Solemnity of the Ascension



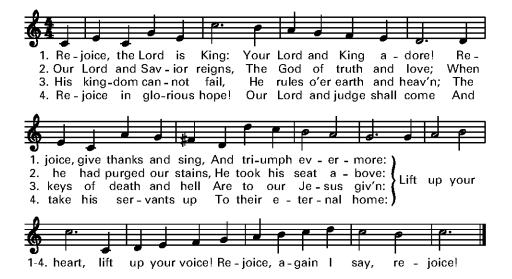
"And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."

(Cycle C)

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Opening Hymn

Rejoice the Lord is King



Greeting

V. In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

V. The grace and peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the Love of God and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you always.

R. And also with you.

PENITENTIAL RITE (C2)

Invitation to reflect on our faults and failings.

√ To prepare ourselves to celebrate these sacred mysteries, let us call to mind our faults and failings and ask our heavenly Father in his mercy for his healing and forgiveness.

Pause for silent reflection (Kyrie VIII de Angelis).

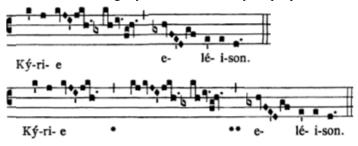
V Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations into the peace of God's kingdom:



V You come in word and sacrament to strengthen us in holiness:



V You will come in glory with salvation for your people:



W May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

R Amen.

Gloria







cto Spí-ri-tu, in gló-ri- a De- i Pa-tris. men.

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.

Opening Prayer

Father in heaven, our minds were prepared for the coming of your kingdom when you took Christ beyond our sight so that we might seek him in his glory.

May we follow where he has led and find our hope in his glory, for he is Lord for ever.

R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reading 1 (*Acts 1:1-11*)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

In the first book, Theophilus,
I dealt with all that Jesus did and taught
until the day he was taken up,
after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit
to the apostles whom he had chosen.
He presented himself alive to them
by many proofs after he had suffered,
appearing to them during forty days
and speaking about the kingdom of God.
While meeting with them,
he enjoined them not to depart from Jerusalem,
but to wait for "the promise of the Father
about which you have heard me speak;
for John baptized with water,
but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

When they had gathered together they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" He answered them, "It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

When he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight.

While they were looking intently at the sky as he was going, suddenly two men dressed in white garments stood beside them. They said, "Men of Galilee,

will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven."

V. This is the Word of the Lord.

why are you standing there looking at the sky?

This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven

R. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm (*Ps* 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9)



All you peoples, clap your hands, shout to God with cries of gladness, For the LORD, the Most High, the awesome, is the great king over all the earth.

R. God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

God mounts his throne amid shouts of joy; the LORD, amid trumpet blasts. Sing praise to God, sing praise; sing praise to our king, sing praise.

R. God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

For king of all the earth is God; sing hymns of praise. God reigns over the nations, God sits upon his holy throne.

R. God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Reading 2 (Eph 1:17-23)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians.

Brothers and sisters:

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a Spirit of wisdom and revelation resulting in knowledge of him.

May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened, that you may know what is the hope that belongs to his call, what are the riches of glory in his inheritance among the holy ones,

and what is the surpassing greatness of his power for us who believe, in accord with the exercise of his great might, which he worked in Christ, raising him from the dead and seating him at his right hand in the heavens, far above every principality, authority, power, and dominion, and every name that is named not only in this age but also in the one to come. And he put all things beneath his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of the one who fills all things in every way..

V. This is the Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (Mt 28:19a, 20b)



Go and teach all nations, says the Lord; I am with you always, until the end of the world.



Gospel (Mt 28:16-20)

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

V. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

The celebrant and the people mark a cross on their foreheads (mind), their lips (speech) and over their hearts, asking the Lord to open them to his Word.

R. Glory to you Lord.

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them.

When they saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted.

Then Jesus approached and said to them,

"All power 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, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.

And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."

V. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord, Jesus Christ.



Homily





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, one in Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:

All bow at these two lines

by the power of the Holy Spirit he was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered, died, and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in fulfillment of 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.

With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He 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

General Intercessions

The celebrant invites the congregation to pray and offers several prayer intentions. Each concludes, "We pray to the Lord."

Risen Savior, hear our prayer.

The celebrant concludes the intercessions with a final short prayer ending with "... through Christ, our Lord."

