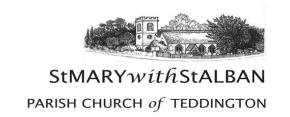
Ascension Day

9th May 2024



THE GATHERING

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Hail the day that sees him rise, Alleluia! To his throne above the skies; Alleluia! Christ, the Lamb for sinners giv'n, Alleluia! Enters now the highest heav'n: Alleluia!

There for him high triumph waits: Alleluia! Lift your heads, eternal gates; Alleluia! He hath conquered death and sin: Alleluia! Take the King of Glory in! Alleluia!

Lo! the heav'n its Lord receives, Alleluia! Yet he loves the earth he leaves; Alleluia! Though returning to his throne, Alleluia! Still he calls the human race his own: Alleluia!

Still for us he intercedes, Alleluia!
His prevailing death he pleads; Alleluia!
Near himself prepares our place, Alleluia!
He the first-fruits of our race. Alleluia!

Lord, though parted from our sight, Alleluia!
Far above the starry height; Alleluia!
Grant our hearts may thither rise, Alleluia!
Seeking thee above the skies! Alleluia!

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

All Amen.

The Lord be with you.

All and also with you.

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

All He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

All 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

Seeing we have a great high priest who has passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us draw near with a true heart, in full assurance of faith, and make our confession to our heavenly Father.

All Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, ₱ pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS – The Mass of St. Thomas, David Thorne

Glory to God! Glory to God! Glory to God in the highest! 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.

Glory to God! Glory to God in the highest.

Lord Jesus Christ; Holy 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.

Glory to God! Glory to God! Glory to God in the highest. 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.

Glory to God! Glory to God in the highest.

THE COLLECT FOR THE WEEK

The Collect is said after a short period of silence
Grant, we pray, almighty God, that as we believe your only-begotten Son
our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens, so we in heart
and mind may also ascend and with him continually dwell; who is alive and
reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST READING – Acts 1.1–11, read by a member of the congregation In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning auntil 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?' ⁷He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But 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.' ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They 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.'

This is the word of the Lord,

All Thanks be to God

THE SECOND READING – Ephesians 1.15–23, read by the subdeacon I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason of 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, sand 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.

This is the word of the Lord,

All Thanks be to God

GRADUAL HYMN

- 1. The head that once was crowned with thorns is crowned with glory now; a royal diadem adorns the mighty victor's brow.
- 2. The highest place that heaven affords is his, is his by right: the King of kings, and Lord of lords, and heaven's eternal light.
- 3. The joy of all who dwell above, the joy of all below, to whom he manifests his love and grants his name to know:

- 4. To them the cross, with all its shame, with all its grace, is given; their name an everlasting name, their joy the joy of heaven.
- 5. They suffer with their Lord below; they reign with him above; their profit and their joy to know the mystery of his love.
- 6. 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.

GOSPEL READING - Luke 24.44-53

Alleluia, 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, alleluia, alleluia.

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

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.' ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And 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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

THE SERMON

THE NICENE CREED

Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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 from 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 and the Son, 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Jesus our exalted Lord has been given all authority. Let us seek his intercession that our prayers may be perfected by his prayer.

Lord in your mercy

or

Lord, hear us

All Hear our prayer

Lord, graciously hear us

Merciful Father,

All accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

THE PEACE

Jesus says: 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. If you love me, rejoice because I am going to the Father.' Alleluia.

The peace of the risen Christ be always with you

All and also with you. Alleluia, alleluia

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN

1. Alleluia, sing to Jesus!
his the sceptre, his the throne;
Alleluia, his the triumph,
his the victory alone:
hark, the songs of peaceful Sion
thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus out of ev'ry nation
hath redeemed us by his blood.

2. Alleluia, not as orphans are we left in sorrow now; Alleluia, he is near us, faith believes, nor questions how: though the cloud from sight received him, when the forty days were o'er, shall our hearts forget his promise, 'I am with you evermore'?

3. Alleluia, bread of angels, thou on earth our food, our stay; Alleluia, here the sinful flee to thee from day to day: Intercessor, Friend of sinners, earth's Redeemer, plead for me, where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.

4. Alleluia, King eternal, thee the Lord of lords we own; Alleluia, born of Mary, earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne: thou within the veil hast entered, robed in flesh, our great High Priest; thou on earth both Priest and Victim in the Eucharistic feast.

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and good, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ the King of glory. Born of a woman, he came to the rescue of our human race. Dying for us, he trampled death and conquered sin.

By the glory of his resurrection he opened the way to life eternal and by his ascension, gave us the sure hope that where he is we may also be. Therefore the universe resounds with Easter joy and with choirs of angels we sing for ever to your praise:

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit ♣, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Jesus Christ is Lord:

All Lord, by your cross and resurrection you have set us free. You are the Saviour of the world

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption. As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

All Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rejoicing in God's new creation, and as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

All 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

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world; grant us peace.

GIVING OF COMMUNION

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

All Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Everyone is welcome to come forward for Holy Communion or a blessing. Please note that we no longer intinct (dip the bread).

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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**

All Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

The Notices are given

SENDING OUT

POST-COMMUNION HYMN

- 1. Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne; Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own: Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee, and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.
- 2. Crown him the Virgin's Son, the God incarnate born, whose arm those crimson trophies won which now his brow adorn: fruit of that mystic Rose, as of that Rose the Stem; the Root whence mercy ever flows, the Babe of Bethlehem.
- 3. Crown him the Lord of Love!
 Behold his hands and side,
 rich wounds yet visible above
 in beauty glorified:
 no angel in the sky
 can fully bear that sight,
 but downward bends his burning eye
 at mysteries so bright.
- 4. Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a sceptre sways from pole to pole, that wars may cease, absorbed in prayer and praise: his reign shall know no end, and round his pierced feet fair flowers of Paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.
- 5. Crown him the Lord of years, the Potentate of time, Creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime. all hail, Redeemer, hail! for thou hast died for me; thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.

THE BLESSING

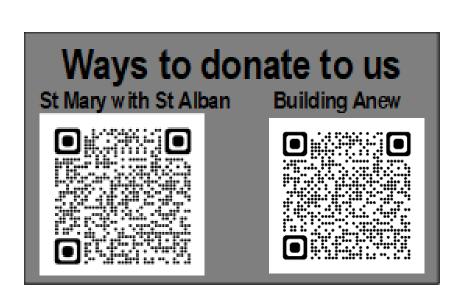
Christ our ascended King pour upon you the abundance of his gifts and bring you to reign with him in glory; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

The ministers and people depart.



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