

The CATHEDRAL of
ST. PHILIP
SERVING ATLANTA AND THE WORLD

The Feast of the Ascension, observed

12 May 2024

Evensong ✕ 4:00 P.M.

The Holy Communion ✕ 5:00 P.M.

The Reverend Canon George M. Maxwell, Jr., Officiant & Preacher
The Cathedral Schola

One of the jewels of the Anglican tradition, Choral Evensong is the English Reformation's fusion of the ancient evening prayer services of Vespers and Compline. "In quires and places where they sing" the service is customarily offered according to the 1662 Book of Common Prayer, whose texts for the canticles – Magnificat and Nunc dimittis – and most of the prayers (Latin, "Preces") were first published in 1549 and are translations from the still more ancient Latin and Sarum rites for the Daily Offices. Over nearly five centuries, Evensong has both inspired worshippers and moved composers to create one of the largest corpuses of sacred music in the English language, music that enlightens our experience of God at the Cathedral of St. Philip week by week.

The congregation sings the hymns and joins in silently as the choir offers music to God in praise and prayer on behalf of the world and the Church universal. Following the formal close of Evensong, an intimate "liturgy of the table" is offered at the high altar for those who wish to stay to receive Holy Communion.

All stand for
The Procession

The Opening Sentences

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

All stand as the Choir sings

The Preces and Responses

setting: William Smith (c. 1603-1645)

- V. O Lord, open thou our lips.
R. And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.
V. O God, make speed to save us.
R. O Lord, make haste to help us.
V. 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.
Praise ye the Lord.

Candles are lit as all sing the

Office Hymn: 218

music: *Deo gracias*, English ballad melody, Trinity College MS, 15th cent.
words: The Venerable Bede (673-735), sts. 1-2 tr. Elizabeth Rundle Charles (1828-1896) alt,
st. 3 tr. Benjamin Webb (1819-1885) alt.



1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing, new
2 You are a pre - sent joy, O Lord; you
3 O ris - en Christ, a - scend - ed Lord, all



hymns through-out the world shall ring; by a new way none
will be ev - er our re - ward; and great the light in
praise to you let earth ac - cord, who are, while end - less



ev - er trod Christ takes his place— the throne of God!
you we see to guide us to e - ter - ni - ty. Al -
a - ges run, with Fa - ther and with Spi - rit, One.



- le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Clap your hands, all you peoples; *
shout to God with a cry of joy.
For the LORD Most High is to be feared; *
he is the great King over all the earth.
He subdues the peoples under us, *
and the nations under our feet.
He chooses our inheritance for us, *
the pride of Jacob whom he loves.
God has gone up with a shout, *
the LORD with the sound of the ram's-horn.
Sing praises to God, sing praises; *
sing praises to our King, sing praises.
For God is King of all the earth; *
sing praises with all your skill.
God reigns over the nations; *
God sits upon his holy throne.
The nobles of the peoples have gathered together *
with the people of the God of Abraham.
The rulers of the earth belong to God, *
and he is highly exalted.
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 LESSONS

The First Lesson

Acts 1:1-11

Lector A Lesson from The Acts of the Apostles.

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.”

Lector Here ends the lesson.

All stand for

The Magnificat

music: Thomas Morley (1557/58-1602), First Service
words: Song of Mary, Luke 1:46-55; & Gloria Patri

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm;
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat,
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel,
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed 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.

All sit for

The Second Lesson

Luke 24:44-53

Lector A Lesson from The Gospel of Luke.

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.

Lector Here ends the lesson.

All stand for

The Nunc Dimittis

music: Thomas Morley (1557/58-1602), First Service
words: Song of Simeon, Luke 2:29-32; & Gloria Patri

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word;
for mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
to be a light to lighten the Gentiles, and to be the glory of thy people Israel.
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.

All sing

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

The Choir sings

The Preces and Responses

setting: William Smith (c. 1603-1645)

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with thy spirit.

All stand or kneel

V. Let us pray.

R. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon 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. Amen.

V. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us:

R. And grant us thy salvation.

V. O Lord, save the State:

R. And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

V. Endue thy ministers with righteousness:

R. And make thy chosen people joyful.

V. O Lord, save thy people:

R. And bless thine inheritance.

V. Give peace in our time, O Lord:
R. Because there is none other that fighteth for us,
but only thou, O God.
V. O God, make clean our hearts within us:
R. And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

The Collects

A Collect

O 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 abideth with his Church on earth, even unto the end of the ages; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

A Collect for Peace

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee, we, being defended from the fear of all enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

A Collect for Aid against Perils

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

All sit for

The Anthem after the Third Collect

*music: Peter Philips (c. 1560-1628), Ascendit Deus
words: Psalm 47:5*

*Ascendit Deus in jubilatione,
et Dominus in voce tubae.
Alleluia.
Dominus in coelo paravit sedem suam.
Alleluia.*

God is ascended amid jubilation,
and the Lord to the sound of the trumpet.
Alleluia!
The Lord in heaven has prepared his seat.
Alleluia.

All stand to sing

The Meditation Hymn: 219

music: Ach Herr, du allerhöchster Gott, Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)

words: Arthur T. Russell (1806-1874), alt.

Unison or harmony

1 The Lord a - scend - eth up on high, the Lord hath tri - umphed
2 The heavens with joy re - ceive their Lord, by saints, by an - gel
3 Our great High Priest hath gone be - fore, up - on his Church his

glo - rious - ly, in power and might ex - cel - ling;
hosts a - dored; O day of ex - ul - ta - tion!
grace to pour; and still his love he giv - eth.

the grave and hell are cap - tive led. Lo! he re -
O earth, a - dore thy glo - rious King! His ris - ing,
O may our hearts to him a - scend; may all with -

turns, our glo - rious Head, to his e - ter - nal dwell - ing.
his as - cen - sion sing with grate - ful a - dor - a - tion!
in us up - ward tend to him who ev - er liv - eth!

All sit for

The Meditation

Canon Maxwell

The Offertory Sentence

Anthem at the Offering

music: Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924), *Coelos ascendit hodie*
words: Ancient Latin hymn

*Coelos ascendit hodie
Jesus Christus Rex Gloriam: Alleluia!
Sedet ad Patris dexteram,
Gubernat coelum et terram. Alleluia!
Iam finem habent omnia
Patris Davidis carmina.
Iam Dominus cum Domino, Alleluia!
Sedet in Dei solio:
In hoc triumpho maximo
Benedicamus Domino.
Laudatur Sancta Trinitas,
Deo dicamus gratias,
Alleluia. Amen.*

Today into the heavens has ascended
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, Alleluia!
He sits at the Father's right hand,
and rules heaven and earth, Alleluia!
Now have been fulfilled all of
Father David's songs,
Now God is with God, Alleluia!
He sits upon the royal throne of God,
in this his greatest triumph, Alleluia!
Let us bless the Lord:
Let the Holy Trinity be praised,
let us give thanks to the Lord,
Alleluia! Amen.

All stand or kneel for

The Intercessions

All stand or kneel to pray

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Officiant Let us pray.

All Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord
to make our common supplication unto thee,
and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son
that when two or three are gathered together in his Name
thou wilt be in the midst of them:
Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants
as may be best for us;
granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth,
and in the world to come life everlasting. Amen.

The Grace

All sit for

The Parish Notices

All stand to sing

The Closing Hymn: 214

music: Llanfair, Robert Williams (1781-1821)

words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.

1 Hail the day that sees him rise, Al - le - lu - ia!
2 There the glo - rious tri - umph waits; Al - le - lu - ia!
3 See! he lifts his hands a - bove; Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Lord be - yond our mor - tal sight, Al - le - lu - ia!

glo - rious to his na - tive skies; Al - le - lu - ia!
lift your heads, e - ter - nal gates! Al - le - lu - ia!
See! he shows the prints of love: Al - le - lu - ia!
raise our hearts to reach thy height, Al - le - lu - ia!

