

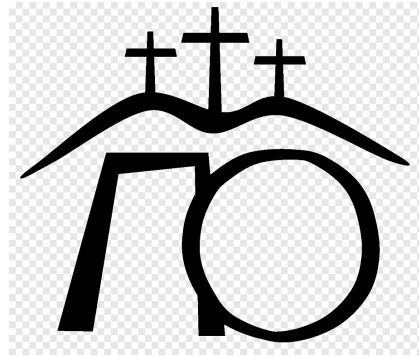




THE FEAST OF THE ASCENSION

5TH May 2024

Welcome to Saint Peter's



10AM SUNG HOLY EUCHARIST

Clergy

Rev. Jonathan Chamberlain

Vicar

Music

Andrew Kerr

Organist

Cover image: Ascension, by Bagong Kussudiardja, 1983.

WELCOME TO ST PETER'S

Welcome! Whether you are visiting Saint Peter's for the first time, come every week, or have been away from the Church for a long time, we're glad that you're here and we hope that you will join us for refreshments after the 10am service. Newcomers are encouraged make themselves known to the welcomers, and to the vicar. You can find more information about us at saintpeters.org.au.

Please switch off all mobile phones.

This service is being recorded on YouTube. A recording of the service will be uploaded to YouTube and can be watched at a later time on the YouTube channel for 'Saint Peters Brighton Beach'.

Welcome to this celebration of the Feast of the Ascension.

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

OPENING HYMN

1 Hallelujah! sing to Jesus,
his the sceptre, his the throne;
hallelujah! his the triumph,
his the victory alone;
hark, the songs of peaceful Zion
thunder like a mighty flood:
'Jesus out of every nation
has redeemed us by his blood.'

2 Hallelujah! not as orphans,
are we left in sorrow now;
hallelujah! he is near us,
faith believes, nor questions how;
though the cloud from sight received him
when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget his promise,
'I am with you evermore'?

3 Hallelujah! bread of heaven,
and on earth our food, our stay;

hallelujah! here the sinful
flee to you from day to day;
intercessor, friend of sinners,
earth's redeemer, plead for me
where the songs of all the sinless
sweep across the crystal sea.

4 Hallelujah! King eternal,
you the Lord of lords we own;
hallelujah! born of Mary,
earth your footstool, heav'n your throne:
you within the veil have entered,
robed in flesh, our great high priest;
you on earth both priest and victim
in the eucharistic feast.

God has gone up with a shout,
All the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

Psalm 47.5

The priest greets all in the name of God

In the name of God: Father, ✠ Son and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you

All and also with you.

Introduction

The priest introduces the service

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, for forty days we have been celebrating with joyful hearts the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, his bursting from

the tomb and his defeat of the power of sin and death. He appeared to his disciples many times and told them about the kingdom of God.

Today we recall how he returned to his Father, ascending into heaven to take his throne over all dominions and powers. Trusting in his reign over all creation, and submitting to his kingly yet loving rule, let us celebrate his victorious reign.

The priest leads the congregation in the 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

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The priest introduces the confession

Hear the commandments which God gave his people Israel.

1. I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of slavery; you shall have no other gods but me.
2. You shall not make for yourself a graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them or serve them.
3. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.
4. Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.
5. Honour your father and your mother.
6. You shall do no murder.
7. You shall not commit adultery.

8. You shall not steal.
9. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.
- 10 You shall not covet anything that is your neighbour's.

All: Lord, have mercy on us: and write your law in our hearts by your Holy Spirit.

Pause for reflection

Christ was raised from the dead, that we might walk in newness of life.
Let us receive new life in him as we confess our sins in penitence and faith.

Merciful God, our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:
we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The priest says the Absolution

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith: ✠ pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Kyrie eleison is sung

Lord, have mercy (*3).
Christ, have mercy (*3).
Lord, have mercy (*3).

