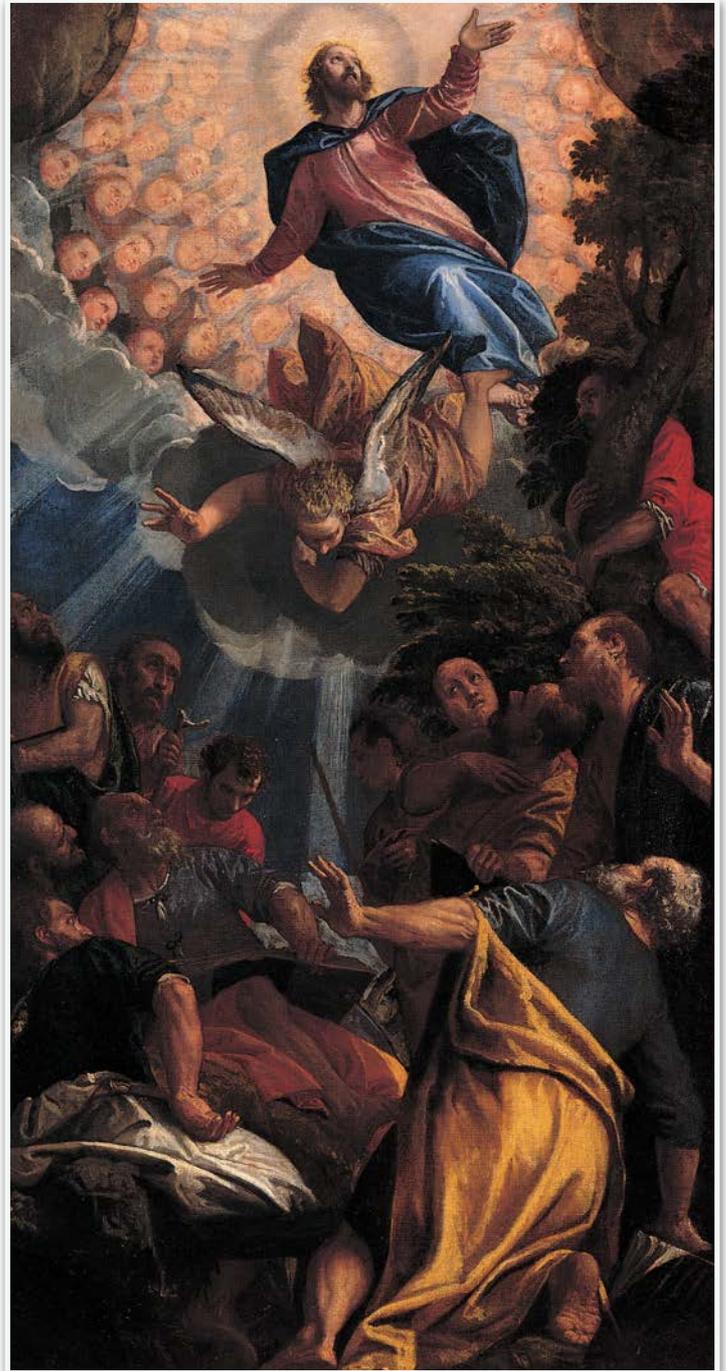




Great St Mary's

THE UNIVERSITY CHURCH CAMBRIDGE

Ascension Day



PAOLO VERONESE *THE ASCENSION* (C. 1585) Capitoline Museum, Rome

The Ascent of the Tower

13th May 2021: 7.45 am

THE GATHERING

All God has gone up with a shout,
the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

Psalm 47.5

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

THE GREETING

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you

All **and also with you.**

The officiant welcomes the congregation

PRAYER

Let us pray

○ Hidden God, you have decreed that we should walk by faith
and not by sight. The risen Christ is given on trust.
We may discern the echo of his resurrection in scripture and in
gathered company. As the bell resonates after it is sounded and
the waters ripple after they are disturbed, so the rumour of the
resurrection reaches the Millennia. By the gift of your Holy Spirit,
who shows himself anew to every generation, help us, in
The veil of tears and the well of rejoicing, to live in response to the
flame of paschal hope. Alleluia!

Amen

Ascension II: The Very Rev'd James Atwell

OPENING HYMN

- 1 Hail the day that sees him rise, Alleluia!
to his throne above the skies. Alleluia!
Christ, the Lamb for sinners given, Alleluia!
enters now the highest heaven. Alleluia!**

- 2 There for him high triumph waits; Alleluia!
lift your heads, eternal gates! Alleluia!
He hath conquered death and sin; Alleluia!**

take the King of Glory in. Alleluia!

**3 Lo, the heaven its Lord receives; Alleluia!
yet he loves the earth he leaves. Alleluia!
Though returning to his throne, Alleluia!
still he calls us all his own. Alleluia!**

THE ASCENSION

A READING FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 1.4 - 11

While staying with them, Jesus 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 towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They 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.'

ANTHEM

O REX GLORIAE

Luca Marenzio (1553 - 99)

O Rex gloriae, Domine virtutum,
qui triumphator hodie
super omnes coelos ascendisti;
ne derelinquas nos orphanos,
sed mitte promissum Patris in nos,
veritatis.
Alleluia.

*O King of glory, Lord of all power,
Who ascended to heaven on this day
triumphant over all;
Do not leave us as orphans,
But send us the Father's promise,
The spirit of truth.
Alleluia*

PRAYERS

Let us join our prayers with those of our Saviour Christ,
seeking the Father's blessing and the gifts of the Spirit.

Jesus Christ, great high priest,
living for ever to intercede for us,
pray for the Church, your broken body in the world ...
Lord, hear us.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, king of righteousness,
enthroned at the right hand of the majesty on high,
pray for the world, and make it subject to your gentle rule ...
Lord, hear us.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, Son of Man,
drawing humanity into the life of God,
pray for your brothers and sisters in need, distress or sorrow ...
Lord, hear us.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, pioneer of our salvation,
bringing us to glory through your death and resurrection,
surround with your saints and angels
those who have died trusting your promises ...
Lord, hear us.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, Lord over all things,
ascended far above the heavens and filling the universe,
pray for us who receive the gifts you give us for work in your service ...
Lord, hear us.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Entering into this Thy Kingdom Come Novena of Prayer with Christians from all churches across the country and around the world we pray that the Holy Spirit would come to inspire and equip us to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with our friends, families and local communities:

Jesus Christ,
keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit
and in the bond of peace,
and bring the whole created order to worship at your feet;
for you are alive and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR ASCENSION DAY

Let us pray that our risen and ascended Lord will lead us to eternal life.

Silence is kept.

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that as we believe your only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ
to have ascended into the heavens,
so we in heart and mind may also ascend
and with him continually dwell;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

- 4 See, he lifts his hands above; Alleluia!
see, he shews the prints of love; Alleluia!
hark, his gracious lips bestow Alleluia!
blessings on his Church below. Alleluia!**
- 5 Still for us he intercedes; Alleluia!
his prevailing death he pleads, Alleluia!
near himself prepares our place, Alleluia!
he the first-fruits of our race. Alleluia!**
- 6 Lord, though parted from our sight, Alleluia!
far above the starry height, Alleluia!
grant our hearts may thither rise, Alleluia!
seeking thee above the skies. Alleluia!**

CHARLES WESLEY (1707 - 88)
T. COTTERILL (1779 - 1823)

THE DISMISSAL

THE BLESSING

May the Spirit,
who set the Church on fire upon the day of Pentecost,
bring the world alive with the love of the risen Christ.
And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Waiting expectantly for the promised Holy Spirit,
go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

All **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

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