

# St Giles Anglican Church

## Morning Prayer Online Ascension

*Officiant* Lord, open our lips,  
*People* **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**  
*Officiant* O God, make speed to save us.  
*People* **O Lord, make haste to help us.**  
*All* **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!**

### The Invitatory

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

### Venite

*Psalm 95.1-7*

Come, let us sing to the Lord; \*  
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.  
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*  
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.  
For the Lord is a great God, \*  
and a great king above all gods.  
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*  
and the heights of the hills are his also.  
The sea is his for he made it, \*  
and his hands have moulded the dry land.  
Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*  
and kneel before the Lord our maker.  
For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture and the  
sheep of his hand. \*  
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

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

# The Proclamation of the Word

## The Readings

### A reading from Acts

1.1-11

1 In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning <sup>2</sup>until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>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; <sup>5</sup>for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.'

6 So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' <sup>7</sup>He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>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.' <sup>9</sup>When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup>While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup>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.'

The word of the Lord.

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

## Psalm 47

1 Clap your hands, all you peoples; \*  
shout to God with a cry of joy.

**2 For the Lord Most High is to be feared; \*  
he is the great king over all the earth.**

3 He subdues the peoples under us, \*  
and the nations under our feet.

**4 He chooses our inheritance for us, \*  
the pride of Jacob whom he loves.**

5 God has gone up with a shout, \*  
the Lord with the sound of the ram's-horn.

**6 Sing praises to God, sing praises; \*  
sing praises to our king, sing praises.**

7 For God is king of all the earth; \*  
sing praises with all your skill.

**8 God reigns over the nations; \*  
God sits upon his holy throne.**

9 The nobles of the peoples have gathered together \*  
with the people of the God of Abraham.

**10 The rulers of the earth belong to God, \*  
and he is highly exalted.**

**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.**

### **A reading from Ephesians**

1.15-23

15 I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason <sup>16</sup>I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup>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, <sup>18</sup>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, <sup>19</sup>and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. <sup>20</sup>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, <sup>21</sup>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. <sup>22</sup>And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, <sup>23</sup>which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The word of the Lord.

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

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

44 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.' 45 Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, 46 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, 47 and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. 48 You are witnesses of these things. 49 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.'

50 Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. 51 While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. 52 And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; 53 and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

The Gospel of Christ.

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

## **Sermon**

### **Affirmation of Faith**

**Hear, O Israel,  
the Lord our God, the Lord is one.  
Love the Lord your God  
with all your heart,  
with all your soul,  
with all your mind,  
and with all your strength.  
This is the first and the great commandment.  
The second is like it:  
Love your neighbour as yourself.  
There is no commandment greater than these.**

## The Offertory

During this time of pandemic, when we can not physically put our offerings on the plate, we ask that offerings continue to be given by mail, e-transfer or pre-authorized deposits through your bank. Further information is on our website.

For the gifts we receive we pray;

Eternal God, our Saviour Jesus Christ  
has promised to be with us until the end of time.

Accept all we offer you this day,  
and renew us in his transfigured life;  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Intercessions and Thanksgivings

(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. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the holy  
Church of God, and for the unity of all,  
let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For Bishop Rob and all bishops all the clergy and people,  
let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For Elizabeth our Queen, for the leaders of the nations, and for  
all in authority, help them to work together for the common good,  
help them to make wise decisions.  
let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For every city and community, and for those who live in them in faith,  
for all who seek to know you, and those whose faith is known to you alone,  
let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For good weather, and for abundant harvests for all to share,  
let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who travel by land, water, or air, because they must,  
for the sick and the suffering especially those with COVID 19,  
for prisoners and captives,  
let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For deliverance from all affliction, strife, and need,  
for those who are abused and unsafe in their homes,  
for the health and safety of the elderly and the young,  
for those without food or shelter,  
let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the absolution and remission of our sins and offences,  
let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who have died  
let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Remembering St Giles all the saints, we commit ourselves, one  
another, and our whole life to Christ our God.  
**To you, O Lord.**

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. **Amen.**

## **The Collect**

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.

## **The Lord's Prayer \*\* newer version**

*Officiant* Gathering our prayers and praises into one,  
let us pray as our Saviour taught us,

*All* 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.

Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

## **Blessing**

The risen and ascended Lord be with you to uplift you, to inspire you, to guide you, to give you a glimpse of glory; and the blessing of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit be with you now and forever.

## **Dismissal**

*Officiant* Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia

*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and  
the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

*This service is assembled from the resources found in the Book of Alternative Services published by the Anglican Church of Canada.*