

Welcome to
St. John's Episcopal Church
Chula Vista, CA

Ascension Sunday

May 21, 2023
9:00 am



You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem,
in all Judea and Samaria,
and to the ends of the earth
Acts 1:8b

***No matter who you are or where you are on your spiritual journey,
you are welcome here***

Lighting of Altar Candles

Prelude

Welcome

Processional Hymn

See the Conqueror Mounts in Triumph

Hymnal 215



1 See the Con - queror mounts in tri - umph; see the King in
2 He who on the cross did suf - fer, he who from the
3 Thou hast raised our hu - man na - ture on the clouds to



roy - al state, rid - ing on the clouds, his
grave a - rose, he has van - quished sin and
God's right hand: there we sit in heaven - ly



char - iot, to his heaven - ly pal - ace gate!
Sa - tan; he by death has spoiled his foes.
plac - es, there with thee in glo - ry stand.



Hark! the choirs of an - gel voic - es joy - ful
While he lifts his hands in bless - ing, he is
Je - sus reigns, a - dored by an - gels; Man with



al - le - lu - ias sing, and the por - tals
part - ed from his friends; while their ea - ger
God is on the throne; might - y Lord, in



high are lift - ed to re - ceive their heaven - ly King.
eyes be - hold him, he up - on the clouds a - scends.
thine as - cen - sion, we by faith be - hold our own.

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People ***The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia***

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: 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.***

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. 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.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Celebrant Let us pray.

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 Lessons

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

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."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 47 *Omnes gentes, plaudite*

Clap your hands, all you peoples;

shout to God with a cry of joy.

For the Lord Most High is to be feared;

he is the great King over all the earth.

He subdues the peoples under us,

and the nations under our feet.

He chooses our inheritance for us,

the pride of Jacob whom he loves.

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

Sing praises to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our King, sing praises.

For God is King of all the earth;
sing praises with all your skill.

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

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

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

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Celtic Alleluia

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - - ia! _____

The Gospel

Luke 24:44-53

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
People ***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

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.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Nicene Creed

***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 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

Celebrant Let us pray for the Church and for the World.

For the peace and welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the welfare of our world, for the leaders of all nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who risk their lives to ensure our freedom, to heal, protect, comfort, and keep us safe,

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces, first responders, medical professionals, essential workers and their families. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and challenges; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

The Confession

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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 neighbors 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 on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. ***Amen.***

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Birthday, Anniversary and Traveler Prayers

The Offertory

*You may give here or online by using the "Give Now" button on our St. John's website: www.saint-johns.org
Your generous offering helps us to continue the mission and ministry of the parish.*

Offertory Anthem

Doxology



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise him, all crea-tures here be - low;



Praise him a - bove, ye heav'nly host: Praise Father, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A-men.

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world.

In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

***We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;***

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. John and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

***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 Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God

Communion

Spiritual Communion

I invite all who are watching our liturgy online to receive Christ spiritually. Let us pray together:

Lord Jesus, we believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. We are grateful to know there are many ways to experience your presence, but in whatever way we do, we know you come into our hearts, minds and souls. Unite my heart with those of my family of faith gathered to celebrate the great meal of thanksgiving and make us all one with you. May this spiritual communion strengthen my faith and grant me confidence in your loving care now and forever. Amen.

Prayer After Communion

Celebrant Let us pray

People ***Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.***

The Blessing

Celebrant May God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. ***Amen.***

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you, and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

