

*A Digital Project of the Regional Ministries of Brome-Missisquoi*



A Service of Morning Prayer for  
**Ascension Sunday (16 May 2021)**

# A Prayer for Community

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us; let us pray with one heart and mind.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your presence, O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you; now and for ever.

May the story of the Ascended Christ, told to us in Scripture, music, and prayer, inspire us in faith, and embolden us in acts of love for your world.

**Amen**



# Territorial Acknowledgment

For thousands of years, First Nations people have walked on the lands that we now call Canada; their relationship with the land was, and remains today, at the centre of their lives and spirituality.

In this holy time and place, we acknowledge with respect that we gather on the traditional, ancestral territories of the Abanaki and Mohawk first peoples. We pray for a spirit of truth and genuine reconciliation with our indigenous brothers and sisters.

**May the living Christ lead us  
all on pathways of  
reconciliation and peace.**



# Hymn 247: Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise

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. Highest heaven its Lord receives,  
alleluia!  
yet he loves the earth he leaves; alleluia!  
though returning to his throne, alleluia!  
still he calls the world 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; 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!

# Opening Responses

Lord, open our lips,  
**And our mouth shall proclaim  
your praise.**

O God, make speed to save us.  
**O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
**as it was in the beginning, is  
now, and will be for ever.  
Amen.**

Alleluia! Alleluia! God has gone up with  
shouts of triumph.  
**O come, let us worship. Alleluia!**



# Gloria!



GLORY TO GOD

ANTIPHON:

Glo - ry to God \_\_\_\_\_ in the high .

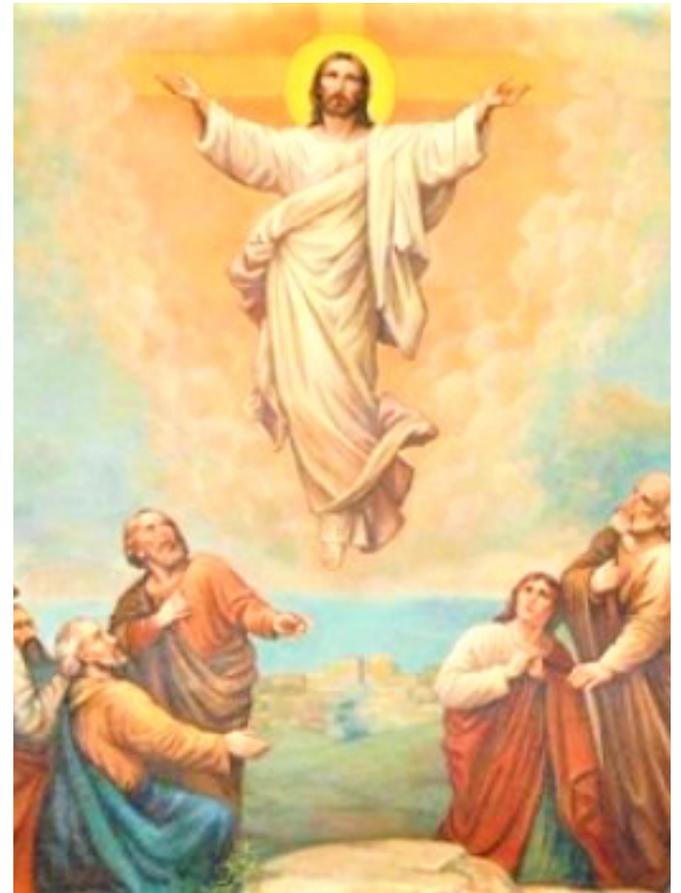
est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth. \_

1. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. *Refrain.*
2. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. *Refrain.*
3. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the Glory of God the Father. *Amen. Refrain!*

# Acts 1:1-11

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he 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 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."



# Psalm 47

Refrain 2

Robert Williams 1817

Praise to God who reigns a - bove! Hal - le - lu - jah!

Clap your hands, all you peoples, cry out for joy!

