



SAINT THOMAS CHURCH FIFTH AVENUE
in the
CITY OF NEW YORK

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Welcome to Saint Thomas Church, a parish of the Episcopal Diocese of New York.
Our mission is to worship, love and serve Our Lord Jesus Christ
through the Anglican tradition and our unique choral heritage.

The Reverend Canon Carl F. Turner, *Rector*

ASCENSION DAY

MAY 13, 2021

SOLEMN EUCHARIST
sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys

THE ORDINARY OF THE MASS

Missa Ascendo ad Patrem

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina
(1525-1580)

PRELUDE

Alleluias serene d'une âme qui désire le ciel, from 'L'Ascension'

Olivier Messiaen
(1908-1992)

Serene Alleluias from a soul longing for heaven

We beseech thee, Almighty God, that we may in mind dwell in heaven.

Collect for Ascension Day

The People stand at the entry of the Choir. As the ministers go to the Altar, this chant is sung by the Choir

INTROIT

Plainsong (Tone VII)

VIRI Galilaei quid admiramini aspicientes in caelum? Alleluia.
Quemadmodum vidistis eum ascendentem in caelum, ita veniet. Alleluia.
Omnes gentes plaudite manibus: jubilate Deo in voce exultationis.
Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto,
sicut erat in principio, et nunc et semper, et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

*Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? Alleluia.
this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven,
shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven. Alleluia.
O clap your hands together all ye people, O sing unto God with the voice of melody.
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.*

Acts 1:11, Psalm 47:1

THE EASTER ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People The Lord is risen, indeed. Alleluia.

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Celebrant says

SEEING that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens,
Jesus the Son of God, let us come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy,
and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 4:14, 16

The Celebrant then says

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

The People kneel. Silence is kept.

Celebrant and People

MOST merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against
thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we earnestly repent.
For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.

The Celebrant says

THE Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and
remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life,
and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Sung by the Choir

GLORIA in excelsis Deo,
et in terra pax
hominibus bonæ voluntatis.
Laudamus te, benedicimus te,
adoramus te, glorificamus te.
Gratias agimus tibi
propter magnam gloriam tuam.
Domine Deus, Rex coelestis,
Deus Pater omnipotens.
Domine Fili unigenite Jesu Christe.
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei,
Filius Patris.
Qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.
Qui tollis peccata mundi,
suscipe deprecationem nostram.
Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,
miserere nobis.
Quoniam tu solus Sanctus,
tu solus Dominus,
tu solus altissimus Jesu Christe.
Cum Sancto Spiritu
in Gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

*Glory be to God on high,
and on earth peace,
good will towards men.
We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee, we glorify thee.
We give thanks to thee
for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King,
God the Father almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.
For thou only art holy;
thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ.
With the Holy Ghost, art most high
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And with thy spirit.
Celebrant Let us pray.

GRANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that like as we do believe thy only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens, so we may also in heart and mind thither ascend, and with him continually dwell; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE LESSON

Acts 1:1-11

The Lector concludes The Word of the Lord.
The People respond Thanks be to God.

PSALM 93

Sung by the Choir

Anglican Chant (*Lev*)

THE Lord is King, and hath put on glorious apparel: the Lord hath put on his apparel, and girded himself with strength.
He hath made the round world so sure: that it cannot be moved.
Ever since the world began hath thy seat been prepared: thou art from everlasting.
The floods are risen, O Lord, the floods have lift up their voice: the floods lift up their waves.
The waves of the sea are mighty, and rage horribly: but yet the Lord, who dwelleth on high, is mightier.
Thy testimonies, O Lord, are very sure: holiness becometh thine house for ever.
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.

THE EPISTLE

Ephesians 1:15-23

The Subdeacon concludes The Word of the Lord.
The People respond Thanks be to God.

HYMN

Sung by the Choir

IN BABILONE



1. See the Con-que-ror mounts in tri-umph; see the King in roy-al state,
2. He who on the cross did suf-fer, he who from the grave a-rose,
3. Thou hast raised our hu-man na-ture on the clouds to God's right hand:



rid-ing on the clouds, his char-iot, to his heaven-ly pal-ace gate!
he has van-quished sin and Sa-tan; he by death has spoiled his foes.
there we sit in heaven-ly pla-ces, there with thee in glo-ry stand.



