

Sunday after Ascension

The gathering of the people

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

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

**Father of Glory, holy and eternal,
look upon us now in power and mercy.
May your strength overcome our weakness,
your radiance transform our blindness,
and your Spirit draw us to that love
shown and offered to us by your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

SILENCE

**Heavenly Father, we have sinned in thought, word and
deed, and have failed to do what we ought to have done.
We are sorry and truly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ who died for us,
forgive us all that is past and lead us in his way
to walk as children of light. Amen.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy on you and set you free from sin,
strengthen you in goodness and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
Almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Collect
Let us pray

O God, the King of Glory. You have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven. We beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

Hymn:

Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne.
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless king
through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of life,
who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife
for those he came to save;
his glories now we sing
who died and rose on high,
who died eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.

Crown Him the Lord of peace,
whose power a scepter sways
From pole to pole, that wars may cease,

and all be prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end,
and round His piercèd feet
Fair flowers of paradise extend
their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of love;
behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above,
in beauty glorified;
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
for thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail
throughout eternity.

Readings: Acts 1:6-14

Psalm: 68:10-10

New Testament Reading: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

THE GOSPEL: John 17:1-11

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to Saint John
Glory to you, O Lord.

After the Gospel the Minister says:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Reflection

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Words on the screen

Intercessions

Father God, may our prayers ascend to you just as Jesus Christ, your Son, was taken up to heaven. May the Ascension of Jesus inspire in us feelings of joy and hope rather than fear and separation as we await the coming of the Holy Spirit.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

Loving Lord, we pray for your church and its leaders throughout the world. Guide and bless Cherry, our Bishop, and our clergy and lay teams in the Diocese of Monmouth. We give thanks for their ingenuity in spreading your message of care and compassion at this difficult time when our churches are closed.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

Father, be with the leaders of all nations as they grapple with the coronavirus pandemic. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they serve.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

Lord, we give thanks for medical staff, care workers, scientific researchers and all who are working so hard to alleviate the symptoms of coronavirus. We pray that a vaccine or cure will be found to prevent a recurrence of the pandemic.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

Father, we pray for all who are struggling with the virus and other illnesses, for those whose lives have become dulled by anxiety and feel that they are without hope and beyond help. We ask that you lay your healing hand upon them and restore them to wholeness. We pray especially for those living in migrant camps, in unsanitary conditions and in poverty.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

Lord, be with all those who have died recently. May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace. Father, be near to all who mourn the loss of their loved ones.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

Almighty God, make us mindful that we should constantly pray for your world and your people just as Jesus, your Son, prayed for his disciples.

The prayer ends with:

**Merciful Father accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son, our saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed 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 our spiritual drink.
Blessed be God for ever.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right,
it is our duty and our joy
at all times and in all places
to give you thanks, Holy Father,
All-powerful and ever living God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Who after his resurrection showed himself to his apostles and
in their sight ascended into glory to prepare a place for us,
that where he is, we might also be.

And so with the hosts of angels and archangels
and all the company of heaven
we proclaim the glory of your name
And join in their unending hymn of praise:
Holy, holy, holy Lord,

**God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,
Hosanna in the highest.**

All praise and thanks to you, true and living God,
Creator of all things, Giver of life.
You formed us in your own image; but we have marred that
image and fall short of your glory.
We give you thanks that you sent your Son to share our life;
you gave him up to death that the world might be saved, and
you raised him from the dead that we might live in him and
he in us.

Sanctify with your Spirit this bread and wine, your gifts to
us, that they may be for us the body and blood + of our
Saviour Jesus Christ.

On the night that he was betrayed he took bread and when he
had given thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples,
saying,

Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you:
Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper, he took the cup and when he
had given thanks he gave it to them, saying,
Drink this, all of you,
For this is my blood of the new covenant
Which is shed for you and for many

For the forgiveness of sins:
Do this in remembrance of me.

[Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:]

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come in glory.

As he has commanded us, Father,
we remember Jesus Christ, your Son.
Proclaiming his victorious death,
rejoicing in his resurrection
and waiting for him to come in glory
we bring to you this bread, this cup.

Accept our sacrifice of thanks and praise.
Restore and revive your people,
renew us and all for whom we pray
with your grace and heavenly blessing,
and at the last receive us with all your saints
into that unending joy promised by your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

As our Saviour taught us, we boldly pray:

**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.**

The Communion

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body
for we all share in one bread.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world: give us your peace.**

Giving of Communion

The sending out

Give thanks to the Lord for he is gracious:
his love is everlasting.

**God of truth, we have seen with our eyes
and touched with our hands the bread of life.**

**Strengthen our faith that we may grow in love for you
and for each other, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.
Amen.**

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Blessing

Christ our exalted King pour on you his abundant gifts that
you may serve him and reign with him in glory and the
Blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy
Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!
In the name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia

Hymn:

All heaven declares the glory of the risen Lord
Who can compare with the beauty of the Lord?
Forever He will be the Lamb upon the throne
I gladly bow my knee and worship Him alone

I will proclaim the glory of the risen Lord
Who once was slain to reconcile man to God
Forever You will be the Lamb upon the throne
I gladly bow my knee and worship You alone
Forever You will be. The Lamb upon the throne
I gladly bow my knee, and worship You alone

Forever you will be the Lamb upon the throne
I gladly bow my knee and worship you alone