

# — ST. MICHAEL'S — EPISCOPAL CHURCH



May 17, 2026  
Feast of the Ascension

## PRELUDE MUSIC & WELCOME

*Officiant* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*People* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

*Officiant* Let us pray.

*Officiant* Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: 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.**

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Officiant*        Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son our Savior Jesus Christ ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things: Mercifully give us faith to perceive that, according to his promise, he abides with his Church on earth, even to the end of the ages; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

## **THE LESSONS & PSALM**

### **A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (1:1 - 11)**

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. 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. 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; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

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 toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. 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."

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Please pray Psalm 47 responsively by half-verse**

1 Clap your hands, all you peoples; \*  
**shout to God with a cry of joy.**

2 For the Lord Most High is to be feared; \*  
**he is the great King over all the earth.**

3 He subdues the peoples under us, \*  
**and the nations under our feet.**

4 He chooses our inheritance for us, \*  
**the pride of Jacob whom he loves.**

5 God has gone up with a shout, \*  
**the Lord with the sound of the ram's-horn.**

6 Sing praises to God, sing praises; \*  
**sing praises to our King, sing praises.**

7 For God is King of all the earth; \*  
**sing praises with all your skill.**

8 God reigns over the nations; \*  
**God sits upon his holy throne.**

9 The nobles of the peoples have gathered together \*

**with the people of the God of Abraham.**

10 The rulers of the earth belong to God, \*  
**and he is highly exalted.**

## **PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL LUKE (24:44-53)**

*Officiant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said to his disciples, "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." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, 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, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. 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."

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

### **CANDLE LIGHTING AND SILENT PRAYER**

You are invited to light a candle and observe a period of silent personal prayer time.

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Officiant* Holy Christ, we praise you and give thanks for your presence with the father and your intercessions on our behalf, offering our prayers in humility and hope as we say, saying Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*Reader* You have built and empowered your church to continue your ministry, commanding us to carry your example into the future, grant us discerning hearts that we might fulfill your commandments in faith and humility. We especially pray for Archbishop of Canterbury Sarah Mullally, Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Megan our Bishop, Megan, Katie, Mike, Rod, and Jesse, our clergy. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Be with the leaders of the nations, bend their hearts that they may work together to pursue peace and human thriving. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Form in us hearts of love that we might serve our neighbors with generosity and without fear. We pray especially for Christine, our head of school, for all the staff, teachers and students at St. Michael's Day School and Starr King TK-8. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We offer thanks for the abundant glory of creation, incline our hearts to respect the natural world and give us wisdom to use its resources sustainably. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Let your healing presence be felt by all who suffer in body, mind or spirit. Bring healing to the sick, courage to the oppressed, and

hope to the dispirited. We pray especially for **Tyson, Ramiro, Jeff, George, Jackie, Perry, Jane, Fred, Ellen, Jim, Bill, Carol, Dave, Holly, Sara, Kathy, Dan, Jon, Sarah, Jennifer, Michael, Andrea, Chris, Mike, Hunter, and Billie.** Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You have invited all to the feast of the new kingdom, grant that we all may thankfully respond with a resounding Yes! That we and all whom we love but see no more may arise in your heavenly kingdom. We especially pray for the repose of the souls of Liz Glad and Lesle Rea, and for peace and comfort to their families and loved ones. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For what else or whom else shall we pray? (*A time of silence is kept.*) Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*Officiant* Holy God, you have empowered us to be Christ's body in the world, through us may the world know the loving embrace of Him, who with you and the Holy Spirit live and reigns, now and always. **Amen.**

## **THE PEACE**

*Officiant* The peace of Christ be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

## **SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER \***

*Officiant* In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is celebrated, we desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. We present to you our souls and bodies with the earnest wish that we may always be united to you, and, since we cannot now receive you sacramentally, we

beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. We unite ourselves with you and embrace you with all the love of our souls. Let nothing ever separate you from us. May we live in you, and may you live in us, both in this life and in the life to come.

**Amen.**

*\*Julian of Norwich liturgy*

*Officiant* Together, let us pray the prayer Jesus 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, and the power,  
and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

*Officiant* The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst us, and remain with us always. **Amen.**

*Officiant* Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Resurrection.

*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

CONCLUDING REMARKS, DISCUSSION, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND  
CHECK IN.