



Welcome

Gathering Song     I bow my knee (I'll love you more)     Reuben Morgan  
*Resurrection Choir*

I bow my knee, I give myself as a living sacrifice for you.  
I lay me down before your throne.  
Take my past; I will stand for you.  
Let your blood wash over me, let your blood wash over me;  
You have cleansed my heart and set my spirit free.

You are my Lord, I'll love you more,  
I'll follow you, no matter when, no matter where.  
You are my Lord, I'll love you more,  
I'll follow you, no matter when, no matter where.

"I bow my knee" words & music by Rob and Debbie Eastwood  
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## THE WORD OF GOD

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People: **The Lord is risen indeed. Amen.**

## Song of Praise

Harold Friedell

Draw us in the Spirit's tether

*The Choir of All Saints'*

Draw us in the Spirit's tether; For when humbly, in thy name,  
Two or three are met together, Thou art in the midst of them:  
Alleluya! Alleluya! Touch we now thy garment's hem.

As the brethren used to gather In the name of Christ to sup,  
Then with thanks to God the Father Break the bread and bless the cup,  
Alleluya! Alleluya! So knit thou our friendship up.

All our meals and all our living Make us sacraments of thee,  
That by caring, helping, giving, We may true disciples be.  
Alleluya! Alleluya! We will serve thee faithfully.

Music: Harold Fridell © 1957 (renewed)  
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## The Collect of the Day

Leader: Almighty God, whose blessed Son our Savior Jesus Christ ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things: Mercifully give us faith to perceive that, according to his promise, he abides with his Church on earth, even to the end of the ages; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

## The First Lesson: 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.**

## 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.

## The Second Lesson: 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.**

## The Gospel

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

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

### Luke 24:44-53

Jesus said to his disciples, “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.

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

The Reverend Jim Bernacki

## The Nicene Creed

*Officiant and People*

**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:**

**by the power of the Holy Spirit**

**he became incarnate from 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**

**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.**

**With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.**

**He 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.**

## The Prayers of the People

Intercessor: As we celebrate the ascension of Christ, let us pray with amazement, wonder, awe, and astonishment. Joining Christ who intercedes for all the world before God, let us offer our prayers to God, saying: O God of wonder, *hear our prayer.*

O God, we stand amazed; for Christ ascended from the earth in order to be everywhere at once. We are in awe; for in leaving, Jesus has not left us alone. We thank you, O God, for the life of your Son. Turn our eyes continually to see, to gaze with wonder at your miraculous ways. *Silence.*

O God of wonder,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: Turn the eyes of ordinary people, young and old, poor and rich, to see signs of Jesus. Show us everywhere the signs of Jesus, who is raised up and giving freedom and working power and justice. *Silence.*

O God of wonder,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: Turn the eyes of your Church to see the poor places in which Christ now dwells. Help us to see the body of Christ, wounded and yet bright with the light of the Spirit. *Silence.*

O God of wonder,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: Turn the eyes of the leaders of nations to envision a new world in which peace and harmony reign. Turn the eyes of all in power to see the oppressed and the needy. For all who live by your inner sight, we give thanks. For more such people to lead the peoples, we pray. *Silence.*

O God of wonder,  
People: **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: Turn the eyes of all gathered here beyond this place. Help us to look toward our glorified Lord, and then to look back anew. *Silence.*

O God of wonder,  
People: **Hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: O God, keep us in the spirit of amazement. Keep us believing when we cannot see; keep us hoping while we wait; keep us looking for your presence. Fix our eyes on the glorious one who ascended to intercede, who will come in greatest glory, Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: **AMEN.**

## The Lord's Prayer

*Officiant and 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, and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

## The Peace

Leader: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

## Closing Song

King of kings, majesty

Jarrood Cooper

*Carol Corbin, guitar*

*Paul Davison, bass*

*Brian Sapp-Moore, piano and voice*

King of kings, majesty, God of heaven living in me,  
Gentle Savior, closest friend, strong deliv'rer, beginning and end,  
All within me falls at your throne.

Your majesty, I can but bow, I lay my all before you now.  
In royal robes I don't deserve I live to serve your majesty.

Earth and heav'n worship you,  
Love eternal, faithful and true,  
Who brought the nations, ransomed souls,  
Brought this sinner near to your throne;  
All within me cries out in praise.

Your majesty, I can but bow, I lay my all before you now.  
In royal robes I don't deserve I live to serve your majesty.

“King of Kings, Majesty” words & music by Jarrod Cooper

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## Voluntary

Processional

Sir Arthur Bliss

*Brian Sapp-Moore, organ*

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## *A Note on Today's Readings | Ascension Day – Year B*

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Welcome to All Saints' Episcopal Church as we celebrate today Jesus' ascension to the right hand of God. This is the second of the three great events of the victory of Easter (resurrection, ascension, gift of the Spirit).

The reading from Acts is Luke's description of the ascension and of Jesus' final instruction to the apostles to wait in Jerusalem for the coming of the Holy Spirit.

Paul discusses the meaning of that event for us in today's reading from Ephesians. Not only has Jesus ascended to the Father, but by virtue of our incorporation into his life we share in his place of honor with God and all the saints.

The Gospel reading from Luke is a simple and direct account of the disciple's last meeting with Jesus. Luke will pick up this story again in his second book, the Acts of the Apostles, when the result of waiting in the city is the gift of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost.

As we worship today, we are reminded that the Church ascends into the presence of God to stand with Jesus at God's right hand, sharing in the joys of the Kingdom and offering through Christ the whole creation that it may be filled with grace and redemption.

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