

Sunday 24th May 2020
The Seventh Sunday of Easter
(The Sunday after the Ascension)



This Russian icon dates from the 16th C. It depicts Christ seated on his throne in the glory of heaven, as Lord of the Universe. The throne is set in a blue mandorla representing the union of heaven and earth, and faintly visible are figures of the Cherubim. In the four corners of the red field (symbolising the glory of God) are very faint symbols of the four Evangelists – an angel (Matthew), a lion (Mark), an ox (Luke) and an eagle (John). Christ's right hand is raised in a gesture of blessing, while in his left he holds towards us the open book of the Gospels. The important thing for us to realise on this Sunday after Ascension, is that this icon would have been set in the centre of the iconostasis – the large screen separating the sanctuary from the nave of an Orthodox church. It is part of the tier of the Diesis (supplication or entreaty) – a group of icons, meant to remind us that the ascended and glorified Christ ever lives to make intercession for us with the Father and that the saints (whose icons would be either side of the central panels) also assist us with their prayers of intercession.

THE ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face; hide not your face from me. Alleluia.

WE GATHER:

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

All: **Amen.**

The Lord be with you

All: **And also with you**

WE CONFESS OUR SINS and say sorry to God

**Most merciful God, Father or our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you our God.
Amen.**

May almighty God have mercy on us,
pardon and deliver us from all our sins,
confirm and strengthen us in all goodness,
and keep us in life eternal through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

All: **Amen.**

THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS - a song of joy

Glory, glory, glory to God. Glory, glory, glory to God.

**Glory to God in the heights of the heavens
Peace to God's people, all people on earth.**

**Son of the Father, all glory and worship;
praise and thanksgiving to you Lamb of God.**

**You take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us receive our prayer.**

**Seated in power at the right of the Father,
Jesus alone is the Lord the most high.**

**And with the Spirit of love everlasting,
reigning in glory for ever. Amen**

THE COLLECT – the special prayer for today.

Let us pray.

Graciously hear our supplications, O Lord,
so that we, who believe that the Saviour of the human race
is with you in your glory,
may experience, as he promised,
until the end of the world,
his abiding presence among us.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Please sit

THE FIRST READING

Acts 1: 12-14

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

After Jesus was taken up into heaven, the apostles went back from the Mount of Olives, as it is called, to Jerusalem, a short distance away, no more than a Sabbath walk; and when they reached the city they went to the upper room where they were staying; there were Peter and John, James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas. Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Jude son of James. All these joined in continuous prayer, together with several women, including Mary the Mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

THE RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 103

**Response: *I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness
in the land of the living.***

The Lord is my light and my help;
whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
before whom shall I shrink?

R.

There is one thing I ask of the Lord, for this I long,
to live in the house of the Lord, all the days of my life,
to savour the sweetness of the Lord,
to behold his temple. R.

O Lord, hear my voice when I call;
have mercy and answer.
Of you my heart has spoken;
'Seek his face'. R.

SECOND READING 1 Peter 4: 13-16

A reading from the First Letter of St Peter.

If you can have some share in the sufferings of Christ, be glad, because you will enjoy a much greater gladness when his glory is revealed. It is a blessing for you when they insult you for bearing the name of Christ, because it means that you have the Spirit of glory, the Spirit of God resting on you. None of you should ever deserve to suffer for being a murderer, a thief, a criminal or an informer; but if anyone of you should suffer for being a Christian, then he is not to be ashamed of it; he should thank God that he has been called one.

The word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord;
I will come back to you, and your hearts will be full of joy.

Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL READING

John 17: 1-11

The Lord be with you

All: **And also with you**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

All: **✚Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

'Father, the hour has come: glorify your Son

So that your Son may glorify you; and through the power over all mankind that you have given him, let him give eternal life to all those you have entrusted to him.

And eternal life is this: to know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I have glorified you on earth and finished the work you gave me to do. Now, Father, it is time for you to glorify me with that glory I had with you before ever the world was.

I have made your name known to the men you took from the world to give me. They were yours and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now at last they know that all you have given me comes indeed from you; for I have given them the teaching you gave to me, and they have truly accepted this, that I came from you, and have believed that it was you who sent me.

I pray for them; I am not praying for the world but for those you have given me, because they belong to you: all I have is yours and all you have is mine, and in them I am glorified. I am not in the world any longer, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you.

The Gospel of the Lord

All: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

THE CREED **We profess our faith**

Please stand

All: 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,

ALL *was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary*
BOW *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.

That national leaders may be responsible in managing the easing of lockdown and show care for the common good.

For deliverance from the scourge of this virus,

For healthcare professionals making personal sacrifices and taking risks to care for sick and dying.