**For the Most High is to be feared, reigning in might, over all the earth. *Refrain.***

God has subdued the peoples around us, set nations at our feet

**And has chosen for us a heritage, the pride of Jacob, beloved of God.**

God has gone up with shouts of triumph,

**He has gone up with a fanfare of trumpets.**

For God reigns over all the earth!

**Sing praises with your utmost skill. *Refrain.***

God reigns over all the nations, and sits enthroned in holiness.

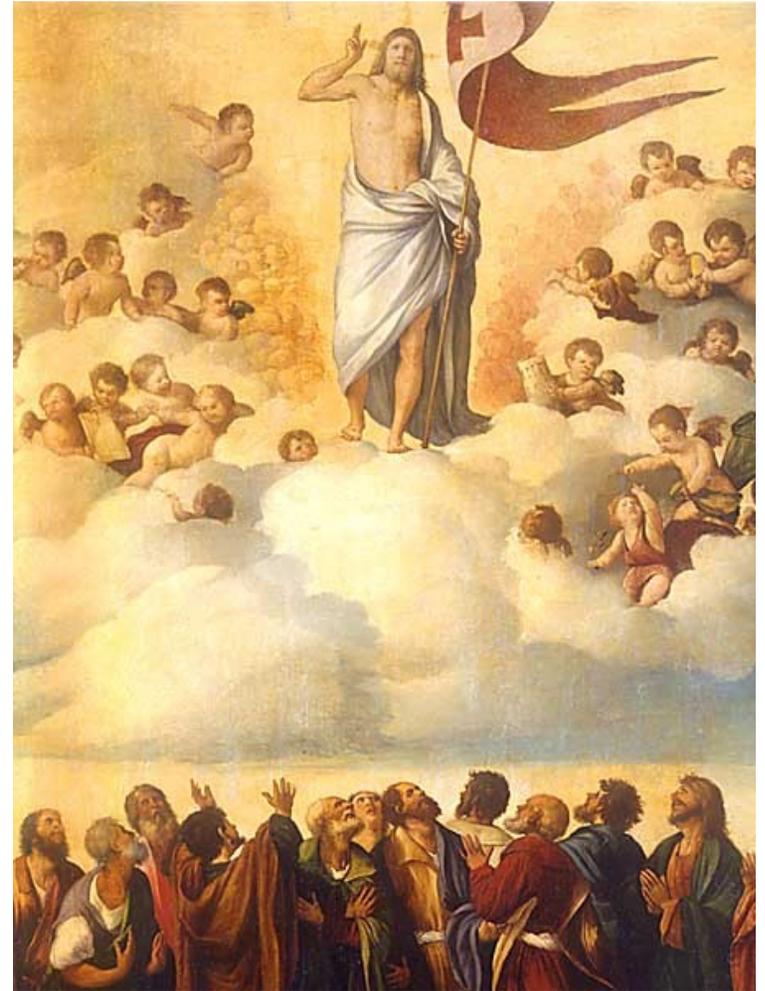
**The nobles of the nations assemble, with the peoples of the Everlasting God.**

For earth's defenders belong to God,

**To God the highly exalted. *Refrain.***

# Ephesians 1:15-23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work 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 age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.



# Hymn 379: Rejoice, the Lord is King



1. 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!

2. 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!

