

## **HOLY SAVIOUR CHURCH, CROYDON**

*“so we in heart and mind may also ascend”*



**Ascension Service**

*Please stand for the hymn and procession*

**HYMN 1:**

***The Gathering***

God has gone up with a shout

**The Lord with the sound of the trumpet**

In the name of the Father,

and of the Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen**

***The Greeting***

Grace, mercy and peace

From God our Father

And the Lord Jesus Christ

be with you

**And also with you**

***Introduction to Ascension***

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, for forty days we have been celebrating with joyful hearts the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, his bursting from the tomb and his defeat over the power of sin and death. He appeared to his disciples many times and told them about the kingdom of God. Today we recall how he left this earth and returned to his Father, ascending into heaven to take his throne over all dominions and powers. Trusting in his reign over all creation, and submitting to his kingly yet loving rule, let us hear the story of his parting.

**The Ascension Reading: Acts of the Apostles 1:4-11** <sup>4</sup>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; <sup>5</sup>for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.' <sup>6</sup> So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' <sup>7</sup>He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>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.' <sup>9</sup>When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup>While he was going

and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup>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.'

This is the word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**

*Prayer of Preparation*

**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 Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

*Invitation to Confession*

Deacon: Let us in penitence open our hearts to the Lord  
Who has prepared good things for those who love him.

We say together

**Most merciful God,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
We confess that we have sinned  
In thought, word and deed.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart.  
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
In your mercy  
Forgive what we have been,  
help us to amend what we are,  
and direct what we shall be;  
that we may do justly,  
love mercy,  
and walk humbly with you, our God  
Amen.**

**Absolution**

May the God of love and power  
+ forgive you and free you from your sins  
Heal and strengthen you by his Spirit  
And raise you to new life  
In Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Seeing we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens,  
Jesus the Son of God  
Let us offer him the praise worthy of his name

*Please stand for the*

**Gloria in Excelsis**

**Glory 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.**

**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.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen**

*Remain Standing*

## **The Collect**

*The President introduces a period of silent prayer with the words*

Let us pray

## **Collect of the week**

*Please sit for the **Liturgy of the Word***

## **Reading 1.**

*At the end the reader says:*

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

*Our Choir lead us in the Psalm which you can follow in the weekly sheet*

## **Reading 2.**

*At the end the reader says:*

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

## **HYMN 2**

*Please stand for*

**The Gospel**

Alleluia, alleluia

Go and make disciples of all the nations, says the Lord

Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age

**Alleluia**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to...

**Glory to you, O Lord**

*At the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you, O Christ**

**Sermon**

*Please stand for the* **The Creed**

**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,  
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 worshipped 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.**

*Please sit or kneel for our*  
**Prayers of Intercession**

*These responses may be used*

Lord in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

**Or**

Lord, hear us

**Lord graciously hear us.**

*At the end*

Merciful Father,

**accept these prayers**

**For the sake of your Son**

**Our Saviour Jesus Christ**

**Amen.**

**The Peace**

Jesus said: "Peace I leave you; my peace I give to you.

If you love me, rejoice because I am going to the Father.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace

**The Liturgy of the Sacrament** *Preparation of the table*

**HYMN 3**

*The President takes the bread and wine.*

Blessed be God

By whose grace creation is renewed,

By whose love heaven is opened

By whose mercy we offer our sacrifice of praise

**Blessed be God forever**

**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 thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and good,  
Our duty and our joy,  
Always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
Holy Father, almighty and eternal God  
Through Jesus Christ King of glory.  
Born of a woman  
He came to the rescue of our human race.  
Dying for us he trampled death and conquered sin  
By the glory of his resurrection  
He opened the way to life eternal  
And by his ascension  
Gave us sure hope  
That where he is we may be also

On the night he was betrayed,  
at supper with his friends  
he took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to them, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:  
his body is the bread of life.**

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,  
he gave you thanks, and said:  
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins;  
do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:  
his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death, and celebrate his rising in glory,  
send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine  
may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

**As we eat and drink these holy gifts  
make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole church throughout the world  
we offer you this sacrifice of praise



and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

**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 or kneel for*

**The Lord's Prayer**

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**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**

**Breaking of the bread**

*The President breaks the consecrated bread*

We break this bread

to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body,**

**because we all share in one bread.**

*The Agnus Dei*

**Lamb of God,**

**you take away the sin of the world,**

**have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,**

**you take away the sin of the world,**

**have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
grant us peace.**

### **Invitation to Communion**

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ

Which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,

and feed on him in your hearts

by faith and thanksgiving.

I heard a voice of a great multitude crying, Alleluia

The Lord our God has entered into his kingdom

**Blessed are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.**

**Amen**

*The priest and people receive **Communion**. This is a very sacred part of the service. Sides people will guide everyone. All who receive communion are welcome. If you are not receiving the bread and wine, you are warmly invited to come forward with everyone else and receive a blessing.*

### **COMMUNION HYMNS**

*During the distribution of communion hymns, songs and anthems are sung, please feel free to sing them or have a time of silent prayer.*

### **Prayers after Communion**

*Silence is kept*

### **Prayer of the week**

#### **Prayer after Communion**

**Almighty God,**

**we thank you for feeding us**

**with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.**

**Through him we offer you our souls and bodies**

**to be a living sacrifice.**

**Send us out**

**in the power of your Spirit**

**to live and work**

**to your praise and glory. Amen**

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## Banns, Notices & announcements

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### ***A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 1:12-14***

Then the disciples returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath's day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying. They were constantly devoting themselves to prayer together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers

### ***Silence is kept***

As we await in silence

**Make us ready for your coming Spirit**

As we listen to your word

**Make us ready for your coming Spirit**

As we worship you in majesty

**Make us ready for your coming Spirit**

As we long for your renewing

**Make us ready for your coming Spirit**

As we long for your equipping

**Make us ready for your coming Spirit**

As we long for your empowering

**Make us ready for your coming Spirit**

### **Blessing**

God the Son, our great high priest, passed into heaven,

Plead for you at the right hand of the Father

and the + blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,

be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen**

### **HYMN 6**

### **Dismissal**

Waiting expectantly for the promised Holy Spirit.

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**



**Holy Saviour Church, Croydon  
St Saviour's Road CR0 2XF**

**0203 784 3017**

**[holysav@hotmail.com](mailto:holysav@hotmail.com)**

**[holysaviourcroydon.co.uk](http://holysaviourcroydon.co.uk)**

