

The Sunday After the Ascension

May 21, 2023

The Collect of the Day

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

A Reading from Acts 1:6-14

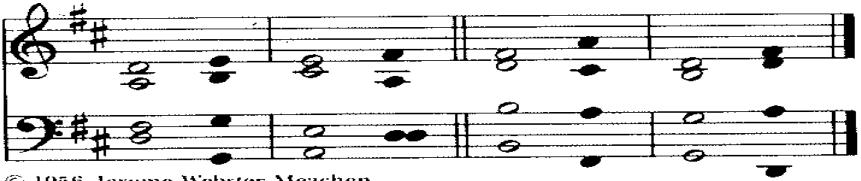
So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.” Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 68:1-20

The Psalm will be chanted.



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- 1 Let God arise, and let his enemies be **scattered**; *
let those who hate him also flee **be-fore him**.
- 2 As the smoke vanishes, so shall you drive them **a-way**; *
and as wax melts before the fire, so let the ungodly perish before the
presence of **God**.
- 3 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before **God**; *
let them also be merry and **joyful**.
- 4 O sing unto God, and sing praises unto his Name; magnify him who
rides upon the **heavens**. *
The **LORD** is his Name; rejoice **be-fore him**.
- 5 He is a father of the fatherless and defends the cause of the **widows**, *
God in his holy **habi-tation**.
- 6 He is the God who gives the solitary a home, and brings the prisoners
out of **cap-tivity**, *
but lets the rebellious dwell in a desert **land**.
- 7 O God, when you went forth before the **people**, *
when you went through the **wilderness**,
- 8 The earth shook, and the heavens poured forth rain at the presence of
God, *
even as Sinai also was moved at the presence of God, who is the God
of **Israel**.
- 9 You, O God, sent a gracious rain upon your **in-heritance** *
and refreshed the land when it was **weary**.
- 10 Your congregation found a dwelling **there**, *
for you, O God, of your goodness have provided for the **poor**.
- 11 The Lord gave the **word**; *

great was the company of those who proclaimed the **tidings**.

- 12 Kings with their armies fled, they **fled**, *
and the women at home divided the **spoil**.
- 13 Though you have lain among the **sheepfolds**, *
yet shall you be like the wings of a dove that are covered
with silver, and whose feathers shine like **gold**.
- 14 When the Almighty scattered **kings**, *
it was as if it snowed in **Zalmon**.
- 15 As the hill of Bashan, so is God's **hill**, *
even a high hill, as the hill of **Bashan**.
- 16 Why look with envy, you high hills? This is God's hill,
on which it pleases him to **dwell**; *
surely, the LORD will abide on it for **ever**.
- 17 The chariots of God are twenty thousand,
even thousands of **angels**, *
and the Lord has come from Sinai into the holy **place**.
- 18 You have gone up on high; you have led captivity captive,
and received gifts from **men**, *
even from your enemies, that the LORD God might dwell
a-mong them.
- 19 Praised be the Lord **daily**, *
even the God who helps us and pours his
benefits **u-pon us**.
- 20 He is our God, the God from whom salvation **comes**; *
God is the LORD, by whom we escape **death**.
- Glory be to the Father, and to the **Son**, and to the Holy **Spirit**:
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever **shall be**, world with-
out end.
- A-men**.

“Alleluia”

Psalm 68:1



A Reading from 1 Peter 4:12-19

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? And "If the righteous is scarcely saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?" Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God*

The Holy Gospel according to St. John 17:1-11

All standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Holy Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to _____.

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed. "I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one.

People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*