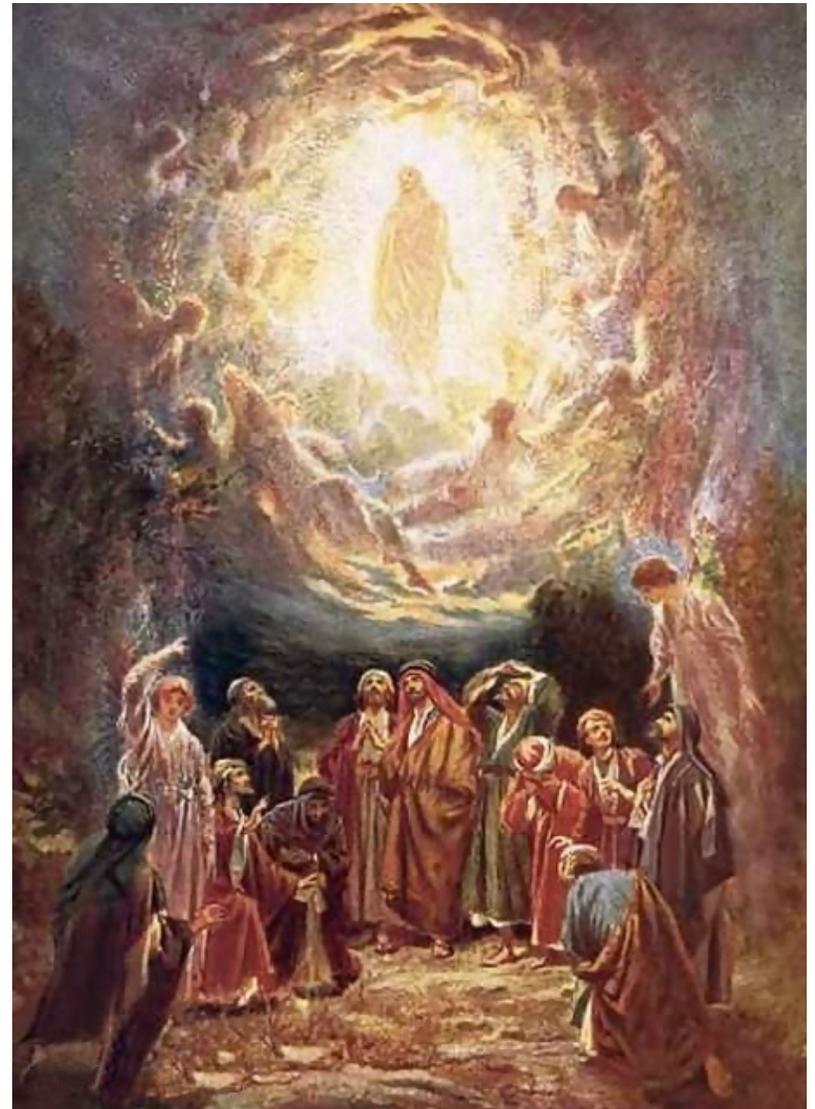
3. His kingdom cannot fail;  
he rules o'er earth and heaven;  
the keys of death and hell  
are to our Jesus given.  
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice:  
rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

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!

5. Rejoice in glorious hope;  
Jesus, the Judge, shall come  
and take his servants up  
to their eternal home.  
We soon shall hear the archangel's voice;  
the trump of God shall sound, rejoice!

# Luke 24:44-53

Jesus said to his disciples, "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, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been 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 was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.



**Ascension Sunday &  
Jerusalem Sunday**

**Sermon by the  
Rev. Tim Smart**

**Rockets from Gaza Strip  
fired into Israel**



# Confession of Faith

1. **We believe** in God the Father,  
God Almighty by whose plan,  
earth and heaven sprang to being,  
all created things began.

We believe in Christ the Saviour,  
Son of God in human frame,  
virgin-born, the child of Mary,  
upon whom the Spirit came.

2. Christ, who on the cross forsaken,  
like a lamb to slaughter led,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
he descended to the dead.

We believe in Jesus risen,  
heaven's king to rule and reign,  
to the Father's side ascended  
'Till as judge he comes again.

3. We believe in God the Spirit;  
in one Church, below, above:  
Saints of God in one  
communion, one in holiness and love.  
So by faith, our sins forgiven,  
Christ our Saviour, Lord, and friend,  
we shall rise with him in glory  
to the life that knows no end.



# The Prayers of the People

Led by Carol Johnson  
(Huntington)



# The Collect of the Day

O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ ascended to be at your side. Bring us together in Christ, so that all may be drawn into your bountiful dwelling, where with Christ and the Spirit, you live united in love and joy.

**Amen. Alleluia!**



# A Prayer for Peace in the Holy Land

God of our longing,  
Remember those who wait and hope for peace.  
Hear our prayer and our lament  
for our brothers and sisters in Israel and Palestine.  
With them, we share a common story,  
set in a common homeland.

