

Ascension
9 May 2024



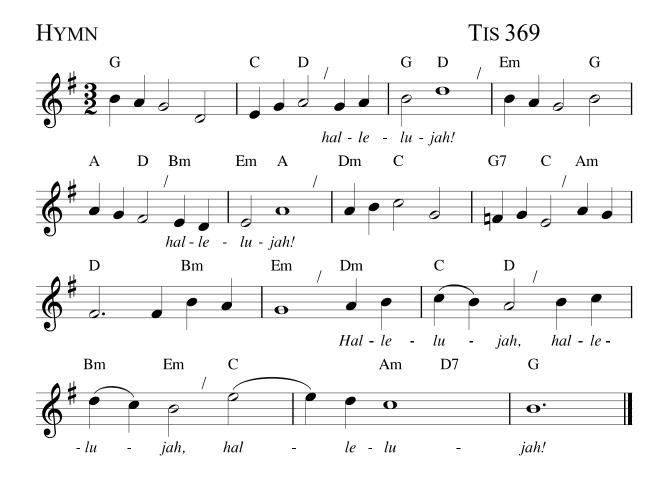
6.00pm Presiding: Rev'd Canon Jan Joustra

# Welcome to St Mary's North Melbourne. Thank you for joining us in worship.

Please join in saying the text marked in **bold** and singing the musical responses and hymns.

#### Introduction

The Ascension is much more that a day of departure. It is rather a day of commissioning and sending the apostles forth to continue to preach the reign of God, and to make other disciples by their preaching and example. As believers we too receive that commission.



1. Hail the day that sees him rise, hallelujah! to his throne above the skies; hallelujah! Christ, a while to mortals given, enters now the highest heaven. Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

- 2. There for him high triumph waits; hallelujah! lift your heads, eternal gates! hallelujah! Wide unfold the radiant scene, let the King of glory in! Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!
- 3. Heaven now its Lord receives, hallelujah! yet he loves the earth he leaves, hallelujah! though returning to his throne still calls humankind his own. Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!
- 4. See! he lifts his hands above; hallelujah! see! he shows his prints of love; hallelujah! hark! his gracious lips bestow blessings on his church below. Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!
- 5. Still for us he intercedes, hallelujah! his prevailing death he pleads; hallelujah! near himself prepares our place, he the first fruits of our race. Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!
- 6. There we shall with you remain, hallelujah! partners of your endless reign; hallelujah! there your face unclouded view, find our heaven of heavens in you. Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

Charles Wesley 1707–88 alt. Music: Sydney H. Nicholson

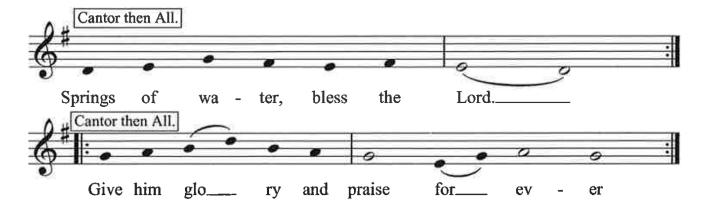
#### PRAYER OF PREPARATION

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

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.

The choir sings the Vidi aquam as all are sprinkled with water from the baptismal font.

# Antiphons and responses:



Springs of water bless the Lord.

Springs of water bless the Lord.

Give him glory and praise for ever.

Give him glory and praise for ever.

## **INVITATION TO CONFESSION**

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ to save us from our sins, to be our advocate in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life. Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, confident in God's forgiveness.

Merciful God, our maker and our judge, we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, and in what we have failed to do: we have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves; we repent, and are sorry for all our sins. Father, forgive us.

Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### THE ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith: pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

#### **GLORIA**



## THE COLLECT

God of majesty, you led the Messiah through suffering into risen life, and took him up into the glory of heaven; clothe us with the power promised from on high, and send us forth to the ends of the earth as heralds of repentance and witnesses of Jesus Christ, the firstborn from the dead, who lives with you now and always in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. **Amen** 

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

## FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles:

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 baptised 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

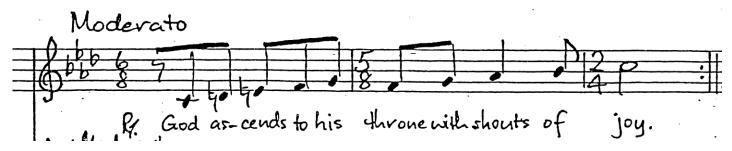
towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

Acts 1.1-11

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## PSALM 93



Refrain: God ascends to his thrones with shouts of joy.

1. O clap your hands all you peoples: and cry aloud to God with shouts of joy.

For the Lord Most High is to be feared: he is a great King over all the earth. *Refrain* 

- 2. God has gone up with the sound of rejoicing: and the Lord to the blast of the hirn.
  - O sing praises, sing praises to God: O sing praises, sing praises to our King. *Refrain*
- 3. For God is the King of all the erath: O praise him in a well-wrought paslm.

God has become the King of the nations: he has taken his seat up on his holy throne. *Refrain* 

## SECOND READING

A reading from Saint Pauls letter to the Ephesians:

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.

*Ephesians 1.15-23* 

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

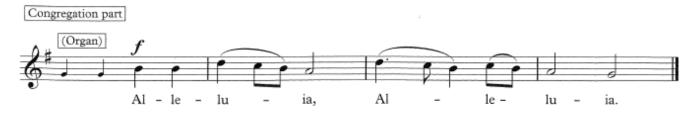
THE GOSPEL

## Alleluia, Alleluia

Go and teach all people my gospel.

I am with you always, until the end of the world.

# Alleluia



The Lord be with you

And also with you.

A reading from the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Mark.

# Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus said to them, 'Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation. The one who believes and is baptized will be saved; but the one who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will accompany those who believe: by using my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover.

So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. And they went out and proclaimed the good news everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by the signs that accompanied it. (Mark 16:15-20)

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

REFLECTION

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

After each section: Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

And at the end:

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.

Grant that what we have asked in faith we may by your grace receive, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

THE PEACE

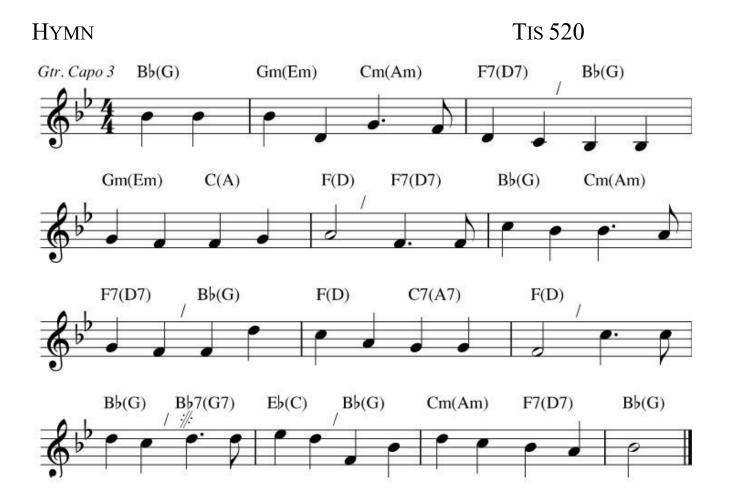
Please stand.

The risen Lord came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you!'. Then they were glad when they saw the Lord.

The peace of Christ be always with you.

# And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.



- 1. Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour, first-begotten from the dead, you alone our strong defender, lifting up your people's head: alleluia, alleluia, Jesus, true and living bread.
- 2. Here our humble homage pay we, here in loving reverence bow; here for faith's discernment pray we, lest we fail to know you now:

- alleluia, alleluia, you are here, we ask not how.
- 3. Though the lowliest form now veils you as of old in Bethlehem, here as there your angels hail you, branch and flower of Jesse's stem; alleluia, alleluia, we in worship join with them.
- 4. Paschal Lamb, your offering, finished once for all when you were slain, in its fullness undiminished shall for evermore remain, alleluia, alleluia, cleansing souls from every stain.
- 5. Great High Priest of our profession through the veil you entered in; by your mighty intercession grace and mercy you can win: alleluia, alleluia, only sacrifice for sin.
- 6. Life-imparting heavenly manna, stricken rock with streaming side, heaven and earth with loud hosanna worship you, the Lamb who died, alleluia, alleluia, ris'n, ascended, glorified!

