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Holy Trinity Church

Albert Place, Stirling, FK8 2RG

Scottish Charity: SC016471

Open
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Rector: The Revd Canon Christoph Wutscher · Tel: 01786 359821 · rector@holytrinitystirling.org

Thursday 26th May 2022

7.30 p.m. Sung Eucharist

ASCENSION DAY

Celebrant: The Rector

Readings: Cate Watson

PREPARATION

Organ Prelude Giovanni Battista Martini: Verset

Opening Hymn (*please stand*)

1 Hail the day that sees him rise, Alleluia,
to his throne above the skies; Alleluia,
Christ, the Lamb for sinners given, Alleluia,
enters now the highest heaven. Alleluia!

2 There for him high triumph waits; Alleluia,
lift your heads, eternal gates. Alleluia!
He has conquered death and sin; Alleluia,
take the King of Glory in. Alleluia!

3 Lo, the heaven its Lord receives, Alleluia,
yet he loves the earth he leaves; Alleluia,
though returning to his throne, Alleluia,
still he calls us all his own. Alleluia!

4 Still for us he intercedes, Alleluia,
his prevailing death he pleads; Alleluia,
near himself prepares our place, Alleluia,
he the first-fruits of our race. Alleluia!

5 Lord, though parted from our sight, Alleluia,
far above the starry height, Alleluia,
grant our hearts may thither rise, Alleluia,
seeking thee above the skies. Alleluia!

Charles Wesley, Thomas Cotterill and others

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Collect for Purity

Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom 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.

Confession and Absolution

God is love and we are God's children, there is no room for fear in love.

We love because God loved us first. Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

Silence

God our Father, we confess to you
and to our fellow members in the Body of Christ
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed,
and in what we have failed to do. We are truly sorry.
Forgive us our sins, and deliver us from the power of evil.
For the sake of your Son who died for us, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

God, who is both power and love, forgive us and free us from our sins,
heal and strengthen us by the Holy Spirit and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gloria Kilcreggan Mass (*see separate music sheet*) (please stand)

Glory to God, to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Glory to God, to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Glory to God, to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us, you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer, receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, you alone are the Most High Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, of God the Father. Amen, Amen.

Collect

Almighty God: grant that we, who believe that your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, ascended to the heavens, may already dwell in spirit with him there; for he lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Acts 1.1-11 (*please sit*)

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning² until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen.³ After 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.⁴ 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;⁵ for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.'⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?'⁷ He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority.'⁸ 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.'⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them.¹¹ They 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.'

Gradual Hymn

1 Clap your hands all you nations,
Amen. Hallelujah!
shout for joy all you people;
Amen. Hallelujah!
Holy is the Most High;
Amen. Hallelujah!
mighty over the earth.
Amen. Hallelujah!

2 God subdues every nation,
Amen. Hallelujah!
God is king of all creatures;
Amen. Hallelujah!
God has given this land,
Amen. Hallelujah!
to the people he loves.
Amen. Hallelujah!

3 To the shouting in triumph,
Amen. Hallelujah!
to the blasting of trumpets,
Amen. Hallelujah!
God has gone up,
Amen. Hallelujah!
God ascends over all.
Amen. Hallelujah!

4 Praise the Lord with your singing,
Amen. Hallelujah!
sing God psalms for ever.
Amen. Hallelujah!
God is monarch of all,
Amen. Hallelujah!
sovereign over the earth.
Amen. Hallelujah!

5 Those on earth who are mighty
Amen. Hallelujah!
still belong to our Maker,
Amen. Hallelujah!
God exalted on high,
Amen. Hallelujah!
God for ever our Lord.
Amen. Hallelujah!

Graham Maule, John L Bell
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Second Reading: Ephesians 1.15-23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶ I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷ I pray 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, ¹⁸ so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰ 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, ²¹ 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. ²² And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Gospel Acclamation (*please stand*)

Bernadette Farrell

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, Je - sus, ris - en Lord of life!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Bernadette Farrell
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Gospel: Luke 24.44-53 (*please stand*) *When it is announced: Glory to Christ our Saviour.*

Jesus said to the disciples, '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.' ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶ 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, ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ 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.' ⁵⁰ Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. ⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵² And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; ⁵³ and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

Give thanks to the Lord for this glorious Gospel. **Praise to Christ our Lord.**

Sermon: The Revd Nerys Brown, Rector of St Mary's Dunblane

Nicene Creed (*please stand*)

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 substance 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 of the Virgin Mary,
and was made human.

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.

