



**SOUTH WOLD DEANERY**

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Ascension

## The Call to worship

Jesus has ascended amid shouts of joy and the sounding of trumpets

**All Sing praises to our King, sing praises**

For God is the King of all the earth, sing to him a psalm of praise

**All God reigns over the nations, God is seated on His holy throne**

Congregation of Jesus Christ, in whom are you trusting?

**All Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth**

Grace mercy and peace to you in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit

**All Thanks be to God**

## Confession and Absolution

Seeing we have a great high priest  
who has passed into the heavens,  
Jesus the Son of God,  
let us draw near with a true heart, in full assurance of faith,  
and make our confession to our heavenly Father.

**All O King enthroned on high,  
filling the earth with your glory:  
holy is your name,  
Lord God almighty.  
In our sinfulness we cry to you  
to take our guilt away,  
and to cleanse our lips to speak your word,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

May the Father forgive us  
by the death of his Son  
and strengthen us  
to live in the power of the Spirit  
all our days.  
Amen.

## Collect

Risen Christ you have raised our human nature to the throne of heaven: help us to seek and serve you, that we may join you at the Father's side where you reign with the Spirit in glory, now and forever.

**All Amen**

## *Hymn: El Shaddai*

### **New Testament lesson Acts 1.1-11**

As we prepare to explore God's word let us pray together  
**All: May God guide each of us in the way of Christ,  
whatever our age or experience.  
May the love of God speak to us all**

In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

This is the word of the Lord  
**All: Thanks be to God**

## *Song: I see the Lord*

## Gospel

Alleluia, Alleluia, go and make disciples of all the nations, says the Lord.  
Remember I am with you always to the end of the age

**All Alleluia**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke 24 v44-end

**All Glory to you O Lord You're the Witnesses**

He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you:  
Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses,  
the Prophets and the Psalms."

Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He  
told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from  
the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will  
be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are  
witnesses of these things. I am going to send you what my Father has  
promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power  
from on high."

When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his  
hands and blessed them. While he was blessing them, he left them  
and was taken up into heaven. Then they worshiped him and returned  
to Jerusalem with great joy. And they stayed continually at the temple,  
praising God

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**All Praise to you O Christ**

## Sermon

### Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

**All Though he was divine, he did not cling to equality with God,  
but made himself nothing.  
Taking the form of a slave,  
he was born in human likeness.  
He humbled himself and was obedient to death,  
even the death of the cross.  
Therefore God has raised him on high,  
and given him the name above every name:  
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,  
and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.**

## *Hymn: Wonderful Merciful Saviour*

### **Prayers of Intercession** ending with The Lord's Prayer

**All** Our Father, which art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy Name.  
Thy Kingdom come.  
Thy will be done in earth,  
As it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
As we forgive them that 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.

## *Hymn: You Laid Aside Your Majesty*

### **The Dismissal: waiting for Pentecost: A reading from Acts 1**

“Then the disciples returned to Jerusalem from the Mount called Olivet a Sabbath's journey away. When they entered the city they went to the upstairs room where they were staying. They were constantly devoting themselves to prayer”

They waited for the Holy Spirit. As we wait in silence

**All** **Make us ready for your coming Spirit**

As we listen to your word

**All** **Make us ready for your coming Spirit**

As we worship you in majesty

**All** **Make us ready for your coming Spirit**

As we long for your refreshing

**All** **Make us ready for your coming Spirit**

As we long for your renewing

**All** **Make us ready for your coming Spirit**

As we long for your equipping

**All** **Make us ready for your coming Spirit**

As we long for your empowering

**All** **Make us ready for your coming Spirit**

## **Blessing**

The blessing of God, ground of being, bread of life and spirit of peace  
Rest upon you and all whom you love, both living and departed  
Now and always

**All    Amen**

## **Dismissal**

Waiting expectantly for the promised Holy Spirit, go in the peace of Christ

**All    Thanks be to God**

***Song: Lord of Eternity***