



Our Mission:

Growing relationships, serving in community, empowered through worship

Our Vision:

A vibrant, engaged community feeding those who hunger in body, mind or spirit, celebrating God's love and offering a spiritual home for all

Our Promise:

Wherever you are in your spiritual journey, St. Lawrence welcomes you.

We celebrate diversity and, following Jesus' example embrace ALL God's children.

As a community, we cherish your uniqueness as God has made you:

across cultural backgrounds, skin color, citizenship/immigration status, political views, age, gender identity/expression/attraction, marital and economic status, and physical and cognitive abilities. Whoever you are, whomever you love,

wherever you are from, WE WELCOME YOU!

Ascension Day

A Liturgy of The Word with Spiritual Communion

May 16, 2021

Welcome

Opening Acclamation

Clap of praise

Collect of the day

First Reading

Acts 1:1-11

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."

Psalm 47

Refrain: *God has gone up with a shout.*

- 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; *
he is the great King over all the earth.

Refrain

- 3 He subdues the peoples under us, *
and the nations under our feet.
- 4 He chooses our inheritance for us, *
the pride of Jacob whom he loves.

Refrain

- 5 God has gone up with a shout, *
the LORD with the sound of the ram's-horn.
- 6 Sing praises to God, sing praises; *
sing praises to our King, sing praises.
- 7 For God is King of all the earth; *
sing praises with all your skill.

Refrain

- 8 God reigns over the nations; *
God sits upon his holy throne.
- 9 The nobles of the peoples have gathered together *
with the people of the God of Abraham.
- 10 The rulers of the earth belong to God, *
and he is highly exalted.

Refrain

The Gospel

Luke 24:44-53

Jesus said to his disciples, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you-- that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

Homily

The Rev. Judith Doran

The Creed

Prayers of the People

Lord in your mercy.

Response: **Hear our prayer**

Exchanging the signs of peace

Announcements

Offertory Sentence and Music

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

Spiritual Communion

Zoom Host Since we cannot share in the Body and Blood of Christ at this time, you are invited to join in the following prayer. The very intention to receive is enough to receive the spiritual blessing of the sacrament.

Let us pray

All **In union, blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day, I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory. And particularly for the blessings given me....**

I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you or from my sisters and brothers in Christ; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. *Amen.*

Post Communion Prayer

Blessing

Dismissal

Concluding Chime

Permission to stream the songs in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-722523. All rights reserved.