Intercessions led by *(please sit)*

The Peace *(please stand)* We meet in Christ's name. **Let us share his peace.**

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Offertory Hymn *(please stand)*

1 Ascended Christ, who gained
the glory that we sing,
anointed and ordained,
our Prophet, Priest and King:
by many tongues
the Church displays
your power and praise
in all her songs.

2 No titles, thrones, or powers
can ever rival yours;
no passing mood of ours
can turn aside your laws:
you reign above
each other name
of worth or fame,
the Lord of love!

3 Now from your Father's side
you make your people new;
since for our sins you died
our lives belong to you:
from our distress
you set us free
for purity
and holiness.

4 You call us to belong
within one body here;
in weakness we are strong
and all your gifts we share:
in you alone
we are complete
and at your feet
with joy bow down.

5 All strength is in your hand,
all power to you is given;
all wisdom to command
in earth and hell and heaven:
beyond all words
creation sings
the King of kings
and Lord of lords.

Christopher Idle
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Offertory Prayer *(please stand)*

Let us present our offerings to the Lord.

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours. All things come from you, and of your own we give you.

The Eucharistic Prayer

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 God thanks and praise.**

Worship and praise belong to you, Author of all being. Your power sustains, your love restores, our broken world. You are unceasingly at work, from chaos bringing order and filling emptiness with life. Christ, raised from the dead, proclaims the dawn of hope. He lives in us that we may walk in light. Your Spirit is fire in us, your breath is power to purge our sin and warm our hearts to love. As children of your redeeming purpose, freed by him who burst from the tomb and opened the gate of life, we offer you our praise, with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending glory:

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.

(please sit)

Praise and thanksgiving be to you, Lord of all, for by the Cross eternal life is ours and death is swallowed up in victory. In the first light of Easter, glory broke from the tomb and changed the women's sorrow into joy. From the Garden the mystery dawned that he whom they had loved and lost is with us now in every place for ever. Making himself known in the breaking of the bread, speaking peace to his fearful disciples, welcoming weary fisherman on the shore, he renewed his promise of his presence and of a new birth in the Spirit, who sets the seal of freedom on your sons and daughters. Before he was given up to suffering and death, recalling the night of Israel's release, the night in which slaves walked free, at supper with his disciples he took bread and offered you thanks. He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying: "Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you." After supper, he took the cup, he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant; it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me."

We now obey your Son's command.

We recall his blessed passion and death,

his glorious resurrection and ascension;

and we look for the coming of his Kingdom.

Made one with him, we offer you these gifts

and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice.

Hear us, most merciful Father, and send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this wine, that, overshadowed by his life-giving power, they may be the Body and Blood of your Son, and we may be kindled with the fire of your love and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

Help us, who are baptised into
the fellowship of Christ's Body
to live and work to your praise and glory;
may we grow together in unity and love
until at last, in your new creation,
we enter into our heritage
in the company of the Virgin Mary,
the apostles, and prophets,
and of all our brothers and sisters
living and departed.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory
be to you, Lord of all ages, world without end. **Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The living bread is broken for the life of the world.
Lord, unite us in this sign.

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.
Do not bring us to the time of trial
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

Agnus Dei *see separate music sheet*

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, Redeemer of the world: give us your peace.

Communion *is administered at the bottom of the chancel steps. Please use the hand sanitiser provided
before and after receiving communion.*

Choir Anthem Julian Dams: If I take the wings of the morning (Psalm 139:9-11)

THANKSGIVING AND SENDING OUT

Post Communion Prayer

Loving God, your steadfast purpose is the completion of all things in your Son. May we who have received the pledges of the kingdom, live by faith, walk in hope and be renewed in love, until the world reflects your glory and you are all in all; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Final Hymn (*please stand*)

1 Christ triumphant, ever reigning,
Saviour, Master, King!
Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining,
hear us as we sing:

*Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name!*

2 Word incarnate, truth revealing,
Son of Man on earth!
power and majesty concealing
by your humble birth:

3 Suffering servant, scorned, ill-treated,
victim crucified!
death is through the cross defeated,
sinners justified:

4 Priestly king, enthroned for ever
high in heaven above!
sin and death and hell shall never
stifle hymns of love:

5 So, our hearts and voices raising
through the ages long,
ceaselessly upon you gazing,
this shall be our song:

*Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name!*

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The Blessing & Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, alleluia, alleluia.
In the name of Christ, alleluia, alleluia.

Organ Postlude John Stanley: Voluntary in A minor op.6,2