

Ascension Sunday May 24, 2020 | Dimanche, le 24 mai 2020

[ACTS 1:6-14; PSALM 68:1-10, 33-36; 1 PETER 4:12-14; 5:6-11; JOHN 17:1-11](#)

Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me,
so that they may be one, as we are one. ^{John 17:11}

Père saint, garde en ton nom ceux que tu m'as donnés,
afin qu'ils soient un comme nous. ^{Jean 17:11}

Welcome

...

Alleluia! Christ is Risen.

Our *opening hymn*, [Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise](#), an Ascension hymn was written by Charles Wesley in at least couple of different versions (1739 and 1746) and also amended by Thomas Cottrell in 1820. The version we sing in Common Praise is much adapted from Wesley's original texts which we have below in the last two verses ('high above yon azure skies', and 'partners of thy endless reign' which speaks to our relationship with Jesus) and Thomas Cottrell adapted the first two verses, sung here by the treble voices of the Norwich Cathedral Choir, one of the glorious Norman cathedrals in England. *A Staples*

Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise - Norwich Cathedral Choir
<https://youtu.be/mC06U0apiK8>

1 Hail the day that sees Him rise, Alleluia
Glorious to His native skies! Alleluia
Christ awhile to mortals given, Alleluia
Enters now the highest heaven. Alleluia
2 There the glorious triumph waits; Alleluia
Lift your heads, eternal gates! Alleluia
Christ hath vanquish'd death and sin, Alleluia
Take the King of glory in. Alleluia
3 Grant, tho' parted from our sight, Alleluia
High above yon azure height, Alleluia
Grant our hearts may thither rise, Alleluia
Following thee beyond the skies. Alleluia
4 There we shall with thee remain, Alleluia
Partners of thy endless reign, Alleluia
There thy face unclouded see, Alleluia
Find our heav'n of heav'ns in thee. Alleluia

Alleluia! Christ is Risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

May his grace and peace be with you.

May he fill our hearts with joy.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of

your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Glory to God on High

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.

Collect - Let us pray - Almighty God, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven. Mercifully give us faith to know that, as he promised, he abides with us on earth to the end of time; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Proclaiming the Word - A reading from ACTS 1:6-14 The Ascension of Jesus

⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' ⁷He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But 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.' ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards 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.' ¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. ¹³When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

PSALM 68

Let God rise up, let his enemies be scattered; let those who hate him flee before him.

As smoke is driven away, so drive them away; as wax melts before the fire, let the wicked perish before God.

But let the righteous be joyful; let them exult before God; let them be jubilant with joy.

Sing to God, sing praises to his name; lift up a song to him who rides upon the clouds—his name is the Lord—be exultant before him.

Father of orphans and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation.

God gives the desolate a home to live in; he leads out the prisoners to prosperity, but the rebellious live in a parched land.

O God, when you went out before your people, when you marched through the wilderness, the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, at the presence of God, the God of Israel.

Rain in abundance, O God, you showered abroad; you restored your heritage when it languished; your flock found a dwelling in it; in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.

O rider in the heavens, the ancient heavens; listen, he sends out his voice, his mighty voice.

Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel; and whose power is in the skies.

Awesome is God in his sanctuary, the God of Israel; he gives power and strength to his people. Blessed be God!

A reading from 1 PETER 4:12-14; 5:6-11 [Suffering as a Christian](#)

¹²Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³But rejoice in so far as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you. ^{5:6}Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters throughout the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

*Our Gradual hymn, [Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun](#), a hymn of sunshine, love and praise is by the famous hymn writer Isaac Watts, born in Southampton in the mid 17th century he was schooled in London by an Independent minister and he himself became a non-conformist minister and eventually settled on the estate of Sir Thomas Abney. He died in 1748. His well-loved hymns include [Joy to the World, O God](#), [Our Help in Ages Past](#), and [When I Survey the Wondrous Cross](#). *A Staples**

Gradual Hymn: Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun - First-Plymouth Church Lincoln NE

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5U4IMtvp6bq>

1 Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.