George Hugh Bourne 1840–1925 alt.

## THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

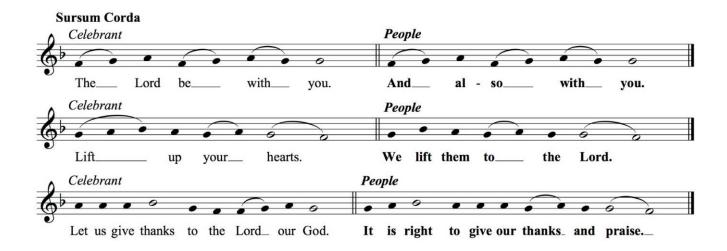
Blessèd are you, Lord God of all creation, through your goodness we have this bread to offer, fruit of the earth and work of human hands, it will become for us the bread of life.

## Blessèd be God for ever.

Blessèd are you, Lord God of all creation, through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become for us the cup of salvation.

## Blessèd be God for ever.

## **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**



All glory and honour, thanks and praise be given to you at all times and in all places, Lord, holy Father, true and living God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For he is your eternal Word through whom you have created all things from the beginning and formed us in your own image.

In your great love you gave him to be made man for us and to share our common life.

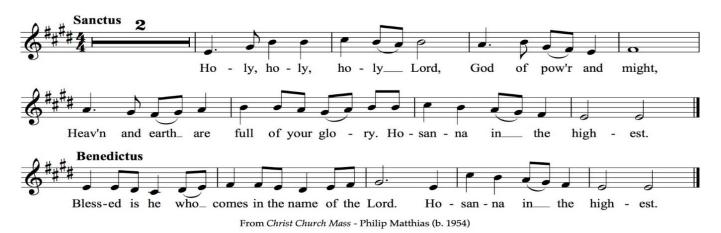
In obedience to your will your Son our Saviour offered himself as a perfect sacrifice, and died upon the cross for our redemption. Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin and reconciled us to yourself, our God and Father.

He is our great high priest whom you raised from death and exalted to your right hand on high where he ever lives to intercede for us.

Through him you have sent upon us your holy and life-giving Spirit and

made us a royal priesthood called to serve you for ever.

Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we proclaim your great and glorious name, for every praising you and singing:



## Merciful God,

we thank you for these gifts of your creation, this bread and wine, and we pray that we who eat and drink them in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit in obedience to our Saviour Christ in remembrance of his death and passion may be partakers of his body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread; and when he had given you thanks he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Take, eat. This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'

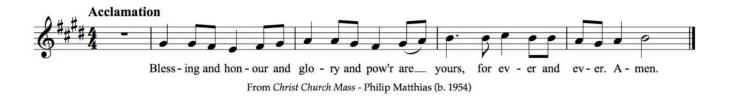
After supper, he took the cup, and again giving you thanks he gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Drink from this, all of you.

This is my blood of the new covenant shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'



Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded: proclaiming his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again, we celebrate, with this bread and this cup, his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Renew us by your Holy Spirit, unite us in the body of your Son, and bring us with all your people into the joy of your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, we worship you, Father, in songs of never-ending praise:



## THE LORD'S PRAYER

As Christ has taught us we are confident to 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. 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.

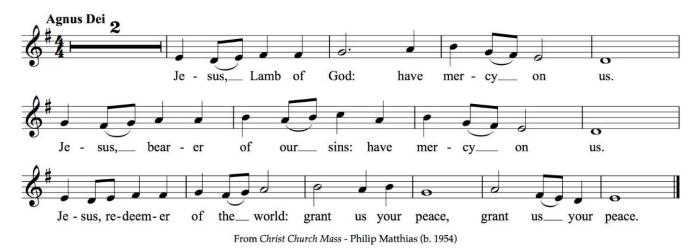
The priest breaks the consecrated bread, saying:

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

We who are many are one body,

for we all share in the one bread.

