

Anglican Diocese of Wangaratta
Parochial District of Wangaratta West & The Warbys
THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
Sunday After Ascension
21st May, 2023—11.00am Ante Communion

Processional Hymn TiS 369/AHB 291. tune, Llanfair

1. Hail the day that sees him rise, *hallelujah!*
to his throne above the skies; *hallelujah!*
Christ, a while to mortals given, *hallelujah,*
enters now the highest heaven. *hallelujah!*
2. There for him high triumph waits; *hallelujah!*
lift your heads, eternal gates! *hallelujah!*
Wide unfold the radiant scene, *hallelujah!*
let the King of glory in! *hallelujah!*
3. Heaven now its Lord receives, *hallelujah!*
yet he loves the earth he leaves, *hallelujah!*
though returning to his throne *hallelujah!*
still calls humankind his own. *hallelujah!*
4. See! he lifts his hands above; *hallelujah!*
see! he shows his prints of love; *hallelujah!*
hark! his gracious lips bestow *hallelujah!*
blessings on his church below. *hallelujah!*
5. Still for us he intercedes, *hallelujah!*
his prevailing death he pleads; *hallelujah!*
near himself prepares our place, *hallelujah!*
he the first fruits of our race. *hallelujah!*
6. There we shall with you remain, *hallelujah!*
partners of your endless reign; *hallelujah!*
there your face unclouded view, *hallelujah!*
find our heav'n of heav'ns in you. *hallelujah!*

Charles Wesley 1707–88 alt.
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The Acclamation

Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed.

The Welcome & Greeting

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

And also with you.

Sentence

This is eternal life, that we may know you, the only true God,
and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

John 17. 3

Prayer of Preparation

Let us pray

**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.**

Hymn of Praise (sung or said)

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's 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.**

The Collect

Let us pray

O God, whose Son, Jesus, prayed for his disciples,
and sent them into the world
to proclaim the coming of your kingdom:
by your Holy Spirit,
hold the Church in unity,
and keep it faithful to your word,
so that, breaking bread together,
we may be one with Christ in faith and love and service,
now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostle [1. 6-14]

So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. 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.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. 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.'

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Hear the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

Psalm 68. 1-10, 33-36

Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;
sing praises to the Lord.

**Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;
sing praises to the Lord.**

Let God arise and let his enemies be scattered;
let those who hate him flee before him.

Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away;
as the wax melts at the fire,
so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.

**Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;
sing praises to the Lord.**

But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God;
let them also be merry and joyful.

Sing to God, sing praises to his name;
exalt him who rides upon the heavens;
Yahweh is his name, rejoice before him!

**Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;
sing praises to the Lord.**

Father of orphans, defender of widows,
God in his holy habitation!
God gives the solitary a home
and brings forth prisoners into freedom;
but the rebels shall live in dry places.

**Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;
sing praises to the Lord.**

O God, when you went forth before your people,
when you marched through the wilderness,
The earth shook and the skies poured down rain,
at the presence of God, the God of Sinai,
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.

**Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;
sing praises to the Lord.**

You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance;
you refreshed the land when it was weary.
Your people found their home in it;
in your goodness, O God,

you have made provision for the poor.

**Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;
sing praises to the Lord.**

Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;
sing praises to the Lord.

He rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens;
he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice.

**Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;
sing praises to the Lord.**

Ascribe power to God; his majesty is over Israel;
his strength is in the skies.

How wonderful is God in his holy places!

the God of Israel giving strength and power to his people!
Blessèd be God!

**Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;
sing praises to the Lord.**

A Reading from the First Letter of St Peter [5. 1-14]

Now as an elder myself and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as one who shares in the glory to be revealed, I exhort the elders among you to tend the flock of God that is in your charge, exercising the oversight, not under compulsion but willingly, as God would have you do it—not for sordid gain but eagerly. Do not lord it over those in your charge, but be examples to the flock. And when the chief shepherd appears, you will win the crown of glory that never fades away. In the same way, you who are younger must accept the authority of the elders. And all of you must clothe yourselves with humility in your dealings with one another, for

‘God opposes the proud,
but gives grace to the humble.’

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters throughout the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have

suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

Through Silvanus, whom I consider a faithful brother, I have written this short letter to encourage you, and to testify that this is the true grace of God. Stand fast in it. Your sister church in Babylon, chosen together with you, sends you greetings; and so does my son Mark. Greet one another with a kiss of love.

Peace to all of you who are in Christ.

Hear the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn: TiS 101/AHB 5. tune Laus Deo.

- 1. Come, you people, come adore him
God in Holy Trinity,
God the Father, Son and Spirit,
ever blessed unity.**
- 2. All your glory, God almighty,
to the Son and Spirit given,
ere upon the world's creation
dawned the newborn light of heaven:**
- 3. holy, holy, we adore you
one in power, in nature one;
God the Father, God the Spirit,
God the co-eternal Son.**
- 4. By your Son the wide creation
rose where chaos held its sway;
by the Spirit, God Almighty
swept eternal night away.**
- 5. Son, the Father's love revealing,
Son, through whom the Spirit came,
blessed Godhead, endless glory
be to your exalted name!**

Hymn from the Russian Church
tr. John Brownlie 1859–1925 alt.

Or

Alleluia..

Alleluia

*The Lord said: I will not leave you orphans.
I will come back to you, and your hearts will rejoice.*

Alleluia.

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to John [17. 1-11]

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

For the Gospel of the Lord,
praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Reflection

Creed

Let us profess our faith

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Praise to you, ascended Jesus,
for you reign in glory over all the world:
hear us as we pray for your people.