Gloria in excelsis is sung

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 priest leads the congregation in praying the Collect

Let us pray.

Silence for reflection

Risen Christ,
you have raised our human nature to the throne of heaven:
help us to seek and serve you,
that we may join you at the Father's side,
where you reign with the Spirit in glory,
now and for ever.
Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

[all sit]

A reading from Paul's letter to the Ephesians.

Eph 1.15-23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

PSALM 98

1. O sing to the Lord a new song:
for he has done marvellous things.

2. His right hand and his holy arm:
they have got him the victory.

3. The Lord has made known his salvation:
he has revealed his just deliverance in the sight of the nations.

4. He has remembered his mercy and faithfulness towards the house of Israel:
and all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

5. Shout with joy to the Lord, all the earth:
break into singing and make melody.

6. Make melody to the Lord upon the harp:
upon the harp and with the sounds of praise.

7. With trumpets and with horns:
cry out in triumph before the Lord, the king.

8. Let the sea roar, and all that fills it:
the good earth and those who live upon it.

9. Let the rivers clap their hands:
and let the mountains ring out together before the Lord.

10. For he comes to judge the earth:
he shall judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

A reading from the first letter of John. *1 John 5.1-5*

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it who conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

For the Word of the Lord.

thanks be to God.

[all stand]

GRADUAL HYMN

1 Hail, our once-despised Jesus,
hail, our Galilean King!
By your suffering you released us
and did free salvation bring.
Friend and universal Saviour,
bearer of our sin and shame,
by your merits we find favour;
life is given through your name.

2 Paschal Lamb by God appointed,
all our sins on you were laid;
by almighty love anointed,
you have full atonement made:
all your people are forgiven
through the virtue of your blood;
opened is the gate of heaven;
reconciled are we to God.

3 Jesus, hail! enthroned in glory,
there for ever to abide;
all the heavenly host adore you,

seated at your Father's side:
there for sinners you are pleading,
there you now our place prepare,
ever for us interceding
till in glory we appear.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION & READING

Alleluia, alleluia.

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;
let us feast with joy in the Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia.

The priest reads the Gospel

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. *Chapter 28.16-20*

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

For the Gospel of the Lord,

praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

THE CREED

The priest introduces the Nicene Creed.

Let us together affirm the faith of the church.

Please stand.

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the almighty,**

maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God,
Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

[kneel or sit]

The priest says

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

Prayers and thanksgivings are offered

After each prayer

...Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus, our exalted Lord, has been given all authority.

Let us seek his intercession that our prayers may be perfected
by his prayer.

Jesus Christ, great high priest,
living for ever to intercede for us,
pray for the Church, your broken body in the world.

Silence is kept.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus Christ, King of righteousness,
enthroned at the right hand of the majesty on high,
pray for the world, and make it subject to your gentle rule.

Silence is kept.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus Christ, Son of Man,
drawing humanity into the life of God,
pray for your sisters and brothers in need, distress, or sorrow.

Silence is kept.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus, pioneer of our salvation,
bringing us to glory through your death and resurrection,
surround with your saints and angels
all who have died trusting your promises.

Silence is kept.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus Christ, Lord over all things,
Lord over the Church,
pray for us who receive the gifts you give us for work in your service.

Silence is kept.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus Christ,
keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit
and in the bond of peace,
and bring the whole created order to worship at your feet;
for you are alive and reign with the Father
and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

THE GREETING OF PEACE

The priest says

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said,
'Peace be with you!' Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.
Alleluia. Alleluia.

The peace of the crucified and risen Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us turn to one another and offer a gesture of peace.

All exchange a sign of peace, turning to one another and offering a gesture of peace.

During the offertory hymn, the altar is prepared, and the collection is taken up.

OFFERTORY HYMN

1 The head that once was crowned with thorns
is crowned with glory now;
a royal diadem adorns
the mighty victor's brow.

2 The highest place that heaven affords
is his, is his by right,
the King of kings and Lord of lords,
and heaven's eternal light,

3 the joy of all who dwell above,
the joy of all below,
to whom he manifests his love
and grants his name to know.