Make common also a will to forgive,  
to reconcile,  
to make a just peace for the sake of the ancestors,  
for the sake of the children.  
Open ears, eyes and hearts  
And make a way toward justice  
In our war-torn world.

God all merciful, you dwell in all human hearts  
And the Holy Land is wherever you make your home.  
Heal these broken places where prophets preached  
Where Moses and Jesus and Muhammad kept faith with you.  
Be a sure support for those who work toward reconciliation  
And make us all, however far away,  
Steadfast in their cause.

Amen





# The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

**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. Alleluia!**

**Notre Père, qui es aux cieux, que ton nom soit sanctifié, que ton règne vienne, que ta volonté soit faite sur la terre comme au ciel. Donne-nous aujourd'hui notre pain de ce jour. Pardonne-nous nos offenses, comme nous pardonnons aussi à ceux qui nous ont offensés. Et ne nous laisse pas entrer en tentation mais délivre-nous du mal. Car c'est à Toi qu'appartiennent le règne, la puissance et la gloire, pour les siècles des siècles. Amen. Alleluia!**

# Hymn 383: Jesus Shall Reign Where E'er the Sun

1. Jesus shall reign where e'er the sun  
doth its successive journeys run;  
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,  
till moons shall wax and wane no more.

2. People and realms of every tongue  
dwell on his love with sweetest song;  
and infant voices shall proclaim  
their early blessings on his name.

3. Blessings abound where e'er he reigns:  
the prisoners leap to lose their chains,  
the weary find eternal rest,  
and all who suffer want are blest.

4. Let every creature rise and bring  
peculiar honours to our King;  
angels descend with songs again,  
and earth repeat the loud Amen.

