

Apostle & Martyr



No. 38 Scenes from the Life of Christ: 22. Ascension, Giotto di Bondone (1267-1337)

16th May 2021

# Solemnity of the Ascension

## Missa cantata

**Organ Prelude** Chant de Mai, Op. 53, No. 1

*Joseph Jongen* (1873-1953)

## THE PROESSION

Versicle Let us go forth in peace, alleluia.

Response In the name of the Lord, alleluia.

## **Processional Hymn 174**

Llanfair

- 1. HAIL the day that sees him rise Alleluia!
  To his throne above the skies; Alleluia!
  CHRIST, the Lamb for sinners given, 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 mankind his own. Alleluia!
- 4. See! he lifts his hands above, Alleluia!
  See! he shows the prints of love; Alleluia!
  Hark! his gracious lips bestow Alleluia!
  Blessings on his Church below. Alleluia!
- 5. Still for us he intercedes,
  His prevailing death he pleads,
  Near himself prepares our place,
  He the first-fruits of our race.

  Alleluia!
  Alleluia!

#### Station at the Rood

Versicle Christ has gone up on high, Alleluia.

Response And has led captivity captive, Alleluia.

## Celebrant

O Almighty God, whose blessed Son our Savior Jesus Christ ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things: Mercifully give us faith to perceive that, according to his promise, be abideth with his Church on earth, even unto the end of the ages; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen**.

6. Lord, though parted from our sight Far above the starry height, Alleluia!
Grant our hearts may thither rise, Seeking thee above the skies. Alleluia!

#### Introit

Cantor

Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? Alleluia: in like manner as ye have seen him going up into heaven, so shall he come again, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. *Ps.* And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven, as he went up: behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, which said unto them. Glory be... Ye men of Galilee...

## **Salutation and Collect for Purity**

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Celebrant May his grace and peace be with you.

People May he fill our hearts with joy.

ALMIGHTY God, unto whom all hearts be open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

**Kyrie** Missa de Angelis Plainsong

Cantor Kyrie eleison Lord, have mercy upon us

Christe eleison Christ, have mercy upon us Kyrie eleison Lord, have mercy upon us

Gloria Missa de Angelis

Celebrant GLORY be to God on high,

Cantor and in earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King,

God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesu Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, **X** art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you **And with thy spirit.** 

Celebrant Let us pray.

GRANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that like as we do believe thy only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens; so we may also in heart and mind thither ascend, and with him continually dwell; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.** 

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

#### Acts 1:1-11

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you 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, 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."

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

**Psalm 47** *Omnes gentes, plaudite.* 

Cantor O CLAP your hands together, all ye peoples / O sing unto God with the voice of melody.

For the LORD Most High is to be feared / he is a great King over all the earth.

He subdued the peoples under us / and the nations under our feet.

He chose our heritage for us / even the glorious land of Jacob, whom he loved. GOD is gone up with a merry noise / the LORD with the sound of the trumpet.

O sing praises, sing praises unto our God / O sing praises, sing praises unto our King.

For God is the King of all the earth / sing ye praises with understanding.

God reigneth over the nations / God sitteth upon his holy throne.

The princes of the peoples are gathered together / with the people of the God of Abraham;

For the rulers of the earth belong unto God / he is very highly exalted.

## **Ephesians 1:15-23**

For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power towards us who believe, according to the working of his great might that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

Alleluia

*Cantor* Alleluia, alleluia. 

✓. God is gone up with a merry noise: and the Lord with the sound of the trumpet,

Alleluia. Christ to highest heaven ascending led captivity captive: and gave gifts unto men.

Alleluia.

**The Gospel** St Luke, 24: 44-53

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Celebrant 

⚠ The Holy Gospel is written in the twenty-fourth chapter of the Gospel according to St Luke,

beginning at the forty-fourth verse.

People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Then he said to them, "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 and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, "Thus it is

written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are 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 blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple blessing God.

