

Readings & Collect for Ascension Day
Thursday 26th May, 2022
The service is being held at 8pm
in Crichton Collegiate Church, Pathhead

Collect for Ascension Day

Almighty God:
grant that we,
who believe that your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
ascended to the heavens,
may already dwell in spirit with him there;
for he lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God,
world without end.

Amen.

First Reading, Acts 1: 1-11 (Being read by Henry Duncan)

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and teach 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."

This is the word of the Lord.

Thank be to God.

Psalm 93 (Being sung)

1. The Lord is King, and hath put on glorious apparel :
the Lord hath put on his apparel, and girded himself with strength.
2. He hath made the round world : so sure · that it cannot be moved.
3. Ever since the world began hath thy seat been prepared :
thou art from ever-lasting.
4. The floods are risen O Lord, the floods have lift up their voice :
the floods lift up their waves.
5. The waves of the sea are mighty and rage horribly :
but yet the Lord, who dwelleth on high, is mightier.
6. Thy testimonies, O Lord, are very sure :
holiness becometh thine house for ever.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thank be to God.

Second Reading: 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, 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 perceive 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.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Gospel Reading, Luke 24: 44-53 (Being read by Rev Nick Wills)

Glory to Christ our Saviour.

Then he 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 worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel.

Praise to Christ our Lord.

Post-Communion Prayer for Ascension Day

Eternal Giver of love and power,
your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world
to preach the gospel of his kingdom:
confirm us in this mission,
and help us to live the good news we proclaim;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

The hymns are from New English Hymnal

296: Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour

134: The head that once was crowned with thorns

130: Hail the day that sees him rise Alleluya!

Introit: *O Lord, give thy Holy Spirit*, by Thomas Tallis

Anthem: *O God, the King of Glory*, by Henry Purcell