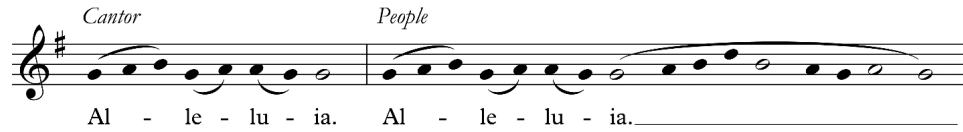
Hark! the choirs of an-gel voic-es joy-ful al-le-lu-ias sing,
While he lifts his hands in bless-ing, he is part-ed from his friends;
Je-sus reigns, a-dored by an-gels; Man with God is on the throne;



and the por-tals high are lift-ed to re-ceive their heaven-ly King.
while their ea-ger eyes be-hold him, he up-on the clouds a-scends.
might-y Lord, in thine as-cen-sion, we by faith be-hold our own.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Plainsong (Mode VI)



Cantor Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.



THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 24:44-53

Deacon The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint John.
People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

After the Gospel, the Deacon says

People The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to thee, O Christ.

SERMON

The Rev. Matthew Moretz
Associate Rector

THE NICENE CREED

Said by all, standing. It is customary to bow at the underlined words.

I BELIEVE in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And of all things visible and invisible: And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God; Begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of very God; Begotten, not made; Being of one substance with the Father; By whom all things were made: Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, And was made man: And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried: And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures: And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father: And he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord, and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; Who spake by the Prophets: And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church: I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins: And I look for the Resurrection of the dead: And the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (SPECIAL FORM)

The People remain standing to pray.

The Leader says

As we wait and watch for the coming of the Lord again, let us pray saying "Lord, have mercy."

After each petition,

Let us pray to the Lord.
People Lord, have mercy.

After the last petition, silence is kept. The Celebrant concludes the prayers with this collect

LORD Jesus Christ, who saidst unto thine apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:" Regard not our sins, but the faith of thy Church, and grant us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit thou livest and reignest, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And with thy spirit.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

AT THE OFFERTORY, ANTHEM

Sung by the Choir

William Byrd
(c. 1540-1623)

ALLELUIA.
Ascendit Deus in jubilatione,
et Dominus in voce tubae.
Alleluia.

Alleluia.
God is gone up with a merry noise,
and the Lord with the sound of the trumpet.
Alleluia.

Dominus in Sina in sancto,
ascendens in altum,
captivam duxit captivitatem.
Alleluia.

The Lord is among them as in the holy place of Sinai,
thou art gone up on high,
thou hast led captivity captive.
Alleluia.

Psalm 47:5, 68:17-18

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And with thy spirit.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them up unto the Lord.
Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
People It is meet and right so to do.

The Celebrant continues

IT is very meet, right and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Through thy dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who after his glorious resurrection manifestly appeared to his disciples; and in their sight ascended into heaven, to prepare a place for us; that where he is, there we might also be, and reign with him in glory.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

Sung by the Choir

SANCTUS, Sanctus, Sanctus
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt caeli et terra Gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.

Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God of Hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

Benedictus qui venit
In nomine Domini.
Hosanna in excelsis.

Blessed is he that cometh
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer, which concludes

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee,
O Father Almighty, world without end.

The People respond AMEN.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Celebrant says

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed
be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our
dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,
as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead
us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us
from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,
and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

BEHOLD the Lamb of God: behold him that taketh away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

People Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof,
but speak the word only and my soul shall be healed.

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

I BELIEVE in thee, O my Jesus, present in the most holy Sacrament of the Altar;
I love thee above all things, and I desire to receive thee into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive thee sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace thee, and I unite myself to thee as if thou wast already there.
Never permit me to be separated from thee!
O Lord Jesus Christ, let the sweet and consuming force of thy love absorb my whole soul, that I may die for the love of thee, who wast pleased to die for the love of me. Amen.

AT THE COMMUNION

AGNUS DEI

Sung by the Choir

AGNUS Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona nobis pacem.

*O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.*

MOTET

William Byrd

O REX gloriae, Domine virtutum,
qui triumphator hodie super
omnes coelos ascendisti;
ne derelinquas nos orphanos,
sed mitte promissum Patris in nos,
spiritum veritatis.
Alleluia.

*O King of glory, Lord of hosts,
who on this day triumphantly
ascended above all into the heavens;
leave us not orphans,
but send unto us the promise of the Father,
even the Spirit of truth.
Alleluia.*