For key workers who keep essential supply lines open and functioning effectively.

3. Local communities and families:

That as the people of God at St Edward's we, like the apostles, may remain constant in prayer and united with one another in our worship.

For our local schools, teaching staff and pupils.

For families suffering emotional stress and financial hardship because of the pandemic.

For local NHS surgeries and those who staff them.

For local nursing homes, and their residents and staff.

Those in community caring professions and volunteers taking risks to help the most vulnerable.

4. The sick and dying and those who mourn

That the sick and dying may be comforted and encouraged by the presence of the risen Lord.

For victims of domestic violence.

Victims of the Covid-19 virus.

Others we know to be ill, and those on our parish intercession list.

Those who mourn loved ones, that they may be comforted by the hope of this Easter season.

5. The departed.

That all who have died, especially victims of the Covid-19 virus, may find a place in the heavenly kingdom of God.

For the repose of the soul of Beaumont Brandie, priest, who died this week, and the souls of those whose year's minds occur this week:

Kathleen Marsh and Hazel Symington (Sunday);

Mary Sands and Fred King (Thursday)

George Beard, Constance Waller and Edith Burton (Wednesday)

Peter Russell, William Stanley and Robert Potts (Friday)

Mike Bloomfield (Saturday)

✝ Rest eternal, grant unto them, O Lord.

All: **and let light perpetual shine upon them.
May they rest in peace and rise in glory.**

The priest concludes the prayers:

O God, whose Son has ascended to the heavens grant, we pray, that, in accordance with his promise, we may be worthy for him to live with us always on earth, and we with him in heaven.

Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All: **Amen.**

Please stand

THE PEACE

Jesus says: 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. If you love me, rejoice because I am going to the Father.'

Alleluia. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: **and also with you. Alleluia.**

THE OFFERTORY

Fr Clay takes bread and wine and prepares the altar.

As he does so, you may care to reflect on the words of this hymn as we prepare to welcome Jesus, the true and living bread.

THE OFFERTORY SONG

**Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour,
first-begotten from the dead,
You alone, our strong defender,
lifting up Your people's head.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Jesus, true and living bread!**

**Prince of life, for us now living,
by Your body souls are healed;
Prince of peace, Your peace you give us,
by Your blood is pardon sealed.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Word of God in flesh revealed.**

**Paschal Lamb, Your offering finished
once for all when You were slain,
in its fullness undiminished
shall for evermore remain,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Cleansing souls from every stain.**

**Great High Priest of our profession,
through the veil You entered in,
by Your mighty intercession
grace and mercy there to win,
Alleluia! Alleluia,
only sacrifice for sin.**

**Life-imparting heavenly manna,
stricken rock with streaming side,
heaven and earth with loud hosanna
worship You, the Lamb who died,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Risen, ascended, glorified!**

George Hugh Bourne (1840 - 1925)

THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours
may be acceptable to God the almighty Father.

**All: 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.**

Accept, O Lord, the prayers of your faithful
with the sacrificial offerings,
that through these acts of devotedness
we may pass over to the glory of heaven.
Through Christ, our Lord.

All: Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER - the great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you

All: And also with you

Lift up your hearts

All: We lift them to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

All: It is right to give thanks and praise

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For the Lord Jesus, the King of glory,
conqueror of sin and death,
ascended (today) to the highest heavens,
as the Angels gazed in wonder.

Mediator between God and man,
judge of the world and Lord of hosts,
he ascended, not to distance himself from our lowly state
but that we, his members, might be confident of following
where he, our Head and Founder, has gone before.

Therefore, overcome with paschal joy,
every land, every people exults in your praise
and even the heavenly Powers, with the angelic hosts,
sing together the unending hymn of your glory, as they acclaim:

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.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may become for us
the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke 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.**

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:

**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.
DO THIS, AS OFTEN AS YOU DRINK IT,
IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME.**

The mystery of faith

All: **Dying you destroyed our death,
Rising, you restored our life.
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this bread and this cup
our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on Martin our Bishop and on all your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that, in the company of Mary, the Virgin Mother God,
Blessed Joseph her spouse,
the apostles, the martyrs,
Saint Edward, St Richard, St Wilfrid and all the saints,
we may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

Through him, and with him, and in him.
O God, almighty Father,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit.
all glory and honour are yours,
for ever and ever.

All: **AMEN.**

THE COMMUNION RITE

As our Saviour Christ has 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 those who 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.**

As Fr Clay breaks the Host, we say:

**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 your peace.**

HOLY COMMUNION

✙ Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

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

Fr. Clay receives Holy Communion and says the

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

Father, I pray that they may be one as we also are one, alleluia.

