

Sunday, May 16, 2021: Ascension of the Lord

*Go and make disciples of all nations, says the Lord; I am with you always, to the close of the age. (Matthew 28:19-20)*



**Opening Song: *All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name***

All hail the power of Jesus' name
Let angels prostrate fall
Bring forth the royal diadem
And crown Him Lord of all
Bring forth the royal diadem
And crown Him Lord of all

Hail him, the heir of David’s line

Whom David Lord did call

The God incarnate, life divine

And crown Him Lord of all

The God incarnate, life divine

And crown Him Lord of all

O that with heaven’s sacred throng
We at His feet may fall
Lift high the universal song
And crown Him Lord of all
Lift high the universal song
And crown Him Lord of all

**Penitential Rite**

Leader: Dear friends in Christ, as we prepare to worship almighty God, let us with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

*Silence is Kept*

**All:** **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Leader:Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All:Amen.**

**Morning Prayer**

Leader: Lord, open our lips,

**All: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Leader: O God, make speed to save us.

**All: O Lord, make haste to help us. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia!**

Leader: Alleluia! The Sun of righteousness has risen: O come, let us worship.

**All: Alleluia! Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; therefore. let us keep the feast. Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia! Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So also consider yourselves dead to sin, and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia! Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia!**

**The Reading of Scripture**

First Reading: 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."*

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle: Psalm 47 (sung)

(*Refrain*) God has gone up with a shout

Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with a cry of joy. For the Most High is to be feared; the Ruler of all the earth. (*To Refrain*)

Who subdues the people under us, and the nations under our feet. Who chooses our inheritance for us, the pride of Jacob beloved of God. (*To Refrain*)

God has gone up with a shout, the Most High with the sound of the ram's-horn. Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our Sovereign sing praises. (*To Refrain*)

God rules over all the earth; sing praises with all your skill. God reigns over the nations; God sits upon the highest throne. (*To Refrain*)

The nobles of the peoples have gathered together with the people of the God of Abraham. The rulers of the earth belong to God, to the One who is highly exalted.

(*To Refrain*)

Second Reading: 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.*

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Processional Chorus – *Alleluia***

Alleluia, Alleluia

Alleluia, Alleluia

**The Gospel Reading**

Reader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

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

**People: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Gospel Reading: Luke 24:44-53

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

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

**People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Worship Through Song**

***Is He Worthy?***

Do you feel the world is broken?
We do
Do you feel the shadows deepen?
We do
But do you know that all the dark
Won't stop the light

From getting through?
We do
Do you wish

That you could see it all made new?
We do

Is all creation groaning? It is
Is a new creation coming? It is
Is the glory of the Lord
To be the light within our midst?
It is
Is it good

That we remind ourselves of this?

It is

 (*continued on next page*)

Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole?
Is anyone able

To break the seal and open the scroll?
The Lion of Judah

Who conquered the grave
He is David's Root
And the Lamb

Who died to ransom the slave
Is He worthy?
Is He worthy?
Of all blessing and honour and glory
Is He worthy of this?
He is

Does the Father truly love us?
He does
Does the Spirit move among us?
She does
And does Jesus our Messiah
Hold forever those He loves?
He does
Does our God intend

To dwell again with us?
God does

Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole?
Is anyone able to break the seal

And open the scroll?
The Lion of Judah

Who conquered the grave
He is David's Root
And the Lamb who died

To ransom the slave
From every people and tribe

Every nation and tongue
He has made us a kingdom and priests
To God to reign with the Son
Is He worthy? Is He worthy?
Of all blessing and honour and glory
Is He worthy? Is He worthy?
Is He worthy of this?
He is

***Be unto Your Name***

We are a moment, You are forever
Lord of the ages, God before time
We are a vapour, You are eternal
Love everlasting reigning on high

(Chorus) Holy, holy, Lord God Almighty
Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain
Highest praises, honour, and glory
Be unto Your name
Be unto Your name

We are the broken, You are the healer
Jesus, Redeemer, mighty to save
You are the love song we'll sing forever
Bowing before You, blessing Your name

**Listening Time**

**Sermon by the Rev. Dr. Myron B. Penner – Sermon Notes:**

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**Affirmation of Faith – The Apostle’s Creed**

Celebrant: Let us confess our faith, 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.**

**Prayers of the People**

Leader: In peace let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy.” For peace from on high and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, including those in the St. Paul’s Cycle of Prayer: Paul, Jennifer, and Caroline Jacquier; Chuck and Kjeryn Allard; Jim and Darlene Robertson; and Cheryl Critchell; as well as all of those in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer; and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For our bishops, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For Elizabeth our Queen, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For this the city of Edmonton and for every city and community, including our community of Grovenor, and for those who live in them in faith, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For good weather, and for abundant harvests for all to share, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For those who travel by land, water, or air, for the sick and the suffering, for prisoners and captives, and for their safety, health, and salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For our deliverance from all affliction, strife, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For the absolution and remission of our sins and offences, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For all who have died, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: Remembering all the saints, we commit ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ our God.