2 To him shall endless prayer be made,
and praises throng to crown his head;
his name, like sweet perfume, shall rise
with every morning sacrifice.

3 People and realms of every tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song,
and infant voices shall proclaim

their early blessings on his name.

4 Blessings abound where'er he reigns:
the prisoners leap to loose their chains;
the weary find eternal rest,
and all who suffer want are blest.

5 Let every creature rise and bring
honors peculiar to our King;
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud Amen!

Glory to God: the Presbyterian Hymnal #265 <https://hymnary.org/hymn/GG2013/265>

The Gospel

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to JOHN 17:1-11

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus Prays for His Disciples

¹After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ²since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. ⁶I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon: Be My Witnesses - Rev Brian Perron

Affirmation of Faith - The Apostles' Creed

Let us confess our faith, as we say,

I BELIEVE in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 believe 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 Prayers of the People

Confession and Absolution

Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,

have mercy on us and forgive us that we may delight in your will,

and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Absolution

Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Greeting of Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

*And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,
to which indeed you were called in the one body. ^{Col 3:15}*

The Celebration of the Eucharist

The Doxology | King's Cadence :06 / 1:11

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YdxoXiH6AmY>

Prayer over the Gifts

Source of all 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. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

And now we give you thanks because through Jesus Christ, you have given us the spirit of discipline, that we may triumph over evil and grow in grace; that reborn through the waters of baptism, and renewed in the eucharistic mystery, we may be more fervent in prayer and more generous in works of love. But chiefly we are bound to praise thee for the glorious resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the very Paschal Lamb, which was offered for us, and hath taken away the sin of the world; who by his death hath destroyed death, and by his rising to life again hath restored to us everlasting life. Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day, and, beholding your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your name, as we say,

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.

We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

En lui, tu nous as délivrés du mal et tu nous as rendus dignes de nous tenir en ta présence. En lui, tu nous as fait passer de l'erreur à la vérité, du péché à la justice, de la mort à la vie.

On the night Jesus was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. *Do this for the remembrance of me.*" After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, *do this for the remembrance of me.*" Therefore, Father, according to his command, **we remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;** and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer -

Rejoicing in the presence of God, let us pray as Jesus taught

**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.**

The Breaking of Bread

Lord, we died with you on the cross.

Now we are raised to new life.

We were buried in your tomb.

Now we share in your resurrection.

Live in us, that we may live in you.

The Communion

The gifts of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer after Communion

Eternal God, may we who share Christ's banquet be one with him as he is one with you.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, the risen and ascended Lord. **Amen.**

Glory to God,

**whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or
imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in
Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Blessing

May you be blessed to have the Word of God made known to you, to be called as
witnesses in order to testify about Jesus to the ends of the earth. And the blessing of
God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with
you always. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

Go forth to love one another, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia

*Our closing hymn, [Alleluia! Sing to Jesus](#), was written by William Chatterton Dix, a layman and one of the exceptions to the norm of clergy hymn writers during the Victoria era. Born in Bristol in 1837 he worked in the maritime insurance business in Glasgow Scotland. We also know his Christmas hymn, [What Child is This](#) and his Epiphany hymn, [As With Gladness Men of Old](#). The text we are using today is from the Presbyterian hymnal and speaks to Jesus' ascension into heaven after the 40 days of Easter and how he was both human ('robed in flesh our great high priest', 'born of Mary') and divine (King Eternal). The text always leaves me feeling encouraged in my faith. *A Staples**

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus - First Plymouth Church, Lincoln NE
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z2O_b_aqrPw

1 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."

2 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"?

3 Alleluia! Bread of angels,
here on earth our food, our stay;
Alleluia! here the sinful
flee to you from day to day.
Intercessor, friend of sinners,
earth's redeemer, hear our plea
where the songs of all the sinless
sweep across the crystal sea.