*Then, we make the following **Act of Spiritual Communion**, saying the words with care and reverence, just as if we were trying to recite them together in church.*

Act of Reception

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

Come, Lord Jesus, dwell in my heart in the fullness of your strength, in the perfection of your ways, and in the holiness of your Spirit, and rule over every hostile power in the might of your Spirit and to the glory of your Father. Amen.

May the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ preserve my body and soul unto everlasting life. Amen.

Act of Praise and Thanksgiving

✙ Blessed, praised, and adored be Jesus Christ on his throne of glory in Heaven, and in the most Holy Sacrament of the altar. Amen.

As Fr. Clay cleanses the vessels, you may like to reflect on the words of this hymn of devotion to Christ who has promised to be with us always, to the end of the age.

Soul of my Saviour sanctify my breast.
Body of Christ, be thou my saving guest,
Blood of my Saviour, bathe me in thy tide.
Wash me with water flowing from thy side.

Strength and protection may thy passion be,
O blessed Jesus, hear and answer me;
Deep in thy wounds, Lord, hide and shelter me,
So shall I never, never part from thee.

Guard and defend me from the foe malign,
In death's dread moment make me only thine;
Call me and bid me come to thee on high
Where I may praise thee with thy saints for ay.

Anima Christi 14th C. Tune: Maher

Please stand

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Hear us, O God, our Saviour, and grant us confidence,
that through these sacred mysteries
there will be accomplished in the body of the whole Church
what has already come to pass in Christ her Head.

Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

All: **Amen.**

THE BLESSING and sending out

The Lord be with you

All: **And also with you**

May you, who believe that Christ is seated
with the Father in his majesty,
know with joy the fulfilment of his promise
to stay with you until the end of time.
and the blessing of almighty God,
the Father ✙ the Son, and the Holy Spirit
come down on you and remain with you for ever.

All: **Amen.**

Go in peace – Proclaim the Good News. Alleluia, alleluia!

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

The Regina Caeli

In your mind's eye, turn to face the image of Our Lady as we recall
her joy upon meeting her Son after his resurrection, by singing (or
saying) the Regina Caeli: (The tune is as for Christ the Lord is risen
today! Alleluia!)

Joy to thee O Queen of heaven! Alleluia!
He whom thou wast meet to bear! Alleluia!
As he promised hath aris'n! Alleluia!
Pour for us to God thy prayer! Alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary! Alleluia!
For the Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Let us pray.

O God, who by the resurrection of thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
hast vouchsafed to give joy to the whole world,
mercifully grant, that, at the intercession of his mother the Virgin
Mary,
we too may obtain the joys of everlasting life.
Through the same, Christ our Lord.
Amen.

FINAL SONG OF PRAISE (Optional)

Jesus is the name we honour,
Jesus is the name we praise.
Majestic Name above all other names,
the highest heaven and earth proclaim
that Jesus is our God.

*We will glorify,
we will lift Him high,
we will give Him honour and praise. (repeat)*

Jesus is the name we worship;
Jesus is the name we trust.
He is the King above all other kings,
let all creation stand and sing that Jesus is our God.

Jesus is the Father's splendour;
Jesus is the Father's joy.
He will return to reign in majesty,
and every eye at last shall see that Jesus is our God.

Phil Lawson Johnson © 1991 Kingsway's Thankyou Music

NEXT SUNDAY

31st MAY 2020

THE FEAST OF PENTECOST

(The Day to wear something RED)

After the service, at about 11.15 a.m., Samantha is intending to lead another praise session for Pentecost. If you would like to join in we will

be sending out a link and a password to get together via Zoom.

All are welcome.





The Global phenomena of Thy Kingdom Come started on May 21st and finishes on May 31st (Pentecost Sunday). It is a wonderful time to commit to pray for God's Will to be Done in our land and in around the world.

Please join others in prayer.

This year ALL the churches in Burgess Hill are being asked to come together as ONE CHURCH and sign up and commit to prayer throughout the Thy Kingdom Come period. We have been encouraged to do this by our bishop and our Rural Dean.

Please follow the link below and sign up for one hour (or more) of Prayer.

There can be more than one person praying at a particular hour. If you want to do more than one hour, just fill in your name for the time slots you want. (If you're not 'tech' just pray sometime during this period.)

<https://www.24-7prayer.com/signup/e9d10c>

It would be fabulous if we as the Churches of Burgess Hill could fill every hour for this whole period.

We may still be in lockdown, but Prayer is something we can do anywhere, anytime. If you would like some ideas of how to pray during the hour, then visit the website below:

<https://www.24-7prayer.com/creativeprayerideas>