



Founded in 1874 ~ The Church of England in the Diocese of London

THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

THURSDAY 9 MAY 2013



Welcome to St Mary's, especially if you are visiting us for the first time.

Please join us next door in the Presbytery for drinks after the Mass.

The setting of the Ordinary is Missa 'Ascendens Christus in altum', Tomás Luis de Victoria, (1548-1611).

The Propers (prayers, readings and verses) of today's Mass are set out overleaf.

The Hymns are found in The New English Hymnal.

INTROIT *Viri Galilaei**Acts 1 & Psalm 47*

'Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? alleluia: in like manner as ye have seen him going up into heaven, so shall he come again: alleluia, alleluia. O clap your hands together, all ye people: O sing unto God with the voice of melody.

CONFIETOR

I confess to almighty God and to you, brethren, that I have sinned exceedingly in thought, word and deed: through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault. Therefore I ask blessed Mary, ever-virgin, all the angels and saints and you, brethren, to pray for me to the Lord our God. *Absolution is given.*

KYRIE ELEISON

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

COLLECT

Grant, we beseech thee, Almighty God: that like as we do believe thy only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens; so we may also in heart and mind thither ascend, and with him continually dwell.

FIRST LESSON

Daniel 7.13-14

In those days: Daniel said: 'I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.'

ALLELUIA I *Ascendit Deus**Psalm 47*

Alleluia. God is gone up with a merry noise: and the LORD with the sound of the trumpet.

SECOND LESSON

Acts 1.1-11

The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen: to whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God. And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which (saith he) ye have heard of me: for John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying: 'Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?' And he said unto them: 'It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power; but ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you, and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the

earth.' And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, which also said: 'Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.'

ALLELUIA II *Dominus in Sina*

Psalm 68

Alleluia. The LORD in the holy place of Sinai, ascending up on high, hath led captivity captive. Alleluia.

GOSPEL

St John 8. 46-59

At that time: Jesus appeared unto the eleven, as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart: because they believed not them, which had seen him after he was risen. And he said unto them: 'Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth, and is baptized, shall be saved: but he that believeth not, shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe: In my name shall they cast out devils: they shall speak with new tongues: they shall take up serpents: and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them: they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.' So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following.

SERMON

Fr David Peebles (Rector of St George's Bloomsbury)

CREED

De Angelis (page 6 in the High Mass booklet)

OFFERTORY MOTET

Tomás Luis de Victoria (1548-1611) ✎ Ephesians 4 & Psalm 47

Ascendens Christus in altum, alleluia. Captivam duxit captivitatem, alleluia. Dedit dona hominibus, alleluia. Ascendit Deus in jubilatione, et DOMINUS in voce tubae, alleluia. Dedit dona hominibus, alleluia. *Christ ascended up on high, alleluia. He led captivity captive, alleluia. He gave gifts unto men, alleluia. God is gone up with a merry noise, and the LORD with the sound of the trump, alleluia. He gave gifts unto men, alleluia.*

HYMN 134

The head that once was crowned with thorns

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Acept, O Lord, we pray thee, the oblations which, in remembrance of the glorious Ascension of thy Son, we do offer unto thee: and mercifully grant that we, being delivered from all perils in this life present, may attain in the end unto life everlasting.

COMMUNION *Psallite Domino*

Psalm 68

Sing ye to the LORD, who ascendeth above the heaven of heavens, to the Sunrising, alleluia.

Ascendit Deus in jubilatione, et DOMINUS in voce tubae, alleluia. DOMINUS in coelo paravit sedem suam, alleluia. *God is gone up with a merry noise, and the LORD with the sound of the trump, alleluia. The LORD hath prepared his seat in heaven.*

POSTCOMMUNION

Grant, we beseech thee, Almighty and merciful God: that we which have outwardly received these holy mysteries, may inwardly be made partakers of the benefit of the same.

The FINAL ANTHEM TO OUR LADY follows the BLESSING & DISMISSAL

6. 

R Egína caéli * laetáre, alle-lú-ia : Qui- a quem me-



ru- ísti portáre, alle-lú-ia : Resurréxit, sic-ut dixit, alle-



lú-ia : Ora pro nó-bis Dé-um, alle-lú- ia.

Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia. For he whom you were worthy to bear, alleluia. Has risen, as he said, alleluia. Pray for us to God, alleluia.



...it doesn't mean that Jesus is telling us that any and every human cry is good. It doesn't mean that Jesus endorses ideas about revenge on your enemies, or even shaking your fist at God the Father. But it does mean that Jesus treats us, our feelings, our tumultuous personalities, as real. He takes us seriously. He takes us seriously when we're moving towards God and each other in love; and, amazingly, he takes us seriously when we're moving in the opposite direction – when we are spinning downwards into destructive, hateful fantasies. He doesn't let go of us and he doesn't lose sight of us when we seek to lock ourselves up in the dark. Jesus hears all the words we speak – words of pain and protest and rage and violence. He hears them and he takes them and in the presence of the God the Father he says: 'This is the humanity I have brought home.' It's not a pretty sight; it's not edifying and impressive and heroic, it's just real: real and needy and confused, and here it is (this complicated humanity) brought home to heaven, dropped into the burning heart of God – for healing and for transformation. That's quite a lot to bear in mind when you're saying or hearing the Psalms. But it's probably the only way of coping with rather a lot of them. ✨ *Rowan Williams, 2009 (full text on leaflet in porch)*