

Holy Saviour Church, Croydon

Ascension Service – 18th May 2023

Entrance Hymn: 147 - *Crown Him with many crowns*

Hymn Before the Gospel: 87 - *Hail the day that sees Him rise*

Offertory Hymn: 141 – *The head that once was crowned*

Communion Hymn: 262 – *Alleluia, sing to Jesus*

Final Hymn: 207 – *Praise to the Lord*

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that as we believe your only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens, so we in heart and mind may also ascend and with him continually dwell; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

FIRST READING *Daniel 7 – vv 9-14*

⁹ As I watched, thrones were set in place, and an Ancient One took his throne, his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames, and its wheels were burning fire. ¹⁰ A stream of fire issued and flowed out from his presence. A thousand thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him. The court sat in judgment, and the books were opened. ¹¹ I watched then because of the noise of the arrogant words that the horn was speaking. And as I watched, the beast was put to death, and its body destroyed and given over to be burned with fire. ¹² As for the rest of the beasts, their dominion was taken away, but their lives were prolonged for a season and a time. ¹³ As I watched in the night visions, I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven. And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him. ¹⁴ To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

PSALM 47 vv 1-9 *Omnes gentes, plaudite*

O CLAP your hands together, all ye people: O Sing unto God with the voice of melody.

² For the Lord is high, and to be feared: he is the great King upon all the earth.

³ He shall subdue the people under us: and the nations under our feet.

⁴ He shall choose out an heritage for us: even the worship of Jacob, whom he loved.

⁵ God is gone up with a merry noise: and the Lord with the sound of the trump.

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: sing ye praises with understanding.

⁸ God reigneth over the heathen: God sitteth upon his holy seat.

⁹ The princes of the people are joined unto the people of the God of Abraham: for God, which is very high exalted, doth defend the earth, as it were with a shield.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen

SECOND READING Acts 1 – vv 1-11

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning ² 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 during 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 toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹ They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward 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.”

GOSPEL – Luke 24 - vv 44-53

⁴⁴ Then he said to them, “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 worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; ⁵³ and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

INTERCESSIONS – Barbara

We pray especially this week for: *For unity and vision in the church; for those who have lost touch with loved ones*

We Give Thanks and Praise for: *For meeting up with family; for our Faith in the Lamb returning to His Father*

We Pray for those Unwell in Body, Mind or Spirit:

Julie and her father, Billy, Jacob, Ellie and her mother, Roger, Trudy's sister Sally, Christine C, Rev Peter's wife Jennifer, Brandon, Billy's Uncle Richard, Barbara G, Margaret L, Janine H, Janet & John J, Stephen Mc, Geraldine, Sandra, Kat's sister Christine, Jean, Sarah's mother Fedora, Veronica F's friend, Matt, Tabitha's aunt, Brenda, Stephanie, Cyril, Minnie, Alexander, Cousin Zen, all at 44 Kimberley Road & Christopher, Miriam, Denise M, Enid, Simon & Samantha, Girish, Pat, Adrian, Ron and all those we know and love.

We pray for those who mourn

✠ **We pray for the souls** of Tracey Nash, Enid Robinson, Ernestine Campbell and Dely Cyrus. May light perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace. **And rise in glory.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God our Father, you have raised our humanity in Christ and have fed us with the bread of heaven: mercifully grant that, nourished with such spiritual blessings, we may set our hearts in the heavenly places; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

PRAYER OF ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

Where there is injury, pardon

Where there is doubt, faith

Where there is despair, hope

Where there is darkness, light

Where there is sadness, joy

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

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For Baptisms (Christenings) and Weddings, please speak to or contact the Vicar to arrange a good time to meet.

Services for the rest of this Week

- Today** **8.00pm** Ascension Day Eucharist.
- Sat 20 May** **10.00am-10.30am** – Prayer for Healing and Wholeness
- Sun 21 May** **10.00am** – **Parish Eucharist.** Fr Tomos presiding and preaching.
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Notices & Other Events

- Today** Drinks and nibbles in the vicarage, after Ascension Day service
- Sat 20 May** **10.30am-11.30am** – Holy Dusters
- Sun 21 May** **APCM after the Eucharist** Don't forget that Churchwarden, PCC and Deanery Synod nomination forms need to be completed and handed in the Vicar before the APCM
- Sun 28 May** **10.00am** Solemn Parish Eucharist with incense for Pentecost; Sunday School
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THOUGHTS FOR ASCENSION

*“Christ rose so long ago but the air
he rose through hasn't forgotten
the slight red contrail from the wounds.”*
— **Jim Harrison, Dead Man's Float**

“The ascension of Jesus produced joy because the disciples realized what amazing benefits would come to them when Jesus returned to the Father. When Jesus ascended, all the promises regarding the Spirit's ministry to the disciples were about to be fulfilled.”

Keith Whitfield

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