

## **St. Albans Church**

### **A Liturgy for The Feast of the Ascension**

**8pm. May 13 2021**

*You are invited to join us by Zoom using this link:*

[https://zoom.us/j/94547205141?pwd=REw4cUxpdmFZV1hoaW1P  
MIJVZENwdz09](https://zoom.us/j/94547205141?pwd=REw4cUxpdmFZV1hoaW1P<br/>MIJVZENwdz09)

*You can also join our livestream found at*

[www.facebook.com/saintalbans](http://www.facebook.com/saintalbans)

*We invite you to have a candle ready to be lit, and a flower or flowers, a work of art, a piece of jewelry, or a decoration that you would use or have for a celebration.*

### **Land Acknowledgement**

*St Albans gathers on the unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishnaabeg people.*

### **Welcome and Introduction**

The Lord be with you

**And also with you.**

Sing praises, O People of God,  
Sing out with joy,  
For today is a day of celebration.

Christ has ascended to heaven,  
To sit at God's right hand,  
To take his place as Ruler of the world.

We are in-between.  
Jesus has been raised from the dead.  
We await the coming of the Spirit.

What shall we offer here?  
A song, a flower, a light,  
Words of praise and hope.

**Waymaker- Sinach (performed by Olivia Adams)**

You are here, moving in our midst  
I worship you  
I worship you

You are here, working in this place  
I worship you  
I worship you

Way maker, Miracle worker, promise keeper  
Light in the darkness, my God  
That is who you are

Way maker, Miracle worker, promise keeper  
Light in the darkness, my God  
That is who you are

You are here, touching every heart  
I worship you  
I worship you

You are here, healing every heart  
I worship you

I worship you

You are here, turning lives around

I worship you

I worship you

You are here, mending every heart

I worship you

I worship you

Let us pray

*(we pray in silence)*

God unheld by word or wall:

**lift us from dullness and cynical contempt;**

**make us ready for your Spirit of transforming power;**

**and turn our hearts to the mending of the world,**

**through Jesus Christ, the name above all names. Amen.**

### **The First Reading: Acts 1.1-11**

#### **Psalm 47**

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, \***  
**the great sovereign over all the earth,**

3 who subdues the peoples under us \*  
and the nations under our feet;

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

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

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

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

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

9 The nobles of the peoples have gathered together \*  
with the people of the God of Abraham.

**The rulers of the earth belong to God, \*  
who is highly exalted.**

## **The Gospel**

The Lord be with you

**And also with you**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Luke (24.44-53)

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**

*(the Gospel is proclaimed)*

The Gospel of Christ

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

## **Reflection**

### **A Time of Prayer**

*(You are invited to light your candle and make it visible to all as we  
join together in the litany of celebration.)*

Jesus, You came into the world to restore us to our rightful place  
as children of God.

**You are the light of the world.**

We do not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.

**You are the light of the world.**

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to you.

**You are the light of the world.**

After your resurrection you ascended into heaven, leaving us instruction to go and make disciples...

**Make us a light to the world.**

To share the Good News with all creation...

**Make us a light to the world.**

To show compassion for the poor and needy...

**Make us a light to the world.**

To be the salt of the earth, and the light of the world.

**Make us a light to the world.**

We celebrate your resurrection, your ascension, and your place at the right hand of God.

**We live in the light of Christ.**

We await your return, and rely upon the Holy Spirit, our helper.

**We live in the light of Christ.**

We are your church, your body on earth, a city on a hill that cannot be hidden.

**We live in the light of Christ. Amen.**

- Ascension Day Litany of Sending, courtesy of Fran Pratt,

<http://www.franpratt.com/litanies/2016/5/3/ascension-day-litany-for-sending>

**A Sonnet for Ascension Day – Malcom Guite**

We saw his light break through the cloud of glory

Whilst we were rooted still in time and place

As earth became a part of Heaven's story  
And heaven opened to his human face.  
We saw him go and yet we were not parted  
He took us with him to the heart of things  
The heart that broke for all the broken-hearted  
Is whole and Heaven-centred now, and sings,  
Sings in the strength that rises out of weakness,  
Sings through the clouds that veil him from our sight,  
Whilst we our selves become his clouds of witness  
And sing the waning darkness into light,  
His light in us, and ours in him concealed,  
Which all creation waits to see revealed.

- Courtesy of Malcolm Guite, 'Sounding the Seasons; seventy Sonnets for the Christian Year, Canterbury Press 2012'

<https://malcolmguite.wordpress.com/2012/05/15/a-sonnet-for-ascension-day/>

## **Song**

*(During the singing of the song, please make visible something such as you would have for a celebration: flowers, a piece of jewelry, a decoration, etc.)*

## **Open the Eyes, My Sweet Lord- Paul Baloche, George Harrison**

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord  
Open the eyes of my heart  
I want to see You  
I want to see You

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord

Open the eyes of my heart  
I want to see You  
I want to see You

To see You high and lifted up  
Shinin' in the light of Your glory  
Pour out Your power and love  
As we sing holy, holy, holy

My sweet Lord  
Mmm, my Lord  
Mmm, my Lord

I really wanna see you  
Really wanna be with you  
Really wanna see you, Lord  
But it takes so long, my Lord

My sweet Lord  
Mmm, my Lord  
Mmm, my Lord

I really wanna know you  
I'd really wanna go with you  
I really wanna show you, Lord  
That it won't take long, my Lord

### **The Apostles' Creed**

One      Let us confess the faith of our baptism,  
            as we say,

**All      I trust in God,  
            the Father almighty,**

**creator of heaven and earth.  
I trust in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again  
to judge the living and the dead.**

**I trust in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*Please feel free to use the language and words of your choice.*

**One:** As our Saviour taught us, let us 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.  
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.**

**Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord**  
Thanks be to God.

