

ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH—JEBEL ALI

YEARC

INTRODUCTORY RITE

Entrance Antiphon

Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking in the sky? The Lord will return, just as you have seen him ascend, alleluia!

Entrance Hymn

1. Come and go with me to our Father's house,
to our Father's house, to our Father's house.
Come and go with me to our Father's house
where there's joy, joy, joy!
2. Jesus is the way to our Father's house,
to our Father's house, to our Father's house.
Jesus is the way to our Father's house
where there's love, love, love!
3. We want to follow Him to our Father's house,
to our Father's house, to our Father's house.
We want to follow Him to our Father's house
where there's peace, peace, peace!
4. Jesus is the Shepherd in our Father's house,
in our Father's house, in our Father's house.
Jesus is the Shepherd in our Father's house,
where there's joy, joy, joy!

Greeting

C: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

All: AMEN

C: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Penitential Rite

C: My brothers and sisters, to prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries, let us call to mind our sins.

Pause for silent reflection. After a brief silence all say:

All: I confess to almighty God, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned through my own fault in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done, and in what I have failed to do; and I ask blessed Mary, ever virgin, all the angels and saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord, our God.

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

P: AMEN

The Kyrie

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Lord, have mercy.

C: Christ, have mercy.

P: Christ, have mercy.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Lord, have mercy.

The Gloria

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.

Opening Prayer

God our Father, make us joyful in the ascension of your Son Jesus Christ. May we follow him into the new creation, for his ascension is our glory and our hope.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

1:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

He was lifted up while they looked on.

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. "It is," he had said, "what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit."

Now having met together, they asked him, "Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will

be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth."

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, "Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus, will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there."

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 46:2-3. 6-7. 8-9. R. v. 6

R: God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.

1. All peoples, clap your hands,
cry to God with shouts of joy!
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,
great king over all the earth. **R.**

2. God goes up with shouts of joy;
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.
Sing praise for God, sing praise,
sing praise to our king, sing praise. **R.**

3. God is king of all the earth.
Sing praise with all your skill.
God is king over the nations;
God reigns on his holy throne. **R.**



Second Reading

1:17-23

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians

He made him sit at his right hand in heaven.

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation. This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Mt 28:19. 20

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Go, make disciples of all the nations; I am with you always; yes, to the end of time."

Alleluia!

Gospel

24:46-53

C: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

C: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

As he blessed them he was carried up to heaven.

Jesus said to his disciples: "You see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.

"And now I am sending down to you what the Father has promised. Stay in the city then, until you are clothed with the power from on high." Then he took them out as far as the outskirts of Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. Now as he blessed them, he withdrew from them and was carried up to heaven. They worshipped him and then went back to Jerusalem full of joy; and they were continually in the Temple praising God.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Nicene Creed

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, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven: (*all bow*) by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with 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.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Hymn

1. On the paten with the host I offer up my lowly heart;
all my life, my deeds, my thoughts,
Thine shall be as mine Thou art.
2. In the chalice let me be a drop of water mingled there;
lost, O Jesus, in Thy love,
Thy great sacrifice I share.
3. All today and everyday, O Jesus, let me live in Thee
so that I no longer live,
but that Thou mayst live thru me.

The Offering

(If no song is sung, then the people may make the responses to the prayer of offering given here.)

C: 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.

P: Blessed be God for ever.

C: Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become our spiritual drink.

P: Blessed be God for ever.

C: Pray, brethren, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

P: 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.

Prayer over the gifts

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

Eucharistic Prayer

C: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

C: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them up to the Lord.

C: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

P: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The Acclamation

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.

Memorial Acclamation

C: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

P: Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.

Communion Rite

C: Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our Saviour gave us:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.

C: 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 Saviour, Jesus Christ.

All: For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.

Breaking of the Bread

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

C: This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper.

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

Communion Antiphon

I, the Lord, am with you always, until the end of the world, alleluia.

Communion Hymn

1. Alleluia, sing to Jesus,
his the sceptre, his the throne.
Alleluia, his the triumph,
his the victory alone.
Hark! the songs of peaceful Sion
thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus, out of every nation,
hath 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,
thou on earth our food, our stay.
Alleluia, here the sinful
flee to thee from day to day.
Intercessor, friend of sinners,
earth's Redeemer, plead for me,
where the songs of all the sinless
swEEP across the crystal sky.



Great things happen when God mixes with us. (2x)

Great and beautiful, wonderful things.

Great things happen when God mixes with us.

1. Some find life, some find peace,
some people also find joy.
Some see things as they never could before,
and some people find that they can now begin to trust.
2. Some find health, some find hope,
some people also find joy.
Some see themselves as they never could before,
and some people find that they can now begin to live.
3. Some find peace, some are disturbed,
some people also find joy.
Some see their lives as they never could before,
and some people find that they must now begin to change.

Prayer After Communion

Father,
in this eucharist we touch the divine life you give to the world. Help us to follow Christ with love to eternal life where he is Lord for ever and ever.

Concluding Rite

SOLEMN BLESSINGS

C: The Lord be with you.

P: 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.

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

R: Amen.

Recessional Hymn

*Great indeed are your works, O Lord,
now and ever more. (2x)*

1. The universe, night and day, tells of all your wonders;
you are our light and our life — we shall praise you always.
2. You are the path which we tread; you will lead us onward.
From ev'ry corner of earth all the nations gather.
3. You lead us all by the hand to your heav'nly kingdom;
then at the end of all time you will come in glory.