



the Church  
of St Peter and  
St Simon-the-Apostle

Seventh Sunday of Easter  
Ascension Sunday  
May 24, 2020  
Ante-Communion

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Welcome to the Church of St Peter and St Simon the Apostle.

Officiant: The Reverend Canon Geoffrey Sangwine  
Assisting: The Reverend Michael Perry  
Organist: Robin Davis

Mass Setting: Gloria - *A Parish Mass* - Derek Holman

The service begins on page 185 of the *Book of Alternative Services*.



*The flowers are given to the honour and glory of Almighty God  
and in thanksgiving for the birth of Harper, granddaughter of Robin Davis.*

## The Gathering of the Community

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**Prelude**    *Ascension Suite* - Serene Alleluias (Excerpt)

OLIVIER MESSIAEN

**Hymn 247** *Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise*

ASCENSION

### The Greeting

*Celebrant*    Alleluia! Christ is risen.

*All*            **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*Celebrant*    May his grace and peace be with you.

*All*            **May he fill our hearts with joy.**

*Celebrant*    Almighty God,

*All*            **to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you 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.**

## Gloria sung by all

With vigour ♩ = 132 *f*

9  
Glo - ry to God - in - the high - est and peace to his peo-ple on earth.

14  
Lord God, heaven - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we

20  
wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for\_\_ your\_\_ glo - ry.

26  
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you

32  
take a - way the sin of the world:\_have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the

37  
right hand\_\_ of the Fa - ther, re - ceive our prayer.

43  
For you a - lone\_\_ are\_\_ the Ho - ly One, you a - lone\_\_ are the

48  
Lord, you a - lone are the Most - High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly

Spi - rit, in the Glo - ry of God the Fa - ther,\_\_ A - - - men.

*Celebrant* 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. **Amen.**

## **The Proclamation of the Word**

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### **First Lesson Acts 1.1-11**

*Reader* The New Testament lesson is written in the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter of the Book of Acts, beginning at the 1<sup>st</sup> verse.

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.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 47** *Omnes gentes, plaudite* Sung

William Henry Longurst



- 1 O clap your hands together ' all ye ' peoples; /  
 \* O sing unto ' God · with the ' voice of ' melody.
- 2 For the Lord Most High is ' to be ' feared; /  
 \* he is a great ' King over ' all the ' earth.
- 3 He subdued the ' peoples ' under us, /  
 \* and the ' nations ' under our ' feet.
- 4 He chose our ' heritage ' for us, /  
 \* even the glorious land of ' Jacob, ' whom he ' loved.
- 5 God is gone up with a ' merry ' noise, /  
 \* the ' Lord with the ' sound · of the ' trumpet.
- 6 O sing praises, sing praises ' unto our ' God; /  
 \* O sing praises, sing ' praises ' unto our ' King.
- 7 For God is the King of ' all the ' earth: /  
 \* sing ye ' praises with ' under ' standing.
- 8 God reigneth ' over the ' nations: /  
 \* God sitteth up ' on his ' holy ' throne.
- 9 The princes of the peoples are ' gathered to ' gether, /  
 \* with the ' people · of the ' God of ' Abraham;
- 10 For the rulers of the earth be ' long unto ' God; /  
 \* he is ' very ' highly ex ' alted.

**Second Lesson** *Ephesians 1.15-23*

*Reader* A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

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.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn 84** *Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendour*

ST. OSMOND

**The Holy Gospel** *Luke 24.44-53*

*Priest* The Lord be with you.

*All* **And also with you.**

*Priest* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Luke.

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

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

*Priest* The Gospel of Christ.

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

**Homily** The Reverend Canon Geoffrey Sangwine

**Nicene Creed** *Please stand.*

*Celebrant* Let us confess our faith, as we say,

*All* **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 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped 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.**

**Anthem:** *Lo, In the Time Appointed*

HEALEY WILLAN

*Lo, in the time appointed the Lord will come;  
the mountains and hills shall break forth into singing  
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands:  
for the Lord God shall come into his everlasting kingdom:  
and upon the throne of David shall he reign forever.  
Alleluia.*

**Intercessions** – Led by Deacon Michael

## Confession and Absolution

*Celebrant* Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness. *Silence is kept.*

*Celebrant* Most merciful God,

**All 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.**

*Celebrant* 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.**

## Concluding Prayers

**Lord's Prayer – said together**

**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.**

*Celebrant* Glory to God,

**All whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.**

*All*     **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.**

### **Blessing & Dismissal**

*Deacon*   Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia.

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

**Hymn 378**   *Crown Him with Many Crowns*

DIADEMATA

**Postlude**   *Ascension Suite – Transport de Joie (Outburst of Joy)*

OLIVIER

MESSIAEN

*The postlude today was video recorded "live" at Westminster Abbey in July 2011,  
while on an Organist's tour of the UK. – Robin Davis*



**St. Peter and St. Simon-the-Apostle**

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