



St. Mark's Anglican Church

Ascension Sunday

June 1 2025

Sung Eucharist at 10:30 am

Welcome to St. Mark's.

*The order of service is set forth in this service sheet.
Please stand and kneel as you are able—and as is your custom.
Please join in singing the hymns and saying the parts printed in **bold***

PRELUDE *Prelude and Praise*

Ben Steinberg (1930-2023)

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

HYMN 491

The Head That Once Was Crowned

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen.
People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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

GLORY TO GOD

Common Praise, no. 686

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant Let us pray.

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.

People Amen.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Acts 1:1-11

Reader: Bob Cross

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."

Reader Thanks be to God.

PSALM

47

Sung by the choir

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.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:15-23

Reader: Bob Cross

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.

Reader Thanks be to God.

HYMN 245

O Lord Most High. Eternal King

GOSPEL

Luke 24:44-53

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**

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

Jesus said, "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.

Celebrant The Gospel of Christ.
People **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Rector

All stand

THE NICENE CREED

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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: Jane De Munnich

Leader Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
you have exalted your Son Christ Jesus to your right hand,
and made him the head over all things for his body the Church:
hear us as we pray for the Church throughout the world.
Make us and all your people receptive to the gifts he pours upon us,
that we may use them to your glory,
and the building up of the body of Christ.
Lord, in your mercy:

***People* hear our prayer.**

Leader Lord God Almighty, the Ancient of Days,
you have given your Son all authority in heaven and on earth:
hear us as we pray for the world he came to redeem.
Grant that we may know even in this time the things that make for peace,
and may strive for the reconciliation of all people
in his kingdom of justice and love.
Lord, in your mercy:

***People* hear our prayer.**

Leader Father of all, whose Son has promised to be with us always, to the end of the age:
hear us as we pray for those among whom we live and work.
Grant that we may be so aware of his presence with us,
that people may take note of us, that we have been with Jesus.
Lord, in your mercy:

***People* hear our prayer.**

Leader O God our Redeemer, whose Son ever lives to make intercession for us:
hear us as we pray for those in any kind of need.
May he who has borne our infirmities strengthen and heal them,
that they may find grace to help in time of need,
and rejoice in his salvation.

People Lord, in your mercy:
hear our prayer.

Leader Heavenly Father, whose Son has borne our humanity into the heavenly realms,
and gone before us to prepare a place for us:
hear us as we remember before you those whose earthly sojourn is over,
and whose life is now hidden in him with you.
Make us joyful and expectant, that at his coming with all his own
we too may go forth to meet him, and share in his eternal joy.
Lord, in your mercy:

People **hear our prayer.**

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

Confession and Absolution are omitted for the Great Fifty Days of Easter

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

WORDS OF WELCOME

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

HYMN

Music: *Jesmian* George Thalben-Ball (1896-1997)

Text: Martin Leckebusch (b. 1962)



Come, see the Lord in his breath - ta - king splen - dour:
 He is the Word who was sent by the Fa - ther,
 He is the Lamb who was slain to re - deem us
 He is the Lord who as - cen - ded in tri - umph
 Come, see the Lord in his breath - ta - king splen - dour:



gaze at his ma - jes - ty bow and a - dore!
 born as a ba - by, a child of our race:
 there at the cross his ap - pear - ance was marred;
 ev - er the sound of his prai - ses shall ring!
 gaze at his ma - jes - ty bow and a - dore!



En - ter his pres - ence with won - der and wor - ship
 God here a - mong us, re - vealed as a ser - vant,
 though he e - merged from the grave as a vic - tor,
 Hail him the First and the Last, the Al - migh - ty:
 Come and ack - now - ledge him Sa - viour and So - vereign:



he is the King, and en - throned ev - er - more.
 walk - ing the path - way of truth and of grace.
 still from the nails and the spear he is scarred.
 Je - sus our Pro - phet, our Priest and our King.
 Je - sus our King is en - throned ev - er - more.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant *People*

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 him thanks and praise.

Celebrant Blessed are you, gracious God,
 creator of heaven and earth;
 we give you thanks and praise
 through Jesus Christ our Lord,
 who after his glorious resurrection
 appeared to his disciples,
 and in their sight ascended into heaven
 to prepare a place for us;
 that where he is, there we might also be,
 and reign with him in glory.
 Therefore we praise you with angels and archangels
 and with all the company of heaven,
 who for ever sing this hymn
 to proclaim the glory of your name.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD

Common Praise, no. 689

*In order to celebrate the triumph of Christ's Passion,
 the people REMAIN STANDING throughout the Eucharistic Prayer*

Celebrant We give thanks to you, Lord our God,
 for the goodness and love
 you have made known to us in creation;
 in calling 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 Saviour 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 he was handed over
to suffering and death,
a death he freely accepted,
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.

All

Therefore, Father, according to his command,
we remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;

Celebrant

and we offer our sacrifice
of praise and thanksgiving
to you, 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, made acceptable in him,
may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time,
reconcile all things in Christ
and make them new,

and bring us to that city of light
where you dwell with all 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 whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father,
now and forever.

People **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Lord, we died with you on the cross.
People **Now we are raised to new life.**

Celebrant We were buried in your tomb.
People **Now we share in your resurrection.**

Celebrant Live in us, that we may live in you.

Celebrant The gifts of God for the People of God.
People **Thanks be to God.**

LAMB OF GOD

Common Praise, no. 690

Please follow the directions of the greeters as you make your way to the altar

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)

Verbe égal au Très-Haut, notre unique espérance, Jour éternel de la terre et des cieux, De la paisible nuit nous rompons le silence: Divin sauveur, jette sur nous les yeux.	<i>Word of God, our only hope, Eternal day of the earth and the heavens, We break the silence of the peaceful night; Divine Savior, cast thine eyes upon us!</i>
Répands sur nous le feu de ta grâce puissante; Que tout l'enfer fuie au son de ta voix; Dissipe ce sommeil d'une âme languissante Qui la conduit à l'oubli de tes lois!	<i>Lay upon us the fire of Thy mighty grace, That all hell may flee at the sound of thy voice Banish the slumber of a languishing soul, Which makes it forgetful of Thy laws!</i>
O Christ! sois favorable à ce peuple fidèle, Pour te bénir maintenant assemblé; Reçois les chants qu'il offre à ta gloire immortelle, Et de tes dons qu'il retourne comblé.	<i>O Christ, be merciful to thy faithful people Assembled here to praise Thee; Receive the songs they offer to Thy immortal glory; May they return laden with Thy gifts.</i>

- Jean Racine (1633-1699) *Hymnes traduites du Bréviaire romain*

After communion, all stand for

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Celebrant All your works praise you, O Lord.
All **And your faithful servants bless you.**

Gracious God
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son
Jesus Christ.
May we, who share his body,
live his risen life;
we, who drink his cup,
bring life to others;
we, whom the Spirit lights,
give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
So that we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Celebrant May God the Father,
by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead,
strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life;
and the blessing of God Almighty:
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit
be upon you and remain with you always.

People **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia!
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

HYMN 378

Crown Him with Many Crowns

VOLUNTARY *Toccata*

Eugène Gigout (1844-1925)

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The Rev'd Dr Susan MacLaren, *Honorary Assistant*

Michael Bloss, *Director of Music*
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Rector's Warden *People's Warden*

Kathy Taylor
Deputy Warden

Allan Magnacca, O. N.
Warden Emeritus