4 To them the cross, with all its shame,
with all its grace, is given,
their name an everlasting name,
their joy the joy of heaven.

5 They suffer with their Lord below,
they reign with him above,
their profit and their joy to know
the mystery of his love.

6 The cross he bore is life and health,
though shame and death to him;
his people's hope, his people's wealth,
their everlasting theme.

The priest says a prayer

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 GREAT THANKSGIVING

The priest begins the Eucharistic Prayer. The sursum corda is sung

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and good,
our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ the King of glory.

Born of a woman,
he came to the rescue of our human race.

Dying for us,
he trampled death and conquered sin.

By the glory of his resurrection
he opened the way to life eternal
and by his ascension,
gave us the sure hope
that where he is we may also be.

Therefore the universe resounds with Easter joy
and with choirs of angels we sing for ever to your praise:

The sanctus is sung

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.

...Great is the mystery of faith.

The memorial acclamation is sung

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

... in songs of never-ending praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

The priest says

Rejoicing in God's new creation, as our Saviour taught us, so we 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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND COMMUNION

The priest breaks the consecrated bread.

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ:

we who are many are one body.

All: for we all share in the one bread.

The Agnus Dei is sung

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.

The priest says

I heard the voice of a great multitude crying, Alleluia.

The Lord our God has entered into his kingdom.

All Blessed are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb. Alleluia.

All baptised Christians are invited to receive the bread and the wine of the Eucharist. This includes children, from the age of 5, at the discretion of their parents. Please tell the priest if you prefer to receive a gluten free wafer or a blessing. A blessing may be indicated by folding your arms across your chest at the communion rail.

Silence is kept

The priest prays the 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.

All Amen.

God of Mission,
Who alone brings growth to your Church,
Send your Holy Spirit to give,
Vision to our planning,
Wisdom to our actions,
Joy to our worship
And power to our witness.
Help our church to grow in numbers,
In spiritual commitment to you,
And in service to our local community,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Father, we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Send us out in the power of your Spirit, to live and work, to your praise and glory. **Amen**

Announcements

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

DISMISSAL HYMN

Hail the day that sees him rise, Alleluia!
to his throne above the skies; Alleluia!
Christ, a while to mortals given, Alleluia!
enters now the highest heaven! Alleluia!

There for him high triumph waits; Alleluia!
lift your heads, eternal gates! Alleluia!
Wide unfold the radiant scene; Alleluia!
let the King of glory in! Alleluia!

Heaven now its Lord receives, Alleluia!
yet he loves the earth he leaves; Alleluia!
though returning to his throne, Alleluia!
still makes humankind his own. Alleluia!

See! he lifts his hands above; Alleluia!
See! he shows his prints of love: Alleluia!
Hark! his gracious lips bestow, Alleluia!
blessings on his Church below. Alleluia!

Still for us he intercedes, Alleluia!
his prevailing death he pleads, Alleluia!
near himself prepares our place, Alleluia!
he the first fruits of our race. Alleluia!

There we shall with you remain, Alleluia!

partners of your endless reign, Alleluia!
there your face unclouded view, Alleluia!
find our heav'n of heav'ns in you, Alleluia

THE DISMISSAL

The minister leads the dismissal

Jesus said to them, "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."

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 of the Apostles (1.8-11, 12,13a,14)

Silence is kept.

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.

Silence is kept

BLESSING

The priest gives the blessing

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

God the Son,
who is our great high priest passed into the heavens,
plead for you at the right hand of the Father.
All **Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit,
who pours out his abundant gifts upon the Church,
make you faithful servants of Christ our King.
All **Amen.**

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

The priest says

Waiting expectantly for the promised Holy Spirit,
go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.
All **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Please join us after the service for morning tea. All welcome.