The Dismissal

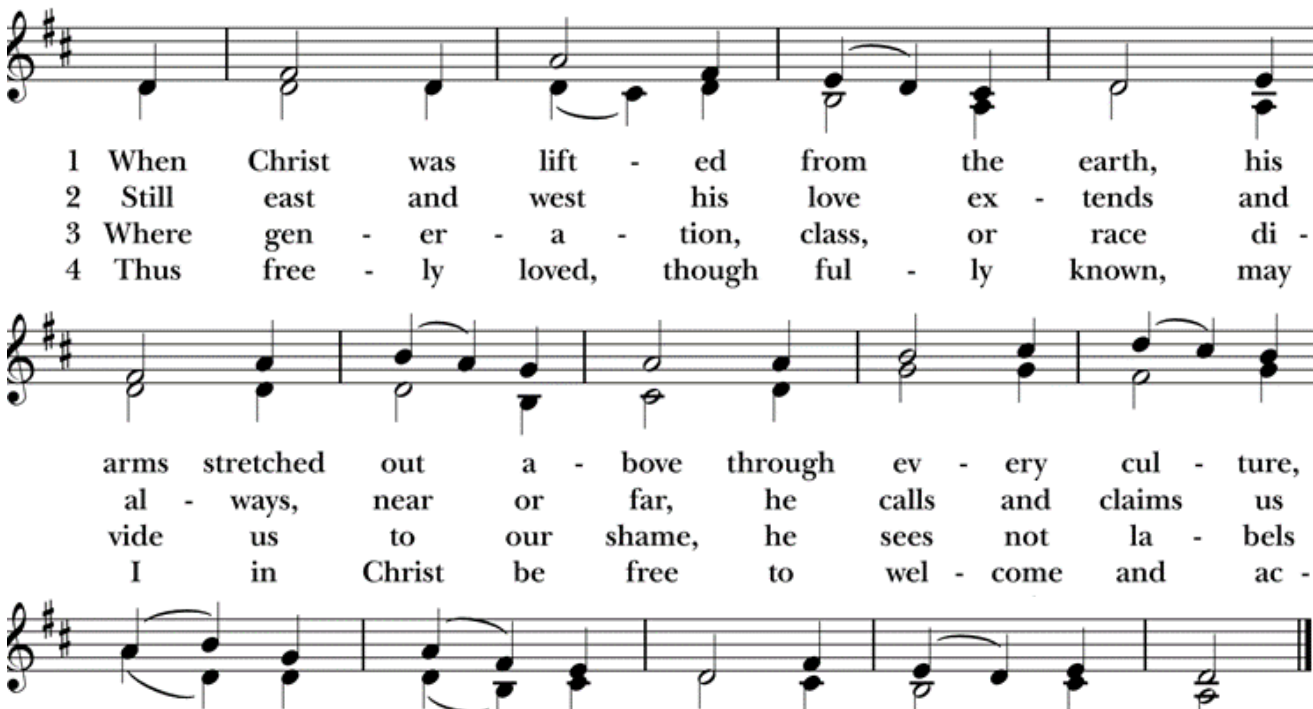
Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia

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

Recessional Hymn

When Christ Was Lifted From the Earth

Hymnal 603



1 When Christ was lift - ed from the earth, his
2 Still east and west his love ex - tends and
3 Where gen - er - a - tion, class, or race di -
4 Thus free - ly loved, though ful - ly known, may
arms stretched out a - bove through ev - ery cul - ture,
al - ways, near or far, he calls and claims us
vide us to our shame, he sees not la - bels
I in Christ be free to wel - come and ac -
ev - ery birth, to draw an an - swering love.
as his friends and loves us as we are.
but a face, a per - son, and a name.
cept his own as Christ ac - cept - ed me.

Liturgical Ministers

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Celebrant/Preacher | Rev. Roger Haenke |
| Reader/Prayers | Denise Eddleman, Cliff Berkowitz |
| Psalmist/Vocalists | St. John's Choir: Jeff Bates, Tom Brzeczek, Alice Burnham, Pamela Brittain, Denise Eddleman, Jane Ferguson, Ted Garcia, Joe and Maria Love, Marge Moore, Chelsey Nyaradi, Nancy Painter and Leslie Parker |
| Organist | Cheryl Seppala |
| Acolytes | Scott Bricknell, Marge Moore, Lynn Naranjo |
| Ushers | Bill and Irene Cheney |
| Eucharistic Ministers | Iris Atkins, Debbie Lothspeich |
| Livestream | Cliff Berkowitz, Jamie Attaway |

Altar Flowers

The altar flowers are given by Barbara Duncan in memory of Darlene Stanard.

St. John's Mission Statement

St. John's is a Christian community that intentionally gathers to experience God's love through Episcopal worship, education, fellowship, and ministry to the wider community.

St. John's Prayer Lists

*Today and every day include some time for prayer, for yourself,
for your church family, and for those in need.*

For Our Military

Matt Jensen, Drew Shorkey, Cody Crossland, Cameron Ronie, Chariti Paden, Mark Stanfield, Sean Robinson, Jonathan Martinez, TK Nguyen, Christopher Lindshield, Timothy Lindshield, Jeremy Colton, David Sanchez, Jonathan Baldera, Nick Wyatt, Jamal Warner, Matt Hernandez, Daniel Getreu, Devon Strunk, Taylor Harrold, Jorge Zuazua, Sebastian Morales, Roberto Chavez, Ryan Lothspeich, Andrew C. Dugger, Dan and Chelsey Nyaradi, and Gen. G.J. Heinrich.

For Strength in Time of Need

Steve Magill, Gary and Shirley McCarren, Ann Lindshield, the McClure family, Josey Felts, Barbara Oliveira, Linda Longoria-Neff, Celia Vasquez, Ann and Bill Rogers, Matthew Dotter, Kurth Barnes, Alec Hauer and Cynthia Watten.

*(Names are kept on the Prayers List for 4 weeks and should be submitted by Wednesday.
If you wish to add a name, please email Maria Love at: info@saint-johns.org.)*