



ST. GEORGE'S ON-THE-HILL

Ascension Sunday

Sunday, May 16th, 2021, 10:30am

Easter Greeting

Presider: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: **The Lord is risen indeed, alleluia!**

Presider: May his grace and peace be with you!

People: **May he fill our hearts with joy!**

Hymn: O Lord Most High, Eternal King

CP #245

O Lord most high, eternal king, by thee redeemed thy praise we sing.

The bonds of death are burst by thee, and grace has won the victory.

Ascending to the sapphire throne, thou claim'st the kingdom as thine own;
and angels wonder when they see how changed is our humanity.

Be thou our joy, O mighty Lord, as thou wilt be our great reward;
let all our glory be in thee both now and through eternity.

O risen Christ, ascended Lord, all praise to thee let earth accord,
who art, while endless ages run, with Father and with Spirit, one. Alleluia!

Prayer of the Day

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading: Acts 1:1-11

A Reading from the Book of Acts.

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 over the course of 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 towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They 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.'

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please keep a period of silence for reflection)

Psalm 47:1-6

Hal le lu jah, ha le lu jah! Hal le
lu jah, ha le lu jah!

Music: Leonard Cohen

Cantor 1: O clap your hands, you peoples all; with joyful songs, shout to our God!
(For this, I sing for ever, Hallelujah!)

The mighty God is to be feared, a sovereign great o'er all the earth.
(For this, I sing for ever, Hallelujah!)

Cantor 2: *Hallelujah . . .*

Cantor 1: O'er peoples God gave victory, God made us o'er the nations rule;
(For this, I sing for ever, Hallelujah!)

God chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom God loves.
(For this, I sing for ever, Hallelujah!)

Cantor 2: *Hallelujah . . .*

Cantor 1: God has gone up to take the throne with shouts of joy and trumpet call;
(For this, I sing for ever, Hallelujah!)

Sing praise to God who is our king; sing praise to earth's king with a psalm;
(For this, I sing for ever, Hallelujah!)

Cantor 2: *Hallelujah . . .*

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23

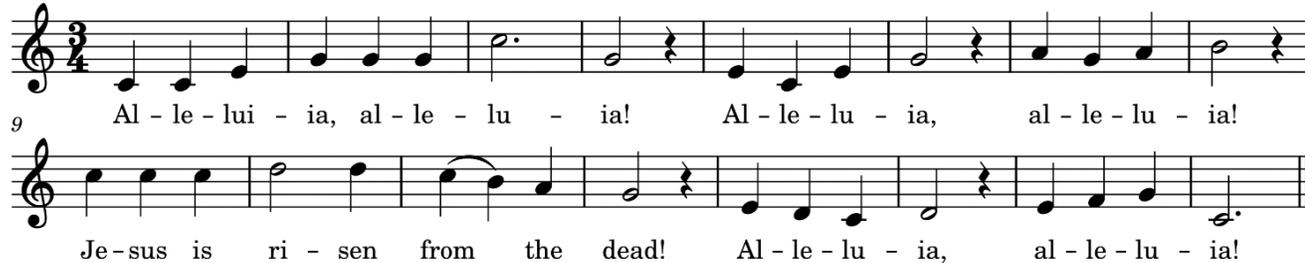
A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Church in Ephesus.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards 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.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation



9 Al - le - lui - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Je - sus is ri - sen from the dead! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The Holy Gospel: Luke 24:44-53

Reader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

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

Cantor: Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ! Alleluia, alleluia!

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.' 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 worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

Reader: The Gospel of Christ

Cantor: Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ! Alleluia, alleluia!

Homily: The Rev. Canon Dr. Andrew Sheldon

(After the sermon, please keep a period of silence for reflection.)

The Apostle's Creed

Presider: Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

All: 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.

Presider: Having reaffirmed our faith, let us prepare to offer our prayers to God.

The Prayers of the People: Litany of Easter

Musical Reflection: Spirit of God

W.H. Neidlinger

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Prayer Over the Gifts

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The Presiding Celebrant acclaims the life-giving power of God in the story of salvation and calls on us to join all creation in the song of the angels. The cantor sings verses 1-3 of the Sanctus.



1. Ho - ly, - ho - ly, Ho - ly!	Lord God of pow'r and might	Lord
2. Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly!	Your glo - ry fills the hea - ven,	your
3. Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly!	He comes the Bless - ed One	He
4. Glo - ry, glo - ry, glo - ry!	For ev - er - more be glo - ry!	For
5. Glo - ry, glo - ry, glo - ry!	For ev - er more be glo - ry!	For



God of pow'r,	Lord God of might!	Ho - ly, ho - ly	Lord!
glo - ry fills	the heav'n and earth!	Ho - ly, ho - ly	Lord!
comes in	the name of the Lord!	Ho - ly, ho - ly	Lord!
ev - er more	be glo - ry to you!	Glo - ry - be	to you!
ev - er more	be glo - ry to you!	A - men, A	- men!

The Presiding Celebrant recounts God's continuing love in the history of humanity and in the sending of his son, Jesus Christ. We join Jesus as he celebrates his Last Supper and acclaim his giving of himself in the gifts of bread and wine. After the words over the cup and the elevation of the chalice, the cantor sings verse 4 of the Sanctus.

The Presiding Celebrant calls on the Holy Spirit to bless the gifts and strengthen us until we come to share the joys of eternity. We praise God's endless love. At the elevation of the bread and cup, the cantor sings verse 5 of the Sanctus.

The Lord's Prayer

Presider: And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

People: 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.

The Breaking of the Bread

Presider: Lord we died with you on the cross.

All: Now we are raised to new life.

Presider: We were buried in your tomb.

People: Now we share in your resurrection.

Presider: Live in us, that we may live in you.

The Communion

Music During Communion: Draw the Circle Wide

G. Light

Easter Blessing

Presider: May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing.

People: Alleluia!

Presider: May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ forever.

People: Alleluia!

Presider: May God, who has brought us out of bondage into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance.

People: Alleluia!

Presider: And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Presider: Go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God! Alleluia, alleluia!

Postlude: My Heart Ever Faithful

J.S. Bach



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