**All: To you, O Lord.**

Leader: Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications to you, and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together you will hear their requests. Fulfil now our desires and petitions, as may be best for us, granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come eternal life; for you, Father, are good and loving, and we glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, in the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

**All: Amen.**

**The Collect**

Leader: Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord. Keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of his peace, and bring the whole of creation to worship at his feet, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**All: Amen.**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

Leader: And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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.**

**Blessing**

**Congregational Announcements *(Rev. Myron)***

**Closing Song: *And Can It Be***

And can it be that I should gain
An interest in the Saviour's blood
Died He for me who caused His pain
For me who Him to death pursued
Amazing love, how can it be
That Thou my God shouldst die for me
Amazing love how can it be
That Thou my God shouldst die for me

He left His Father's throne above
So free, so infinite His grace
Emptied Himself of all but love
And bled for Adam's helpless race
'Tis mercy all immense and free
For, O my God, it found out me
'Tis mercy all immense and free
For, O my God, it found out me

No condemnation now I dread
Jesus and all in Him is mine
Alive in Him my living Head
And clothed in righteousness divine
Bold I approach th'eternal throne
And claim the crown

Through Christ my own
Bold I approach th'eternal throne
And claim the crown

Through Christ my own

**The Dismissal**Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia.**

**All St. Paul's Staff Working from Home**

Due to recently announced Covid restrictions within the province of Alberta (announced May 4), St. Paul's staff have moved back to working from home as much as possible. If you need to come by the office, please set up an appointment with Myron, Michelle, or RJ.

**No In-Person Sunday Service Options - Live Stream Only**

Due to recently announced Covid restrictions within the province of Alberta (announced May 4), St. Paul's will be moving back to Live Streamed only services starting May 9 for a period of at least three weeks. This means that for at least the next three weeks, only Rev. Myron and the music/tech team will be able to come to St. Paul's in person. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

**St. Paul’s Accepting Gently Used or New Board Games and Puzzles**

To be prepared for the eventual ease in gathering restrictions, St. Paul’s is starting to collect board games and puzzles to have on hand for future games/activity nights. If you have board games or puzzles you would like to donate to this collection, please drop them by St. Paul’s anytime we are open over the next couple of months.

We are only accepting items that are gently used (or new) and have all of their pieces and instructions. Any items donated that do not achieve this standard will be discarded. Puzzles left over (with all of their pieces) from the puzzle exchange will be moved to this new collection as well (and puzzles missing pieces will be recycled).

**Wholeness Through Christ Prayer Ministry Course**

WTC is offering their first ever fully virtual prayer ministry course May 25-30, 2021. Spaces are limited so if you are interested, you should register soon. Cost for this course is $250.00. Application to register can be found at the bottom of this page: <http://www.wholenessthroughchrist.com/index.php/about/our-events>. Or, you can email Administrator@wholenessthroughchrist.com for more information.

**Community Corner for May 16**

Our **Pandemic Support Group** is online! We start Thursday, May 13, 2021 from 7-8:30 pm. It is a **peer support group**, and, as such, does not promote itself as a therapeutic or counselling group. We gather to listen to one another and offer support and encouragement, with Michelle Schurek facilitating. Weekly pre-registration is requested but not required. Please register using the link in the most recent update email. Group participation guidelines will be sent out upon registration and will be reviewed at the beginning of each group. Join us at 7pm on the 13th using the link in the most recent update email.

**Notice of Electoral Synod**

Notice is hereby given that the 67th meeting of Synod, to elect the 11th Bishop of Edmonton, will be held on Saturday, June 26 at 10:00AM. More details to come.



**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:**

Diocese of Yukon: the Rt. Rev. Lesley Wheeler-Dame, Bishop. Hospital Chaplaincy: Regula Brandle, Chaplain and Coordinator of Hospital Visitors; Lee Bezanson (s. Bernadine); Kevin Kraglund (s. Brenda); and Regula Brandle, Chaplains; all Hospital Visitors throughout the diocese. Buyé Diocese, Giteranyi Parish: Papias Masengesho, Rector. Métis Nation of Alberta.

**Next Week’s Ministry Teams:**

Music: Andrew and Team

Service Team: None

Reader/Prayers: Andrew and Team

**This Week’s Ministry Teams:**

Music: Jodi and Team

Service Team: None

Reader/Prayers: Jodi and Team

**St. Paul’s Cycle of Prayer:**

Paul, Jennifer, and Caroline Jacquier;

Chuck and Kjeryn Allard;

Jim and Darlene Robertson;

Cheryl Critchell

 **St. Paul’s Anglican Church**

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**Office Hours:**

Monday-Thursday: 9:00AM-12:00PM

Closed: Fri/Sat/Sun and Stat Holidays

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**For Care/Concern Team
or other prayer requests,** **email**:

office@stpauls-anglican.ca

**For urgent prayer requests call**

 the church office: (780) 455-0771

**For pastoral emergencies call:**

(587) 334-2130

**St. Paul’s Vestry:**

 Paul Dowie, *Rector’s Warden*

Margot Byer, *People’s Warden*

David Heritage, *Treasurer*

Barb Dixon, *Vestry Member*

John Green, *Vestry Member*

David Parker, *Vestry Member*

Connie Pistawka, *Vestry Member*

**St. Paul’s Staff:**

 *Rector:* The Rev. Myron B. Penner

*Community Outreach:* Michelle Schurek
*Youth Leader:* Abigail Harding

*Office Administrator:* RJ Chambers