

## Feast of the Ascension



The Introit *Viri Galilaei*, Acts 1:11/Psalm 47:1[2-10]



**Antiphon:** Men of Galilee, \*  
why do you stand looking up into heaven,  
alleluia?

He will come in the same way  
as you saw him go into heaven, \*  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Psalm.** Clap your hands, all you people; \*  
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.]

**Gloria Patri.** Glo-ry to the Father, and to the Son, ↓  
and to the Holy Spirit, \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever,  
for all ages of ages. Amen **Antiphon:**

## **The Gloria**

### **The Collect:**

Almighty God, grant, we pray, that we who believe your only-begotten Son, our Redeemer, ascended into heaven on this day, may also dwell in spirit amid heavenly things; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for all ages of ages. *Amen*

### **The First Reading:** Acts 1:1-11

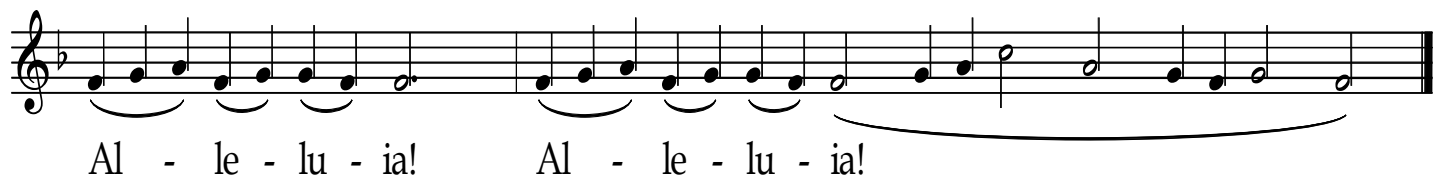
Brethren: In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy

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."

## The First Alleluia

Ascendit Deus, Psalm 47:5

ALLELUIA TONE I



TONE IX: LAUDATE



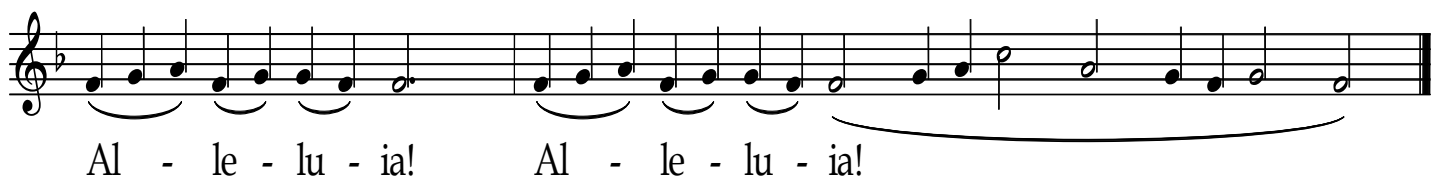
Repeat Alleluia

## Epistle: Ephesians 1:15-23

Beloved, 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.

## The Second Alleluia Dominus in Sina, Psalm 68:18

ALLELUIA I



TONE IX LAUDATE



You have gone up on high and led captivity captive; ↓  
you have received gifts even from your enemies, \*  
that the LORD God might dwell among them.

Repeat Alleluia

## The Gospel: Mark 16:14-20

At that time...Jesus appeared to the eleven themselves as they were sitting at the table; and he upbraided them for their lack of faith and stubbornness, because they had not believed those who saw him after he had risen. And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation. The one who believes and is baptized will be saved; but the one who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will accompany those who believe: by using my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover." So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. And they went out and proclaimed the good news everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by the signs that accompanied it.

(Traditionally the Paschal Candle is extinguished after the Gospel)

## The Nicene Creed

Offertory      Ascendit Deus, Psalm 47:5



TONE VII

God has gone up with a shout, \*  
the LORD with the sound of the ram's-horn. Al-leluia

## **The Prayer over the gifts:**

Accept, O Lord, the gifts we offer you in remembrance of the glorious Ascension of your Son; and graciously grant that we may be delivered from present dangers and attain to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for all ages of ages. *Amen*

## **The Preface of the Ascension**

It is truly right and just, our joy and helpful to salvation, that we, always and everywhere give thanks to you, O Lord, holy Father, Almighty and eternal God: Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Who after his resurrection appeared clearly to all his disciples, and before their eyes was raised up to heaven, so that he might grant us to be sharers of his divinity.

And therefore with the angels and archangels, with thrones and dominions, and with all the array of the heavenly choirs, we sing this hymn to your glory, evermore acclaiming:

## **Proper Communicantes for the Ascension of Our Lord**

In communion with the whole Church, and celebrating the most sacred day on which your Only-begotten Son, our Lord, set at the right hand of your glory our weak human nature, which he had united to himself, we venerate above all others the memory of the ever-Virgin Mary, Mother of Jesus Christ our Lord and our God; and also your blessed apostles and martyrs, Peter, Paul and Andrew.....and all your saints by whose prayers we may gain your constant help and protection.

## Before the Blessing of Peace

*Priest:* May Almighty God, Whose only-begotten Son entered into the highest Heaven, and opened for you the gate whereby you might ascend and be with Him, bestow His blessing upon you.

*People:* Amen

*Priest:* May He grant in mercy that, as our Saviour Christ, was seen by His disciples to be the living God when He rose from the dead, so also, when He comes to judge the world, He may be seen by you as your Advocate.

*People:* Amen

*Priest:* May you, who believe our Redeemer to be seated with the Father in Majesty, have a deep knowledge that He is always with you, even to the end of the world, according to His promise.

*People:* Amen

*Priest:* May the Lord God Almighty, Whose glorious Kingdom endures for ever, be pleased to bestow these blessings upon you; and...

*Priest:* The ✠ Peace of The Lord be always with you.

*People:* And with your spirit.

## The Communion *Psallite Domino: Psalm 68:33, 34*

TONE VIII



Sing to the Lord, O kingdoms of the earth; \*  
sing praises to the Lord.

He rides in the ancient heavens to the East; \*  
he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice. Al-leluia



## **The Postcommunion Collect:**

O almighty and merciful Lord, Grant that what we have received in these visible Holy Mysteries, we may enjoy in its invisible effect; through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for all ages of ages. *Amen*

## **Alternate reading:**

**Daniel 7:9,10,13,14**

As I watched, thrones were set in place, and an Ancient One took his throne; his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames, and its wheels were burning fire. A stream of fire issued and flowed out from his presence. A thousand thousand served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him. The court sat in judgment, and the books were opened. I saw one like a human being (a son of man) coming with the clouds of heaven. And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him. To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.



## **Alleluia! sing to Jesus!**

Alleluia! sing to Jesus! His the scepter, His the throne.  
Alleluia! 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.

Alleluia! not as orphans are we left in sorrow now;  
Alleluia! 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"?

Alleluia! bread of angels, Thou on earth our food, our stay;  
Alleluia! here the sinful flee to Thee 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.

Alleluia! King eternal, Thee the Lord of lords we own;  
Alleluia! born of Mary, Earth Thy footstool, Heav'n Thy throne:  
Thou within the veil hast entered,  
    robed in flesh our great High Priest;  
Thou on earth both priest and victim in the Eucharistic feast.