



St. Michael and All Angels Amersham on the Hill



HOLY EUCHARIST ASCENSIONTIDE

A warm welcome to this service

This booklet is designed for use during Ascensiontide and includes guidance notes. Do please ask a "Welcomer" if you need any further help.

Last Thursday, the fortieth day of Easter, was Ascension Day, marking the end of Jesus' time on earth and his return to God the Father. No longer the divine, living on earth, but part of the fullness of God everywhere, Christ, by his Ascension, gives us the hope, that where he is, we may be also.

The nine days which follow are traditionally observed as days of prayer and preparation, given that Christ has commissioned his disciples to continue his work, has promised them the gift of the Holy Spirit, and is no longer among them in the flesh. The Ascension is therefore closely connected with mission, with sending out.

The arrival of the promised gift of the Holy Spirit, on the day of Pentecost, will complete and crown the fifty days of Easter.

The Gathering

Introit

Processional Hymn

Please stand, if able.

The Greeting

President The Lord be with you
All **and also with you.**

Acclamation

All Christ has gone up on high.
Alleluia!
All God raised Christ from the dead
and enthroned him at his right hand in the heavenly realms.
All Christ has gone up on high.
Alleluia!

Please sit.

Words of welcome or introduction may be said.

Invitation to Confession

Deacon The Spirit of the Lord fills the world
and knows our every word and deed.
Let us then open ourselves to the Lord
and confess our sins in penitence and faith.

Please remain seated or kneel.

We pause for confession

Confession

All You raise the dead to life in the Spirit:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

All You bring pardon and peace to the broken in heart:
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

You make one by your Spirit the torn and divided:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Absolution

President May the God of love and power
forgive you and free you from your sins,
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Please stand, if able.

Gloria in Excelsis

All **Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his 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 Collect

The priest gathers together, or collects, our prayers.

The Liturgy of the Word

Please sit.

(Readings and Psalm on Notice Sheet)

Old Testament Reading

All For the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Choir – all sing responses.

New Testament Reading

All For the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

Please stand, if able.

Gospel Reading

Please turn to face the Gospel.

Deacon Alleluia, **alleluia.**
Go, and make disciples of all nations, says the Lord.
Remember I am with you always to the end of the age.
Alleluia, **alleluia.**

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N.*
Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel is proclaimed.

All This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Offertory Hymn

*The gifts of the people are gathered and presented.
The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.
The President takes the bread and wine.*

Preparation of the Table

President Lord of all and source of our joy,
receive our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.
Keep us in the love of Christ
and bring us to the vision of his glory;
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer D

All The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.

All Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

All Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

Almighty God, good Father to us all,
your face is turned towards your world.
In love you gave us Jesus your Son
to rescue us from sin and death.

And now we give you thanks
that, after he had ascended far above all heavens,
and was seated at the right hand of your majesty,
he sent forth upon the universal Church
your holy and life-giving Spirit;
that through his glorious power the joy of the everlasting gospel
might go forth into all the world.

Your Word goes out to call us home
to the city where angels sing your praise.
We join with them in heaven's song:

All

**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.**

Father of all, we give you thanks
for every gift that comes from heaven.

To the darkness Jesus came as your light.
With signs of faith and words of hope
he touched untouchables with love and washed the guilty clean.

All sing

This is his story.
**This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

The crowds came out to see your Son,
yet at the end they turned on him.
On the night he was betrayed
he came to table with his friends
to celebrate the freedom of your people.

All sing

This is his story.
**This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food;
he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said:
This is my body, given for you all.

Jesus then gave thanks for the wine;
he took the cup, gave it and said:
This is my blood, shed for you all
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this in remembrance of me.

All sing

This is our story.
**This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup
we celebrate the cross
on which he died to set us free.
Defying death he rose again
and is alive with you to plead for us and all the world.



All sing This is our story.
**This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

Send your Spirit on us now
that by these gifts we may feed on Christ
with opened eyes and hearts on fire.

May we and all who share this food
offer ourselves to live for you
and be welcomed at your feast in heaven
where all creation worships you,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

All sing **Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Please sit or kneel.

Being made one by the power of the Spirit, in our own language, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

All

**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,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

or

Being made one by the power of the Spirit, in our own language, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

All

**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.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

As we break bread together,
may we be one with Christ in faith and hope and love,
now and for ever.

All

Amen.

Agnus Dei

All

**Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world,
grant us peace.**

or

All

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.**

Giving of Communion

President

'You have not chosen me' he said, 'but I have chosen you. Receive my love, Do not be afraid. Drink from my cup as the sign of your betrothal to me. Trust in my love, and believe in me. If only you could see me for who I am!'

*All are welcome to receive communion or a blessing.
After receiving the bread and the wine, please respond "Amen"
or, if you would like a blessing, please place your hands across
your chest.*

Post Communion Hymn

Please stand, if able.

Post Communion Prayer

The President leads.

Acclamation

Christ has gone up on high.

All

Alleluia.

God raised Christ from the dead

All

and enthroned him at his right hand in the heavenly realms.

God put all things in subjection beneath his feet

All

and gave him as head over all things to the Church.

We died, and our life lies hidden with Christ in God.

All

We set our minds on things above.

When Christ, who is our life, is revealed,

All

we too will be revealed with him in glory.

cf Ephesians 1.20,23; Colossians 3.1-4

Christ has gone up on high.

All

Alleluia.



Notices and Banns

The Dismissal

Blessing

May the Spirit,
who hovered over the waters when the world was created,
breathe into you the life he gives.

All **Amen.**

May the Spirit,
who overshadowed the Virgin
when the eternal Son came among us,
make you joyful in the service of the Lord.

All **Amen.**

May the Spirit,
who set the Church on fire upon the Day of Pentecost,
bring the world alive with the love of the risen Christ.

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.**

Deacon Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.
All **Thanks be to God, Alleluia, alleluia.**

Recessional hymn verse

All sing **Father, we love you,
we praise you, we adore you.
Glorify your name in all the earth.
Glorify your name, glorify your name,
glorify your name in all the earth.**

Material from the following may be included in this service: *Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England* (2000), *Patterns for Worship* (1995), *New Patterns for Worship* (2002), *Times and Seasons* (2006), *The Promise of His Glory* (1991) all copyright © The Archbishops' Council; *Celtic Daily Prayer Book 1 & 2* (2015) © The Northumbria Community Trust; *Enriching the Christian Year* (SPCK, 1993) compilation © Michael Perham. CCL No 908682.

