

Preparing for Worship Today

- Today's service is also being live-streamed for the participation of those who can't join us physically today.
- Congregational responses are printed in ***bold italics***.
- Pray for those who will be leading us in our worship today!
- Today our readings are those for Ascension Day (last Thursday)



A SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

Prelude D Buxtehude, *Tocatta BuxWV 157*

The Gathering of the People of God

Sung Introit (TIS 390, selected verse)

Refrain

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord,
alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.

Christ has been raised to God's right hand,
standing for us in the heart of God.

Refrain

*Donald E. Fishel; Words and music © 1973 The Word of God [alt./ECT verse]
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Call to Worship

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

Let us worship, and sing praises to the LORD;
let us rejoice before God!

Let the righteous be glad,
and rejoice in the LORD!

(Psalm 68.3f)

Prayer of invocation

Hymn TIS 404 Lord God, the Spirit blest

1. Lord God, the Spirit blest,
in this accepted hour,
as on the day of Pentecost,
descend with all your power;
we meet with one accord
in this your holy place,
and wait the promise of our Lord,
the Spirit of all grace.

2. Like mighty rushing wind
upon the waves beneath,
move with one impulse every mind,
one soul, one feeling breathe:
the young, the old inspire
with wisdom from above;
and give us hearts and tongues of fire
to pray, and praise, and love.

3. Spirit of light! explore,
and chase our gloom away,
with lustre shining more and more
towards the perfect day:
Spirit of truth! alone
in life and death our guide;
come, Spirit of adoption! now
may we be sanctified.

*Words: James Montgomery, 1771-1854 (alt.)
Music: Percy Carter Black
Public Domain*

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you all;
and also with you.

cf 1 Timothy 1.2

With the Children

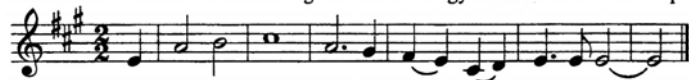
The Word Spoken: Scripture and Preaching

The Testimony of Scripture

Your word, O Lord, is a lamp to our feet
and a light to our path.

Acts 1.1-11 *The Ascension of Jesus, II*

Psalm 93.1-2,5 *The Lord is king* PCS 87
International Commission on English in the Liturgy J. Gerald Phillips



The Lord is king; God is robed in maj-es-ty. —

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*We stand for the gospel reading and
join with the cantor in the Alleluia after the organ intro:*

REFRAIN Hal H. Hopson



Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia!

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“You are witnesses of these things.
And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised”

Refrain

Luke 24.44-53 *The Ascension of Jesus, I*

This is the gospel of the Lord
Sung: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Preaching of the Word

The text of the sermon will normally be
available after worship and online

Prayer of Confession

LITBIT: If we go to confession, it is not to plead for forgiveness from God. It is to thank him for it... When God forgives our sins, he is not changing his mind about us. He is changing *our* minds about him. He does not change, his mind is never anything but loving: he is love.

HERBERT MCCABE

Declaration of Forgiveness

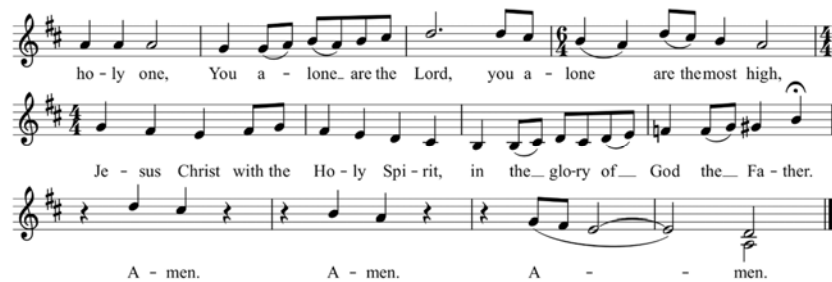
...hear, then, Christ's word of grace to us:
Your sins are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

Doxology

Musical notation for the Doxology. The score is written on six staves in treble clef, with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of several measures of music, including a half note, a quarter note, and a dotted half note.

Glo - ry to God... in the high - est and
peace to Gods'peo - ple on earth. Lord God... heav'n-ly king... al-migh-ty God. and...
Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you... for... your glo-ry.
Lord Je-susChrist, on-ly Son of theFa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sins of theworld: have mer - cy on us; you are seat-ed at the right hand of the
Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer. For you a - lone... are the



ho - ly one, You a - lone are the Lord, 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. A - men. A - - - men.

The Peace

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

The Apostles' Creed

*I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.*

*I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the Virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried;
 he descended to the dead.*

*On the third day he arose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.*

*I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic Church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.*

The Visible Word: Eucharist

Hymn 509 Come now, everlasting Spirit

1. Come now, everlasting Spirit,
 bring to every thankful mind
 all the Saviour's dying merit,
 sufferings for all humankind;
2. True Recorder of his passion,
 now the living faith impart,
 now reveal his great salvation,
 preach his gospel to our heart.
3. Come as Witness of his dying;
 come Remembrancer divine,
 let us feel your power, applying
 Christ to every soul, and mine.

*Words: Charles Wesley
 Music: William Boyce
 Public Domain*

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
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.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, hea - ven and earth are
 full of your glo - ry, ho - sa - na in the high - est. Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the
 Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Ho - san na - in the high - est!

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r 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!
 Hosanna in the highest!*



*Christ has died.
 Christ is risen.
 Christ will come again.*



*Blessing and honour, glory and power
 are yours forever and ever,
 are yours forever and ever.*

The Lord's Prayer

*Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come,
 your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive us our sins,
 as we forgive those who sin against us.
 Save us from the time of trial
 and deliver us from evil.
 For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
 now and for ever. Amen.*

The Breaking of the Bread

...Holy things for a people made holy;
 Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Psalm 34:8

*(Sung:) Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord,
 alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name. [TIS 390]*

The Communion

Prayers of the People

LITBIT: We pray in Christ, and he, through his Holy Spirit, prays in us, who are gathered in his name. "And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba, Father!'" (Galatians 4.6). We can add nothing to this prayer, but according to his will, according to his love, we have become members of his body, we are one with him and have participation in his protection and intercession for the world.

ALEXANDER SCHMEMMANN

[Offering]

*For the time-being, financial offerings will not be collected from the pews
 but should be made in the designated offering box as you enter the church. If you miss
 the opportunity, you can put it in the box after the service!*

Notices

The Sending Forth of the People of God

Hymn 376 I know that my redeemer lives

1. I know that my Redeemer lives —
 what joy the blest assurance gives!
 He lives, he lives, who once was dead;
 he lives, my everlasting Head.
2. He lives, to bless me with his love:
 he lives, to plead for me above;
 he lives my hungry soul to feed;
 he lives to help in time of need.

3. He lives, and grants me daily breath;
he lives, and I shall conquer death;
he lives, my mansion to prepare;
he lives, to lead me safely there.

4. He lives, all glory to his name;
he lives, my Saviour, still the same;
what joy the blest assurance gives,
I know that my Redeemer lives!

Words: Samuel Medley
Music: James William Elliot
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Word of Mission and Blessing

Postlude D Buxtehude, *Fuga Bux* WV 174

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