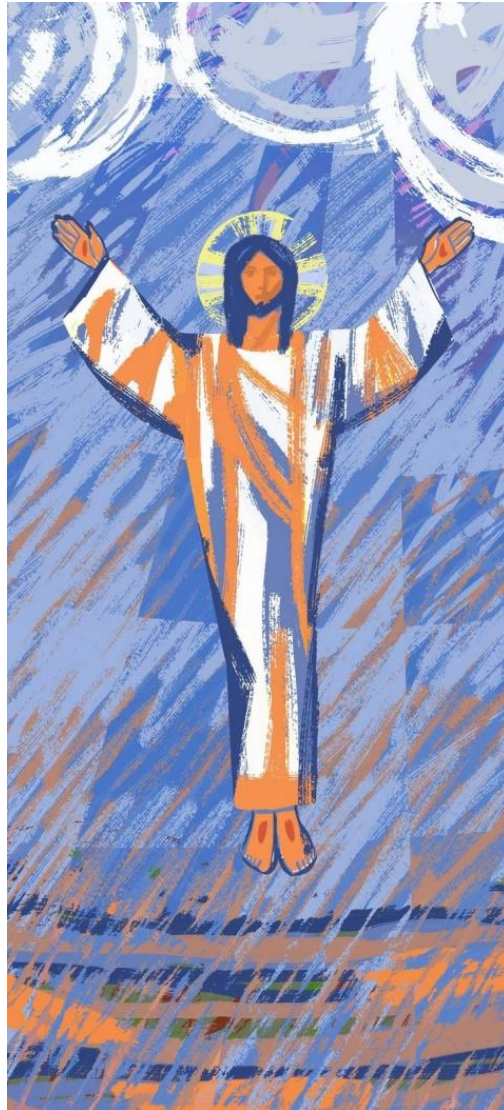




**Ascension Day**

**United Benefice Eucharist**

## The Gathering

*Please Stand*

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

**All: Let us rejoice and sing God's praise for ever.**

God has gone up with a shout,

**All: the Lord with the shout of a trumpet.**

*(Psalm 47:5)*

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

Hymn

## The Gloria

**All: 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.**

## The Collect

*Please Sit*

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

Let us pray that our risen and ascended Lord will lead us to eternal life.

*Silence is kept.*

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.

**All: Amen.**

## **The Liturgy of the Word**

Acts 1 1-11

This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## **The Gospel Reading**

Luke 24 44 – end

Alleluia, alleluia. Go and make disciples of all nations, says the Lord.

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

**All: Alleluia.**

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

**All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **The Sermon**

*Please Sit*

## **The Creed**

*Please Stand*

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and 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.**

## Prayers of Intercession

Lord, hear us.

**All: Lord, graciously hear us.**

Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**All: Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Sacrament

### Sharing God's Peace

*Please Stand*

Jesus says: 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.  
If you love me, rejoice because I am going to the Father'. Alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

**All: and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

## Prayer and Preparation of the Table

Blessed be God,  
by whose grace creation is renewed,  
by whose love heaven is opened,  
by whose mercy we offer our sacrifice of praise.  
**All: Blessed be God for ever.**

## The Holy Communion

*Please Stand*

The Lord be with you

**All: and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Father, we give you thanks and praise  
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word,  
through whom you have created all things;  
who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.  
By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh;  
as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin,  
he lived on earth and went about among us;  
he opened wide his arms for us on the cross;  
he put an end to death by dying for us;  
and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life;  
so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

And so we give you thanks  
because, after his most glorious resurrection,  
he appeared to his disciples,  
and in their sight ascended into  
heaven to prepare a place for us;  
that where he is, thither we might also ascend,  
and reign with him in glory.  
The universe resounds with Easter joy  
and with choirs of angels we sing for ever to your praise:

**All: 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.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
and according to your holy will,  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;  
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you 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.

In the same way, after supper  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying:  
Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.  
**All: Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

*Please sit or kneel*

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

**All: 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.**

## The Breaking of the Bread

*The president breaks the consecrated bread:*

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.  
**All: Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

**All: Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer of the world, Grant us peace.**

### **The Giving of Communion**

**All: We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord,  
trusting in our own righteousness,  
but in your manifold and great mercies.  
We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.  
But you are the same Lord  
whose nature is always to have mercy.  
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,  
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ  
and to drink his blood,  
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body  
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,  
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us.  
Amen.**

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 with thanksgiving.

*Please come forward to receive communion or a blessing as directed.*

### **The Prayer after Communion**

*The Post Communion prayer is said by the President.*

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.  
**All: Amen.**

**All: We thank you, Lord,  
that you have fed us in this sacrament,  
united us with Christ,**

and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet prepared for all peoples.  
**Amen.**

Hymn

## The Dismissal

### The Acts of the Apostles

Then the disciples 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. They were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers. (Acts 1:12-14)

As we wait in silence,

**All: make us ready for your coming Spirit.**

As we listen to your word,

**All: make us ready for your coming Spirit.**

As we worship you in majesty,

**All: make us ready for your coming Spirit.**

As we long for your refreshing,

**All: make us ready for your coming Spirit.**

As we long for your renewing,

**All: make us ready for your coming Spirit.**

As we long for your equipping,

**All: make us ready for your coming Spirit.**

As we long for your empowering,

**All: make us ready for your coming Spirit.**

## The Blessing

May the Spirit, who set the Church on fire upon the day of Pentecost, bring the world alive with the love of the risen Christ. And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

**All: Amen.**

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

Alleluia, alleluia.

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