4 Alleluia! King eternal,
Lord omnipotent we own;
Alleluia! born of Mary,
earth your footstool, heaven your throne.
As within the veil you entered,
robed in flesh, our great high priest;
here on earth both priest and victim
in the eucharistic feast.

Glory to God: the Presbyterian Hymnal #260 <https://hymnary.org/hymn/GG2013/260>

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Announcements

Your Tithes and Offerings,

You may continue to safely give to God by supporting the work of your church by donating online through links found on the [St-Barnabas on-line Donations Page](#).

It's easy; donate either with [e-Transfer](#) or our [CanadaHelps link](#), or through Canada Post to 95, avenue Lorne, Saint-Lambert, QC J4P 2G7.

And this includes any donations to PWRDF, in memory of John Lee.

Your ongoing donations are critical at this time and remain completely confidential.

Regarding **discretion and confidentiality**, all donations and mail are received and

opened only by our Church Treasurer, so complete confidentiality is assured. Please be generous, more than ever now as our needs increase and bills continue to come into the church for payment. Remember your tithes are how you give to God; given to the church of your choice as one called to be good stewards with your offerings. Now is no different and even more the case as we reach out to our neighbours.

Speaking of Neighbours...

The ECS Food Bank operates out of St-Andrews Church is still operating but could use some help with donations of food distributed to the needy in St-Lambert and Ville Lemoyne. At the moment Anita and Reverend Barry are filling the needs as best they can with a few other helpers. As the buildings are closed at this time, they are not receiving food directly from our churches in St-Lambert. At your discretion and always with safety in mind first, here is how they would like you to help.

Here are items that they need:

(Not Costco sizes as many of the recipients are single and the majority are men, living alone and do not cook)

canned vegetables

canned fruit/applesauce

peanut butter (*not large size*)

loaves of bread (*they can freeze them*)

canned meals

frozen meals (already to go)

They have volunteer drivers (who live under the same roof) and shoppers who go monthly, but the stores right now are not allowing stalking up of quantities, which is why they need extra assistance at this time. **If you can help, please call** the church at (450) 671-1862 or the Presbytery at (450) 923-0794 and leave a message.

Donations should be brought on Thursday and/or Friday between 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm to the side door of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church (corner Green and Birch). It is the door that has a small porch (overhang). Please ring the bell, leave the food on the stoop and then social distance. Anita and/or Barry will retrieve the food. Each delivery of food to the recipients includes a pamphlet and card that Anita produced with a message saying that 'this food is being delivered by volunteers and is from our 5 ecumenical churches with love'. Please spread the word to our parishioners who are able to shop and, from time to time, may be able to pick-up one or two more items. **Or donate (indicate ECS Food Bank)** in care of St-Barnabas [on-line](#) or via Canada Post

For more information visit <http://st-barnabaschurch.com/volunteers> always welcomed

Stay connected

Listen to our on-line messages posted on our [St-Barnabas website](#) and [Facebook](#) page, as well as in the emails that we will send twice a week. I encourage you to share these posts with your families, as words and thoughts of encouragement. Also, if you hear of individuals in need of something, let us know; we will see what we can do with members who have put their names forward to help in a safe and manageable way.

Share your stories

Send us an email at barnabas@bellnet.ca of what you have been up to, and to share your experiences of getting through this isolation. Share your stories with us to brighten the lives of others, and stay safe.

Keep in touch

So stay tuned and reach out to members you feel concern for, allow the Holy Spirit to speak to you and to minister to those shut-in and alone at this time. Be safe, 'Stay Home', for your sake and for the well being of others, and... wash your hands!

God bless you and thank you for your thoughts and prayers,

Brian and Joyce

The Reverend Brian Perron
St-Barnabas St-Lambert

Visit us on [Facebook](#) and our St-Barnabas [website](#)

A Word of Happiness for 2020

I myself am God, your God: Keep my statutes and live by my laws.
Keep my Sabbaths as holy rest days, signposts between me and you,
signalling that I am God, your God. *Ezekiel 20 :20*



^{s+}Barnabas

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