



*Ascension and
Second Coming*

Wayne Forte

The Holy Eucharist Ascension Sunday

May 29, 2022; 10:55am

Liturgy for Contemporary Service — The Anglican Church in North America

The Holy Eucharist

The Bell (*congregation standing*)

Opening Songs

Bring Him Praise

Bring Him praise, you lights of heaven
Give Him glory who made you shine
He has set your paths in motion
'Cross the morning and evening sky
He did give you a place exalted - ruling day and night
Shine before the King of Heaven
Praise to Him, the Lord of Light

Bring Him praise, you hills and mountains
Give Him glory who made you strong
He has formed every peak and valley
Taught you to echo creation's song
From Him came your steadfast nature - anchors of His love
Stand before the Rock of Ages
Praise to Him, the Lord Above

Bring Him praise, you earthly waters
Give Him glory who gave you depth
He has filled you with life abundant
Made you to give of life itself
Like your waves His grace unending, boundless, without shore
Rise before the God Eternal
Praise to Him, the Lord of Lords

Bring Him praise, you sons and daughters
Give Him glory who makes you new
He has filled your lungs for praising
Songs of joy He has giv'n to you
All creation joins the chorus - praises to His Name
Sing before the King of Glory
Praise to Him, the Lord Who Reigns

The Solid Rock

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly lean on Jesus' name

Chorus:

On Christ the solid Rock I stand
All other ground is sinking sand
All other ground is sinking sand

When darkness veils His lovely face
I rest on His unchanging grace
In ev'ry high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil

His oath His covenant His blood
Support me in the whelming flood
When all around my soul gives way
He then is all my hope and stay

When He shall come with trumpet sound
O may I then in Him be found
Dressed in His righteousness alone
Faultless to stand before the throne

Minister: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: ***The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!***

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: ***And with your spirit.***

Minister: Let us pray.

Collect of the Day

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting.

Amen.

The Lessons (*congregation seated*)

Acts 1:1-11

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning ²until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over the course of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴While 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; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.' ⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' ⁷He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But 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.' ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards 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: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 47

¹ O clap your hands together, all you peoples; *
O cry aloud unto God with shouts of joy.

² For the LORD Most High is to be feared; *
he is the great King over all the earth.

³ He shall subdue the peoples under us, *
and the nations under our feet.

⁴ He shall choose our inheritance for us, *
the pride of Jacob whom he loved.

⁵ God has gone up with a shout of triumph, *
the LORD with the sound of the trumpet.

⁶ O sing praises, sing praises unto our God; *
O sing praises, sing praises unto our King.

⁷ For God is the King of all the earth; *
think upon his mighty acts and praise him with a song.

⁸ God reigns over the nations; *
God sits on his holy throne.

⁹ The princes of the peoples are gathered with the people of the God of Abraham; *
for the mighty upon earth have become the servants of the LORD, and he is
very highly exalted.

All: *Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen.*

Revelation 22:10-21

¹⁰ And he said to me, 'Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is near. ¹¹ Let the evildoer still do evil, and the filthy still be filthy, and the righteous still do right, and the holy still be holy.' ¹² 'See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work. ¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.' ¹⁴ Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the

gates. ¹⁵Outside are the dogs and sorcerers and fornicators and murderers and idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices falsehood. ¹⁶'It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.' ¹⁷The Spirit and the bride say, 'Come.' And let everyone who hears say, 'Come.' And let everyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift. ¹⁸I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to that person the plagues described in this book; ¹⁹if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away that person's share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book. ²⁰The one who testifies to these things says, 'Surely I am coming soon.' Amen. Come, Lord Jesus! ²¹The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel (*congregation standing*)

*In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My comforter, my all in all
Here in the love of Christ I stand*

Minister: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

John 17:20-26

²⁰'I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²²The

glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, ²³I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. ²⁴Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. ²⁵ 'Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.'

Minister: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

*There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ*

Sermon

The Nicene Creed (congregation standing)

***We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, visible and invisible.***

***We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten 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,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and 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 and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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.*

The Prayers of the People (*congregation standing or kneeling*)

Let us pray for the Church and for the world, the people saying, "**hear our prayer.**"

For the peace of the whole world, and for the well-being and unity of the people of God.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: *Hear our prayer.*

For Foley, our Archbishop, Mark, our Bishop and for all the clergy and people of our diocese and congregation.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: *Hear our prayer.*

For all those who proclaim the Gospel at home and abroad; and for all who teach and disciple others.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:
People: ***Hear our prayer.***

For our brothers and sisters in Christ who are persecuted for their faith.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:
People: ***Hear our prayer.***

For our nation, for those in authority and for all in public service, especially Joe, our President, Andy, our Governor, and Linda, our Mayor.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:
People: ***Hear our prayer.***

For all those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:
People: ***Hear our prayer.***

For all those who have departed this life in the certain hope of the resurrection, in thanksgiving let us pray.

Reader: Lord in your mercy:
People: ***Hear our prayer.***

Heavenly Father, grant these our prayers for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. ***Amen.***

The Peace (*congregation stand*)

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: ***And with your spirit.***

Celebrant: Let us greet one another and share the Peace of Christ.

The Doxology *(congregation standing)*

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.***

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through your dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who after his most glorious resurrection appeared to his Apostles, and in their sight ascended into heaven to prepare a place for us; that where he is, there we might also ascend, and reign with him in glory.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

The Sanctus

***Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of power 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.***

The Prayer of Consecration

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my Body which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for 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 in remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People:

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

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy sacrament, and be made one body with him, so that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

***Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name.
Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
And 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 forever. Amen.***

The Fraction (The Breaking of the Bread)

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us!

People: *Therefore let us keep the feast! Alleluia!*

The Invitation to Communion

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Dear Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to possess you within my soul. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, together with all your faithful people gathered around every altar of your Church, and I embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Never permit me to be separated from you. **Amen.**

Prayer of Christian Discipleship *(congregation kneeling)*

Heavenly Father,

we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food

of the most precious body and blood

of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;

and for assuring us in these holy mysteries

that we are living members of the body of your Son,

and heirs of your eternal Kingdom.

And now Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do,

to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,

be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

The Blessing (*congregation kneeling*)

The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Recessional

Revelation Song

Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain
Holy holy is He
Sing a new song to Him Who sits on
Heaven's mercy seat

C h o r u s :

Holy holy holy is the Lord God Almighty
Who was and is and is to come
With all creation I sing praise to the King of kings
You are my everything and I will adore You

Clothed in rainbows of living color
Flashes of lightning rolls of thunder
Blessing and honor strength and glory
And power be to You the only wise King

Filled with wonder, awestruck wonder
At the mention of Your name

Dismissal

Minister: Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

People: ***Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