#### **AGNUS DEI**



THE INVITATION

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper.

Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.

#### ANTHEM

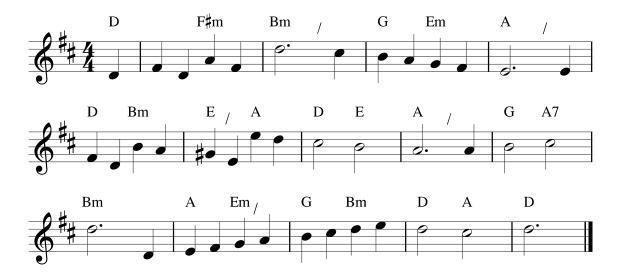
Ascended is our Lord and King

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

God our Father, you have raised our humanity in Christ and you 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.** 

Father, we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Lord. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

## HYMN TIS 371



1. God is gone up on high, with a triumphant noise; the clarions of the sky proclaim the angelic joys!

Join all the earth, rejoice and sing; glory ascribe to glory's king.

- 2. God in the flesh below, for us he reigns above: let all the nations know our Jesus' conquering love!
- 3. All power to our great Lord is by the Father given; by angel hosts adored, he reigns supreme in heaven:
- 4. High on his holy seat he bears his righteous sway; his foes beneath his feet shall sink and die away.

- 5. His foes and ours are one, Satan, the world, and sin; but he shall tread them down and bring his kingdom in:
- 6. till all the earth, renewed in righteousness divine, with all the hosts of God in one great chorus join.

Charles Wesley 1707–88
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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Most loving God, you send us into the world you love. Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage in the power of the Spirit.

## 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 amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen** 

**DISMISSAL** 

Go in peace love and serve the Lord. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

**POSTLUDE** 

## **PRAYERS**

Please pray for those in need: including: Fr Shane, Fiona, and Emily/Albert/Elizabeth (wife and children of Mick Stout).

Please pray for the recently departed: Michael Robert Stout passed away last week due to cancer. Funeral to be held on Friday 10 May 2024 in St Albans, UK.

Also, those whose anniversaries of death fall this week: John Harvey Foster, David John Hood, Roslyn McIntosh, Graeme Albert Prior, Nan Dawson, Frankie Artis.

If there is a name that should be included please advise the Parish Office by email office@stmarys.org.au

#### **Acknowledgements:**

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# Choir

The Choir encourages the congregation to think about either joining or encouraging acquaintances who might like to learn how to sing in a choir.

Roster		
	Sunday 12 May 2024 7 <sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER	Sunday 19 May 2024 DAY OF PENTECOST
8:00am Reader	Judie Bainbridge	Jenny Langmead
10:00am Readers	Rhondda Fahey Robert Gribben	Ivana Csar Geoff Jenkins
Serving Team	Lewis Gurr-Stephen Peter O'Donoghue	Anne Sunderland Peter O'Donoghue Alice Christofi
Welcome	Alice Christofi	Marion Poynter
Introduction & Intercession	Geoff Jenkins	Robert Gribben
Video/AV	Adam Wing	Adam Wing
Kids Corner & Sunday School	N/A	N/A
Morning Tea	Marion Poynter Rosie Moloney	Helen McCallum David Keuneman

# St Mary's Parish Notices

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#### **Pentecost Edition of Ave**

This edition of Ave is especially concerned with the Holy Spirit but, of course, all contributions welcome. Please ask the Holy Spirit inspiration to start thinking and writing now.

I'm sure we can make another bumper edition.

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#### **GIVING TO SUPPORT ST MARYS**

We value your financial support. This helps us keep our doors open and fulfil our mission. You can donate by following this link or scanning the QR code:

http://st-marys-anglican-north-melbourne.square.site/



Or make a direct transfer to:

Account Name: St Marys Anglican Church North Melbourne

Bank: Westpac BSB: 033 132 Account Number: 264412