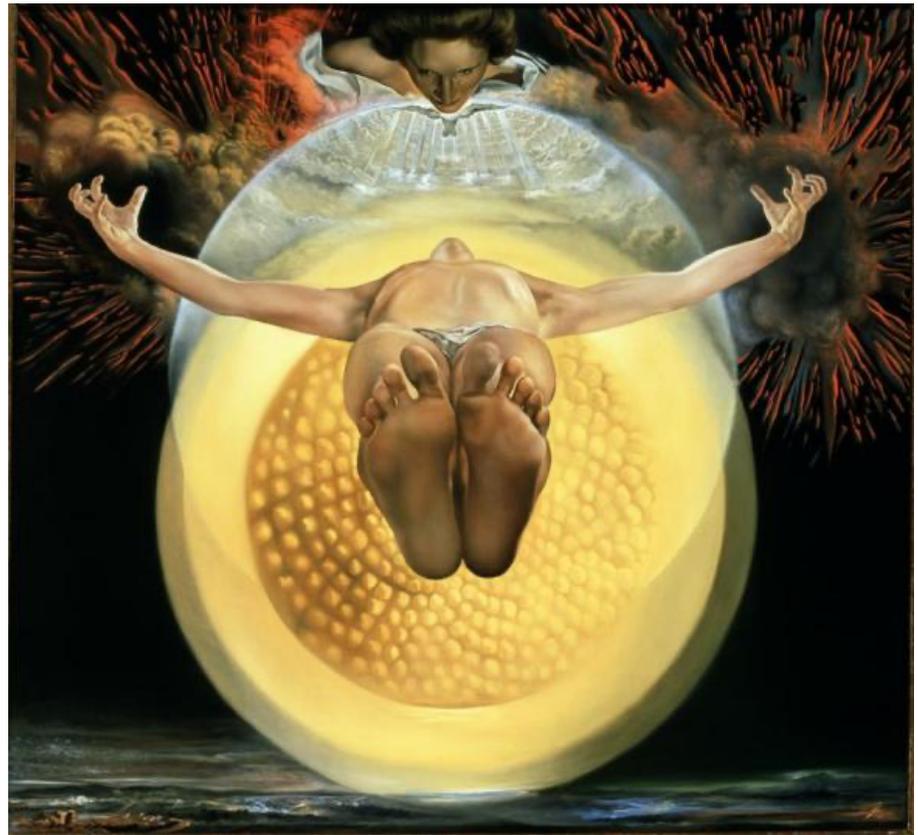


# Dismissal and Grace

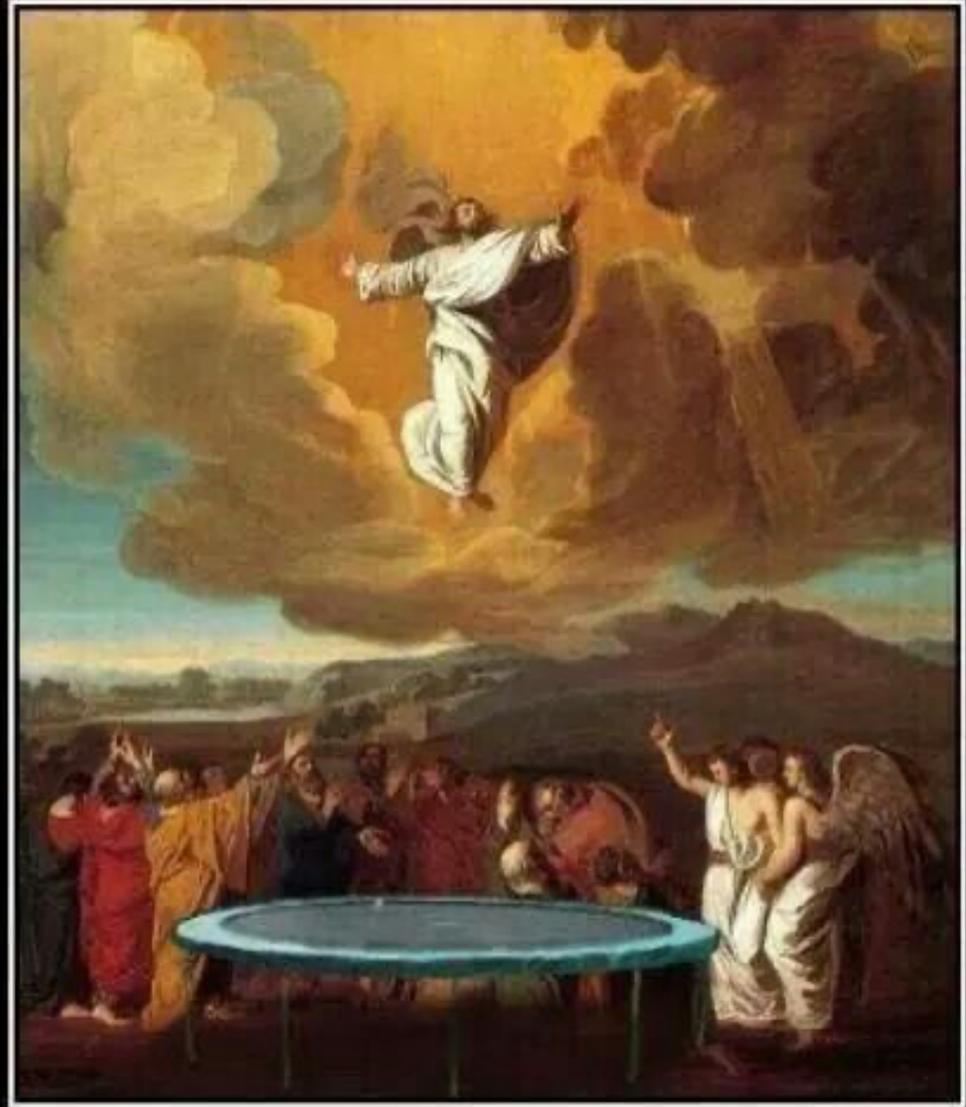
Christ has ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be upon you this day and remain with you always. **Amen.**  
**Alleluia!**

Go in peace, to love and serve the Ascended Lord.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**  
**Alleluia!**



Have an  
**UPLIFTING**  
Ascension!



**BOING!!**