Praise to you, ascended Jesus,
for you rule the world with righteousness:
hear our prayers for the peoples of all nations, and this week
particularly we pray for The Indian Ocean Islands: Comoros,
Madagascar, Maldives, Mauritius, Seychelles.
Grant wisdom and integrity to all who govern,
mercy and judgement to those who administer the law.
Teach your people how to live in harmony, and fill us with your
truth, that we may be your witnesses in all the world.
Jesus Christ, ascended and glorified, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Praise to you, ascended Jesus,
for you make known to us the true and living God:
hear our prayers for your holy, catholic church.
Today we pray for the Armenian Apostolic Church in Australia;

The Diocese of Rockhampton: Bishop Peter Grice (*Virginia*). Clergy and People.

Our Diocese, Bishop Clarence and Michelle. The Parochial District of Corryong: Priest in Charge: Maryann Leonard (*John*), The Parish leaders and communities at: All Saints', Corryong. Holy Trinity, Cudgewa. Biggara Congregation, Walwa outreach.

Grant humility and vision to all who lead your church, fellowship to all who eat at your table. Unite Christians everywhere in the bond of your love, and fill us with your power, that we may be your witnesses in all the world.

Jesus Christ, ascended and glorified, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Praise to you, ascended Jesus,

for you welcome the outcast and provide for the needy:

hear our prayers for all with whom we share our lives.

Grant acceptance to all who are unwanted or unloved,

care to the neglected and a voice to those who are never heard.

Teach your people to live in true community,

and fill us with your love,

that we may be your witnesses in all the world.

Jesus Christ, ascended and glorified, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Praise to you, ascended Jesus, for you heal the sick

and look with compassion on those who are in need:

hear our prayers for all who suffer.

Grant hope to those in despair, consolation to those who grieve,

relief to those in pain, and strength and patience to those who care for them.

Teach your people to share each other's sorrows, and fill us with your compassion, that we may be your witnesses in all the world.

We especially pray for David M. Bob C. Neliya Don Leonard.

Bronwyn. Josef. Kaye McKenzie. Trent. Vi Bussell. Nina Colson.

Chris E.

Jesus Christ, ascended and glorified, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Praise to you, ascended Jesus, for you call us to eternal glory:

hear our prayers for all who have died in the faith.

Grant to your faithful people of every age

a share in your eternal kingdom.

Fill us with your righteousness,

that we may be your witnesses in all the world,

and, when our work on earth is done, with all your saints
may we enter eternal life and receive the crown of glory.

We pray for Fr Geoff Humble who died this past week,
and we remember those whose Years' Mind is this week;
Dusan Kazich, Daniel Ritchens, Ian Menhennitt, Dallas Boustead,
Amy McNamara, Doris Sheppard, Ted Bienvenu,
Herbert Carmody, 'Les' Sanders, Norm Dean, Betty Dodemaide,
Ida Pool.

Rest eternal grant to them O Lord,
and may light perpetual shine upon them.

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord who taught us to
pray,

**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.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

What God has prepared for those who love him,
he has revealed to us through the Spirit;
for the Spirit searches everything.

Therefore, let us in penitence open our hearts to the Lord,
who has prepared good things for those who love him.

1 Corinthians 2.9,10

**O King enthroned on high,
and Spirit filling the earth with your glory:
holy is your name,
Lord God almighty.
In our sinfulness we cry to you
to take our guilt away,
and to cleanse our lips to speak your word,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Words of Comfort

In this is love, not that we loved God,
but that he loved us and sent his Son
to be the perfect offering for our sins.

1 John 4.10

Please stand

Offertory Hymn—TiS 371/AHB 293. tune, Darwall

- 1. God is gone up on high,
with a triumphant noise;
the clarions of the sky
proclaim the angelic joys!
*Join all the earth, rejoice and sing;
glory ascribe to glory's king.***
- 2. God in the flesh below,
for us he reigns above:
let all the nations know
our Jesus' conquering love!
*Join all the earth, rejoice and sing;
glory ascribe to glory's king.***
- 3. All power to our great Lord
is by the Father given;
by angel hosts adored,
he reigns supreme in heaven:
*Join all the earth, rejoice and sing;
glory ascribe to glory's king.***
- 4. High on his holy seat
he bears his righteous sway;
his foes beneath his feet
shall sink and die away.
*Join all the earth, rejoice and sing;
glory ascribe to glory's king.***
- 5. His foes and ours are one,
Satan, the world, and sin;
but he shall tread them down
and bring his kingdom in:
*Join all the earth, rejoice and sing;
glory ascribe to glory's king.***



6. till all the earth, renewed
in righteousness divine,
with all the hosts of God
in one great chorus join.
*Join all the earth, rejoice and sing;
glory ascribe to glory's king.*

Charles Wesley 1707–1788

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Notices

We are the body of Christ.

His Spirit is with us.

Alleluia. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you. Alleluia!

Christ has gone up on high. **Alleluia.**

God raised Christ from the dead
**and enthroned him at his right hand
in the heavenly realms.**

God put all things in subjection beneath his feet
and gave him as head over all things to the Church.

We died, and our life lies hidden with Christ in God.

We set our minds on things above.

When Christ, who is our life, is revealed,
we too will be revealed with him in glory.

cf Ephesians 1.20,23; Colossians 3.1-4

Christ has gone up on high. **Alleluia.**

The Dismissal

Waiting expectantly for the promised Holy Spirit,
go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia, alleluia.