Celebrant People The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise be to thee, O Christ.** 

Sermon Fr Stewart Murray

Nicene Creed Missa de Angelis

Celebrant I BELIEVE in one God

Cantor the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And of all things visible and invisible:

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, Begotten of the Father before all worlds; God, of God; Light, of Light; Very God, of very God; Begotten, not made; Being of one substance with the Father; Through whom all things were made: Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, And was made man, And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead: Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord, The Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the Resurrection of the dead,

And the Life of the world to come. Amen.

#### THE INTERCESSION

A server leads the prayers for the Church, ending each petition with:

Reader Lord, in thy mercy, People Hear our prayer.

## The Invitation to Confession and Absolution

Celebrant

YE that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead the new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: Draw near with faith, and take this holy Sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to Almighty God, meekly kneeling upon your knees.

All

ALMIGHTY God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men: We acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness, Which we from time to time most grievously have committed, By thought, word, and deed, Against thy Divine Majesty. We do earnestly repent, And are heartily sorry for these our misdoings. Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, Forgive us all that is

past; And grant that we may ever hereafter Serve and please thee In newness of life, To the honour and glory of thy Name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant

ALMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him: Have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

#### THE OFFERTORY

## Offertory

Cantor God is gone up with a merry noise: and the Lord with the sound of the trumpet, alleluia.

Offertory Hymn 392 Darwall

REJOICE, the LORD is King,
 Your LORD and King adore;
 Rejoice, give thanks and sing,
 And triumph evermore:
 Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
 Rejoice, again I say, rejoice.

- JESUS, the Saviour, reigns,
   The GOD of truth and love:
   When he had purged our stains,
   He took his seat above:
   Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
   Rejoice, again I say, rejoice.
- 3. His kingdom cannot fail;
  He rules o'er earth and heaven;
  The keys of death and hell
  Are to our JESUS given:
  Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
  Rejoice, again I say, rejoice.
- 4. He sits at GOD's right hand
  Till all his foes submit,
  And bow to his command,
  And fall beneath his feet:
  Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
  Rejoice, again I say, rejoice.

## **Secret** (Prayer over the Gifts)

Celebrant

ACCEPT, O Lord, we pray thee, the oblations which, in remembrance of the glorious Ascension of thy Son, we do offer unto thee: and mercifully grant that we, being delivered from all perils in this life present, may attain in the end unto life everlasting; through Jesus Christ, thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.** 

#### Mass Intentions of the Day

Celebrant Pray, brethren, that my sacrifice and yours be acceptable unto God the Father almighty.

People May the Lord receive the sacrifice at thy hands, to the praise and glory of His Name,

to our benefit and to that of all His Holy Church.

#### THE CANON OF THE MASS

Celebrant People THE Lord be with you;And with thy spirit.Celebrant Lift up your hearts;

People We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God;

People It is meet and right so to do.

Celebrant

IT is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God, Creator and Preserver of all things.

BUT chiefly are we bound to praise thee for the glorious Resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord: for he is the very Paschal Lamb, which was offered for us, and hath taken away the sin of the world; who by his death hath destroyed death, and by his rising to life again bath restored to us everlasting life.

THEREFORE with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee and saying:

Sanctus and Benedictus Missa de Angelis

Cantor

HOLY, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts, Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

BLESSED ★ is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord: Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant

BLESSING and glory and thanksgiving be unto thee Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memorial of that his precious death, until his coming again.

Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee; and grant that we receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine, according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took Bread; and, when he had given thanks, he brake it; and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat; this is my Body which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me. Æ Likewise after supper he took the Cup; and, when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all, of this; for this is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins: Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me. Æ

Wherefore, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, we thy humble servants, with all thy holy Church, remembering the precious death of thy beloved Son, his mighty resurrection, and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again in glory, do make before thee, in this sacrament of the holy Bread of eternal life and the Cup of everlasting salvation, the memorial which he hath commanded; And we entirely desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, most humbly beseeching thee to grant, that by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and all thy whole Church may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion; And we pray that by the power of thy Holy Spirit, all we who are partakers of this holy Communion may be fulfilled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; through Jesus Christ our Lord,

by whom and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

People

#### THE COMMUNION

Amen.

#### The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray. As our Saviour Christ hath commanded and taught us, we are bold to say,

All

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 them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

## The Fraction and Pax

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And with thy spirit.