Christ, a - while to mor - tals given, Al - le - lu - ia!
Wide un - fold the ra - diant scene; Al - le - lu - ia!
Hark! his gra - cious lips be - stow, Al - le - lu - ia!
there thy face un - cloud - ed see, Al - le - lu - ia!

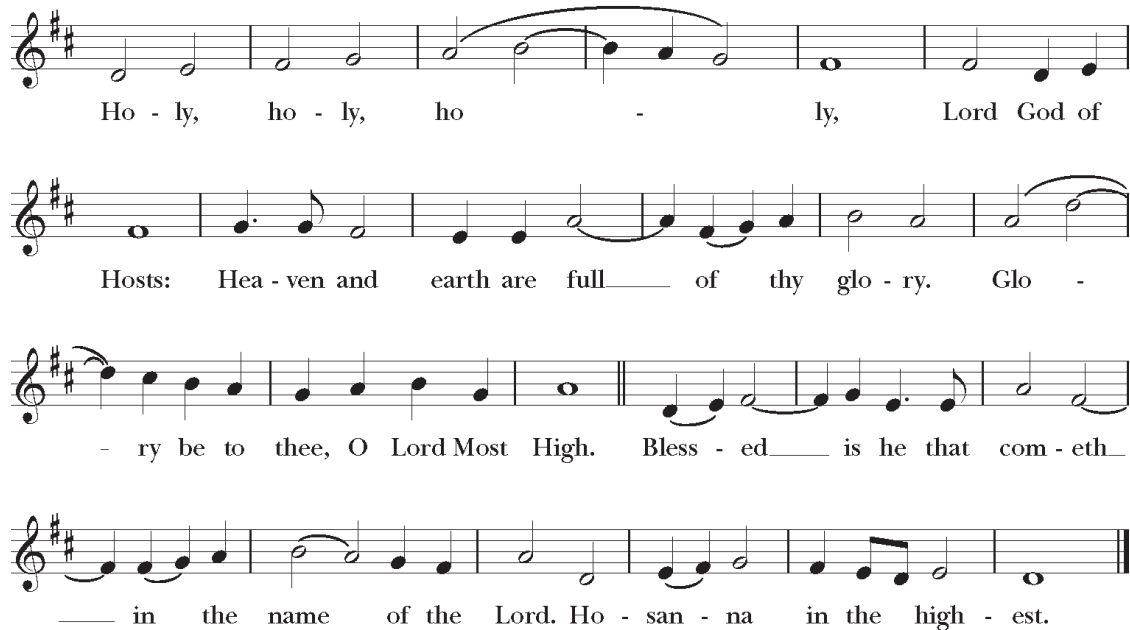
en - ters now the high - est heaven! Al - le - lu - ia!
take the King of glo - ry in! Al - le - lu - ia!
bless - ings on his Church be - low. Al - le - lu - ia!
find our heaven of heavens in thee. Al - le - lu - ia!

The Sanctus: S 114

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

Service music (indicated by "S" numbers) is found at the front of the Hymnal.

After the Sanctus, all may kneel or stand.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of
Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -
ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

All Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Communion

All may receive the consecrated bread and wine of the Eucharist. At the altar, stand or kneel and receive the bread (a wafer) in the palm of your hand. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Receive the wine either by drinking from the cup (guiding it to your lips) or by touching the wafer lightly to the wine. If you desire to receive a blessing, cross your arms across your chest. If you need the priest to bring Communion to you in your pew, please let an usher know.

The Postcommunion Prayer

BCP, p. 339

Celebrant Let us pray.

All 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 Blessing

All sing

The Processional: Hymn 221

music: *Gonfalon Royal*, Percy Carter Buck (1871-1947)

words: Medieval Latin; sts. 1-3, tr. F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984); st. 4, tr. Benjamin Webb (1819-1885)



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



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

The Dismissal

Celebrant

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.

All

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

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THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. PHILIP

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Dale Adelman, Ph.D., *Canon for Music*

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The Reverend George M. Maxwell, Jr., *Vicar*

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