Magnificat Antiphon for Second Vespers at Ascension

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Said by all, kneeling

ALMIGHTY and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

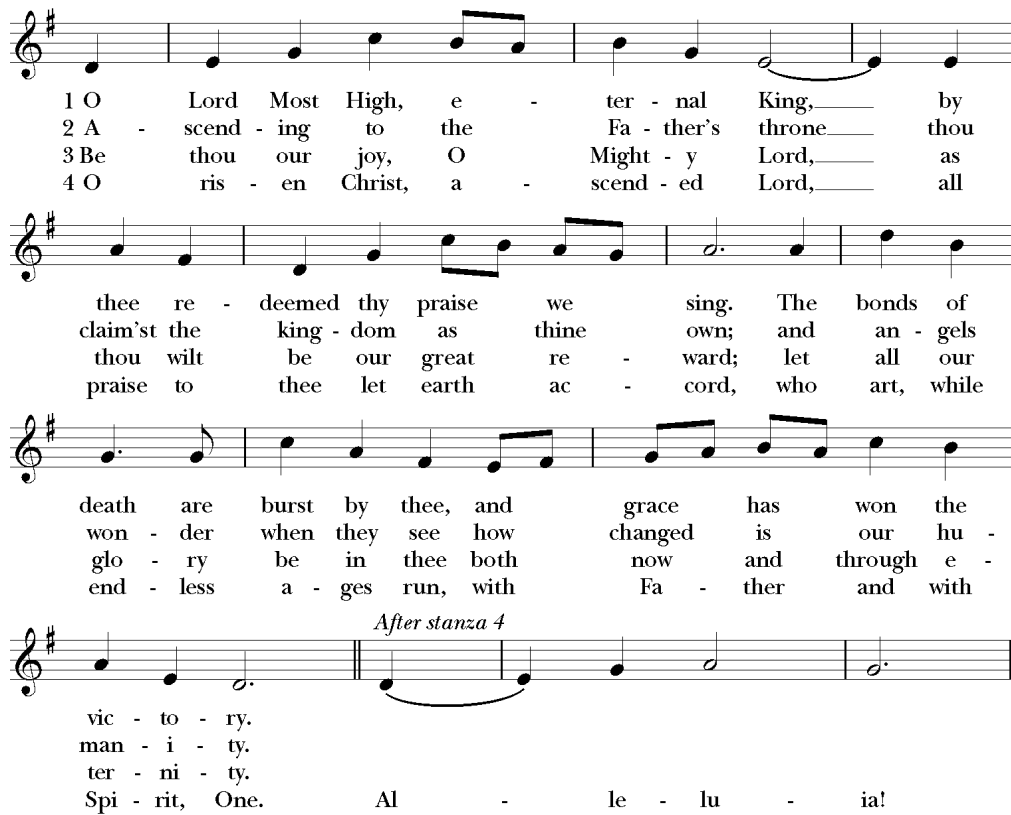
THE SOLEMN BLESSING

GOD the Father, who has given to his Son the name above every name,
strengthen you to proclaim Jesus the Christ, the Son of God. *Amen.*

God the Son, our great high priest, who has passed into the heavens,
clothe you with power from on high. *Amen.*

God the Holy Spirit, who pours out abundant gifts upon the Church,
make you faithful followers of the risen Christ. *Amen.*

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. *Amen.*



1 O Lord Most High, e - ter - nal King, by
 2 A - scend - ing to the Fa - ther's throne, thou
 3 Be thou our joy, O Might - y Lord, as
 4 O ris - en Christ, a - scend - ed Lord, all

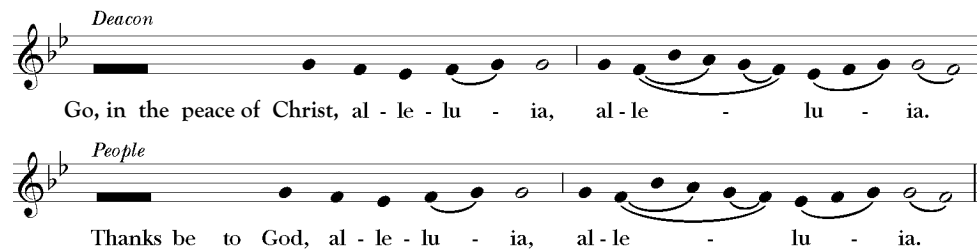
thee re - deemed thy praise we sing, The bonds of
 claim'st the king - dom as thine own; and an - gels
 thou wilt be our great re - ward; let all our
 praise to thee let earth ac - cord, who art, while

death are burst by thee, and grace has won the
 won - der when they see how changed is our hu -
 glo - ry be in thee both now and through e -
 end - less a - ges run, with Fa - ther and with

After stanza 4

vic - to - ry.
 man - i - ty.
 ter - ni - ty.
 Spi - rit, One. Al - le - lu - ia!

THE EASTER DISMISSAL



Deacon

Go, in the peace of Christ, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

People

Thanks be to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

VOLUNTARY

Transports de joie d'une âme devant la gloire
 du Christ qui est la sienne, from 'L'Ascension'

Olivier Messiaen

Outbursts of joy from a soul before the glory of Christ which is its own glory

Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in
 light... he raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

Colossians 1:2, Ephesians 2:6