The Holy Eucharist

The Church of the Ascension

The Seventh Sunday of Easter



May 21, 2023 12.00 p.m.

www.ascension-munich.org

Seybothstraße. 4, 81545 München

The Church of the Ascension

The Episcopal Church in the Anglican Communion

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Roger Houghton Lena Petri Maria Ramadori-Volker

Members of the Vestry

Patrick Kana

Sexton

Lois Stuckenbruck Parish Administrator

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

The Reverend Dr. Alison J. Gray, Celebrant / Preacher

Angela Schneider • Tonda Kemmerling

Altar Guild

Elizabeth Wink • Peter Gray

Ushers

Gudrun Forstner

Organist

Paul T. Pilgram

Bell Ringer

George Battrick • David Case (in church)

Carol Adeney • Jo Westcombe (online)

Tech Team

Charlotte Rieger • George Battrick (back-up)

Key Duty

The Holy Eucharist

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

ORDER OF SERVICE

A warm welcome to all!

Please keep your microphones muted on Zoom

for the duration of this service.

The Ringing of the Bells

ORGAN PRELUDE

All are invited to stand





6 Let every kindred, every tribe, on this terrestrial ball, to him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The Celebrant and People together

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: 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 Savior. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

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.

People Amen

All are invited to be seated

The Lessons

The First Reading | Acts 1:6-14

Read in German by Reimar Volker

When the apostles had come together, they asked Jesus, "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."

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When 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. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36

Led by Maria Ramadori-Volker

1 Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered; * let those who hate him flee before him.

2 Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away; * as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.

3 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; * let them also be merry and joyful.

4 Sing to God, sing praises to his Name; exalt him who rides upon the heavens; * YAHWEH is his Name, rejoice before him!

5 Father of orphans, defender of widows, * God in his holy habitation!

6 God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners into freedom; * but the rebels shall live in dry places.

7 O God, when you went forth before your people, * when you marched through the wilderness,

8 The earth shook, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, * at the presence of God, the God of Israel.

9 You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance; * you refreshed the land when it was weary.

10 Your people found their home in it; * in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.

33 Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; * sing praises to the Lord.

34 He rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; * he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice.

35 Ascribe power to God; * his majesty is over Israel; his strength is in the skies.

36 How wonderful is God in his holy places! * the God of Israel giving strength and power to his people! Blessed be God!

The Second Reading | 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

Read by

Maria Ramadori-Volker

Beloved, 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. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If 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.

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And 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. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.



The Gospel | John 17:1-11

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you

gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

"I 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. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for 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. I 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. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And 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."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Reverend Dr. Alison J. Gray

Silence may be kept.

All are invited to stand

The 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 and for our salvation

he came down from heaven:

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 worshiped 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.

The Prayers of the People

Led by David Case

The Leader and People pray responsively

Intercessor

Let us join our prayers with those of our Savior 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.

People Lord, graciously hear us.

Intercessor

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.

Let justice roll down like waterfalls and peace like a roaring river. May our common life reflect the goodness of your kingdom.

Lord, hear us.

People Lord, graciously hear us.

Intercessor

Jesus Christ, Son of Man, drawing humanity into the life of God, pray for your brothers and sisters in need, distress or sorrow. We especially pray for the people of Ukraine, Sudan and for all victims of senseless violence. Lord, hear us.

People Lord, graciously hear us.

Intercessor

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. Help us to follow their good examples. Lord, hear us.

People Lord, graciously hear us.

Intercessor

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. We pray for all deacons, priests and bishops. We pray especially for Mark, our bishop, and for Michael, the presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church. For Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, and for our priests Ali and Dan. May their life and witness bring glory to you.

Lord, hear us.

People Lord, graciously hear us.

Celebrant

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; Give us strength to love as you love, to give as you have given, and to bless as you have blessed. For you are alive and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The People may greet one another in the name of the Lord. Please greet only those in your vicinity by reverently bowing and without moving into the aisles.

Welcome and Announcements

The Reverend Dr. Alison J. Gray

The Offertory

Offertory Sentence:

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

—Ephesians 5:2

Thanks be to God.

Offertory Music



Please offer your gifts to God by making a bank transfer (EUR or USD), scanning this QR code in your PayPal app, or by placing your offering in the plate.



The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A, BCP p. 361

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The celebrant continues

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has

destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



The celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 he 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Celebrant

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. AMEN.

The celebrant continues

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Celebrant and People

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,

and the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Alleluia, alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia, alleluia.

The Invitation to Communion

Celebrant

This is the banquet of Christ. In His kingdom there are no outcasts. Wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, you are welcome at God's table.

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion with Those Worshiping Online

Celebrant and People

Lord Jesus, as you promised to be with us in the bread and wine that is your body and blood, grant that we may receive you spiritually today into our hearts, minds and souls. Stay with us; be our companion in the way; kindle

our hearts and awaken hope that we may know you and have confidence in your loving care, now and forever. Amen.

Notes for Those Making a Physical Communion

- For those with gluten allergies, gluten-free communion wafers are available. Simply ask the priest as communion is offered to you.
- Following convocation guidelines, intinction will not be allowed at this time. Please know
 that the church has always taught that communion in one kind is a full and valid
 communion. If you do not wish to drink from the chalice, you may simply return to your
 seat, stop and bow to the chalice or simply touch the chalice as a sign of reverence.

Communion Music





The Postcommunion Prayer

BCP p. 365

All are invited to stand, as able.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

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The Sending and Blessing

Celebrant

God the Father, by whose love Christ was raised from the dead, open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life.

People Amen.

Celebrant

God the Son, who in bursting from the grave has won a glorious victory, give you joy as you share the Easter faith.

People Amen.

Celebrant

God the Holy Spirit, who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord, empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.

People Amen.

Celebrant

And the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you now and remain always.

People Amen.

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Organ Postlude



Please join us for coffee and refreshments in the Parish Hall following the worship service.