## The Prayer of Humble Access

All

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, Trusting in our own righteousness, But in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy So much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord, Whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, So to eat the Flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, And to drink his Blood, That our sinful bodies may be made clean by his Body, And our souls washed through his most precious Blood, And that we may evermore dwell in him, And he in us. Amen.

Agnus Dei Missa de Angelis

Cantor O LAMB of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us thy peace.

#### **Invitation to Communion**

Celebrant

Behold the Lamb of God ...

All

Lord, I am not worthy that Thou shouldest come under my roof,

but speak the word only and my soul shall be healed.

#### Communion

Cantor

Sing ye to the Lord, who ascended the heaven of heavens: to the sun-rising, alleluia.

## **Act of Spiritual Communion**

In Union, dear Lord, with the faithful at every altar of thy Church where thy blessed Body and Blood are being offered to the Father, I desire to offer thee praise and thanksgiving. I believe that thou art truly present in the Holy Sacrament. And since I cannot now receive thee sacramentally, I beseech thee to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself unto thee, and embrace thee with all the affections of my soul. Let me never be separated from thee. Let me live and die in thy love. Amen.

#### **Music at Communion**

Hymn 493 St. Botolph

1. JESU, the very thought of thee
With sweetness fills the breast;
But sweeter far thy face to see,
And in thy presence rest.

 No voice can sing, no heart can frame, Nor can the memory find A sweeter sound than JESUS' Name, The SAVIOUR of mankind. 3. O hope of every contrite heart, O joy of all the meek, To those who ask how kind thou art, How good to those who seek!

4. JESU, our only joy be thou, As thou our prize wilt be; In thee be all our glory now. And through eternity.

#### THANKSGIVING AND DISMISSAL

## Prayer after Communion

Celebrant The Lord be with you; People And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY and everliving God,

we most heartily thank thee that thou dost graciously feed us, in these holy mysteries, with Allthe spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; assuring us thereby of thy favour and goodness towards us; and that we are living members of his mystical body, which is the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs through hope of thy everlasting kingdom.

> And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee. And although we are unworthy, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

## The Blessing

Celebrant THE peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge

> and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: And the blessing of God Almighty, # the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. Amen.

#### The Dismissal

Celebrant The Lord be with you. People And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Let us depart in peace. Alleluia. Thanks be to God. Alleluia. People

## Post-Communion Hymn 367

CROWN him with many crowns,

The Lamb upon his throne;

Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns

All music but its own: Awake, my soul, and sing Of him who died for thee,

And hail him as thy matchless King

Through all eternity.

Diatemata

2. Crown him the Lord of love: Behold his hands and side,

Those wounds yet visible above In beauty glorified:

No angel in the sky Can fully bear that sight,

But downward bends his burning eye

At mysteries so bright.

3. Crown him the Lord of peace,
Whose power a sceptre sways
From pole to pole, that wars may cease,
And all be prayer and praise:
His reign shall know no end,
And round his piercèd feet
Fair flowers of Paradise extend
Their fragrance ever sweet.

4. Crown him the Lord of years,
The Potentate of time,
Creator of the rolling spheres,
Ineffably sublime:
All hail! Redeemer, hail!
For thou hast died for me;
Thy praise shall never, never fail,
Throughout eternity.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REGINA COELI

All Joy to thee, O Queen of heaven, alleluia!

He, whom thou wast meet to bear, alleluia! As He promised, hath arisen, alleluia! Pour for us to Him thy prayer, alleluia!

Celebrant Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia!

For the Lord hath risen indeed, alleluia!

Celebrant O God, who by the resurrection of thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, hath vouchsafed to give joy to

the whole world: Grant, we beseech thee, that with the help of his mother, the Virgin Mary, we

may obtain the joys of everlasting life; through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant People The Lord be with you;
And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Let us bless the Lord;
People Thanks be to God.

Celebrant May the Divine assistance remain with us always and may the souls \(\mathbf{H}\) of the faithful departed,

through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

**Organ Postlude** Prelude on 'Aeterna Christi munera'

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

## St. Barnabas, Apostle and Martyr

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