live in him and he in us.
**He opened his arms of love on the cross
and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed, at supper with his friends he took bread, and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to them, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his body is the bread of life.**

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins; do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory, send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

**As we eat and drink these holy gifts make us one in Christ,
our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world we offer you this sacrifice of praise and lift our voices to join the eternal song of heaven:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Let us pray



As our Saviour taught us, so we 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 priest breaks the consecrated bread

Lord, we died with you on the cross.
Now we are raised to new life.

We were buried in your tomb.
Now we share in your resurrection.

Live in us, that we may live in you.

The Agnus Dei

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world
have mercy upon us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
grant us thy peace.**

The Invitation

Christ welcomes you to his table.
Draw near with faith.

The Holy Communion is distributed.

<p><i>Prayer after Communion</i></p>

God our Father,
you have raised our humanity in Christ
and have fed us with the bread of heaven:
mercifully grant that, nourished with such spiritual blessings,
we may set our hearts in the heavenly places;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

**We thank you, Lord
that you have fed us in this sacrament,
united us with Christ,
and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet prepared
for all peoples.**

Amen

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles - Acts 1:12, 13a, 14

Then the disciples returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath's day journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying. They were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary, the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Silence is kept

As we wait in silence,
Make us ready for your coming Spirit.

As we listen to your word,
Make us ready for your coming Spirit.

As we worship you in majesty,
Make us ready for your coming Spirit.

As we long for your refreshing,
Make us ready for your coming Spirit.
As we long for your renewing,
Make us ready for your coming Spirit.

As we long for your equipping,
Make us ready for your coming Spirit.

As we long for your empowering,
Make us ready for your coming Spirit.

Prayer of God's Blessing

May God the Father, who has given to his Son the name above every name,
strengthen you to proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord.
Amen.

May God the Son, who is our great high priest passed into the heavens,
plead for you at the right hand of the Father.
Amen.

May God the Holy Spirit, who pours out his abundant gifts upon the Church, make you faithful servants of Christ our king.
Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Hymn



REJOICE, THE LORD IS KING!

Your Lord and King adore;
mortals, give thanks and sing,
and triumph evermore.

*Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
rejoice, again I say, rejoice.*

Jesus the Saviour reigns,
the God of truth and love;
when he had purged our stains,
he took his seat above.

His kingdom cannot fail;
he rules o'er earth and heav'n;
the keys of death and hell
are to our Jesus giv'n.

He sits at God's right hand
till all his foes submit,
and bow to his command,
and fall beneath his feet.

Charles Wesley (1707 – 1788)

Dismissal

Waiting expectantly for the promised Holy Spirit,
go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Final Voluntary: Postlude (Noel Rawsthorne)