R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Offering of the Gifts

V. Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

R. Blessed be God for ever.

R. Blessed be God for ever.

Prayer over the Gifts

V. Pray, my brothers and sisters, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his Church.

Lord, receive our offering as we celebrate the ascension of Christ your Son. May his gifts help us to rise with him to the joys of heaven, where he lives and reigns for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

Preface and Sanctus (Ascension I)



Father, all-powerful and ever-living God, we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks.

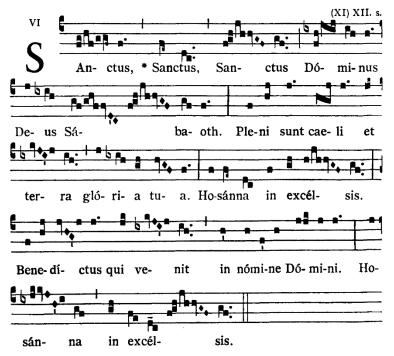
Today the Lord Jesus, the king of glory, the conqueror of sin and death, ascended to heaven while the angels sang his praises.

Christ, the mediator between God and man, judge of the world and Lord of all, has passed beyond our sight, not to abandon us but to be our hope. Christ is the beginning, the head of the Church; where he has gone, we hope to follow.

The joy of the resurrection and ascension renews the whole world, while the choirs of heaven sing for ever to your glory:

The celebrant recites or sings the Preface. At the conclusion, we sing or say:

(Sanctus VIII De Angelis)



Eucharistic Prayer (I)

The celebrant prays the Eucharistic Prayer. After the consecration, the celebrant sings:

V. Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.



The celebrant concludes the Eucharistic Prayer.

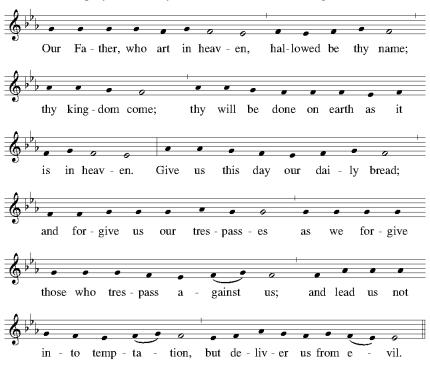
Through him, with him and in him in the unity of the Holy Spirit all glory and honor are yours, Almighty Father Forever and ever.



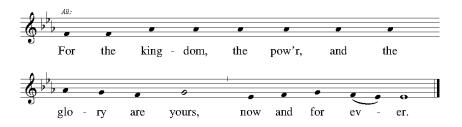
COMMUNION LITURGY

The Lord's Prayer

V. We pray confidently in the words our Savior taught us:



 \mathring{V} . Deliver us, Lord, from every evil, and grant us peace in our day. In your mercy keep us free from sin and protect us from all anxiety as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.



Exchange of Peace

 \tilde{V} . Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles: I leave you peace, my peace I give you. Look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and grant us the peace and unity of your kingdom where you live for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

V. The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

R. And also with you.

V. Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

Breaking of the Bread

As the bread is broken, we sing or say:



 \tilde{V} . This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper.

R. Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

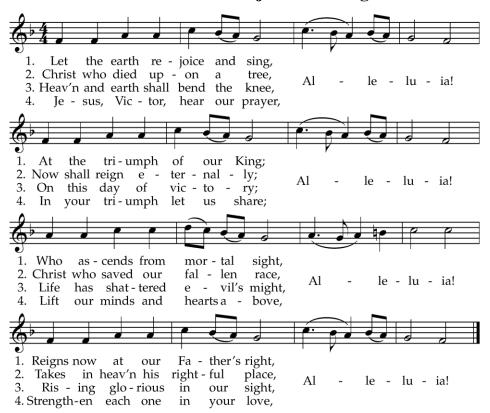
To those receiving Communion (by intinction), the celebrant says:

V. The body and blood of Christ.

R. Amen.

Communion Meditation

Let the Earth Rejoice and Sing



Prayer after Communion

Almighty and ever-living Lord, you restored us to life by raising Christ from death. Strengthen us by this Easter sacrament.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

CONCLUDING RITES

Solemn Blessing (8 Ascension)

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing.

May almighty God bless you on this day when his only Son ascended into heaven to prepare a place for you.

R. Amen.

After his resurrection, Christ was seen by his disciples. When he appears as judge may you be pleasing for ever in his sight.

R. Amen.

You believe that Jesus has taken his seat in majesty at the right hand of the Father.

May you have the joy of experiencing that he is also with you to the end of time, according to his promise.

R. Amen.

V. May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

Dismissal



Closing Hymn

Crown Him with Many Crowns

