



Old St. Paul's
Anglican Church



Ascension Sunday

May 17, 2026

Holy Eucharist

Organ Prelude – Paul Tree

March from Scripio (Handel)

March from the Occasional Oratorio (Handel)

Minuet Finale (Handel)

Jubilate Deo (Handel)

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Opening Hymn

CP 247 Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise

Welcome & Opening Remarks

Opening Greeting

Celebrant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

People **And also with you.**

Collect for Purity

Celebrant Almighty God,

All to you all hearts are open,

all desires known,

and from you no secrets are hidden.

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 Lord. Amen.

Gloria – Cantor Version (Sung)

Cantor Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.

*All Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly king,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.*

*Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.*

*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.*

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord. Keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of his peace, and bring the whole of creation to worship at his feet, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading

First Reading: Acts 1: 1 - 11

A Reading from the Book of Acts

1 In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning ² until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³ 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. ⁴ 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; ⁵ for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” ⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷ He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ 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.” ⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹ 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.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 47

Said responsively by the full verse

1 Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with a cry of joy.

2 For the Lord Most High is to be feared; he is the great king over all the earth.

3 He subdues the peoples under us, and the nations under our feet.

4 He chooses our inheritance for us, the pride of Jacob whom he loves.

5 God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of the ram's-horn.

6 Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our king, sing praises.

7 For God is king of all the earth; sing praises with all your skill.

8 God reigns over the nations; God sits upon his holy throne.

9 The nobles of the peoples have gathered together with the people of the God of Abraham.

10 The rulers of the earth belong to God, and he is highly exalted.

Gloria Patri – Chanted

*Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.*

Second Reading

Second Reading: *Ephesians 1: 15 - 23*

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians

¹⁵ I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶ I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷ 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, ¹⁸ 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, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰ 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, ²¹ 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. ²² And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation CP 405 Alleluia No. 1 (Refrain and Verse 1)

(Refrain)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Give praise to his name.

Jesus is Lord of all the earth;

He is the king of creation.

(Refrain)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Give praise to his name.

Holy Gospel

Reader The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Luke 24: 44 - 53

⁴⁴ Jesus 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, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶ 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, ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ 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.” ⁵⁰ Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. ⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵² And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; ⁵³ and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

Reader The Gospel of Christ.

People **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Gospel Response CP 405 Alleluia No. 1 (Refrain only)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Give praise to his name.

Sermon – Reverend Ted

The Apostles' Creed

Celebrant Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

All I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again
to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Musical Presentation

There Is A Redeemer (Green)
Old St. Paul's Choir

Flowers on the Altar

The Flowers on the Altar today are dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of her son Christopher; given by Sandra Chattington.

Prayers of the People

We pray for your blessing upon your Church. We are grateful for our shared worship and fellowship. We pray for our church leadership: for; Anne our Metropolitan and Acting Primate; Chris, National Indigenous Archbishop; Todd our Diocesan bishop; and Marinez, Bishop of Amazonia. We pray for all bishops, our priest Patrick, deacons and all who minister in the name of Jesus.

Let us pray to the Lord

Lord hear our prayer and move our hearts to action.

We pray for those who are sick. Help them to have confidence in those diagnosing their illness and those who attend to their needs. Give them courage, hope and peace, and the knowledge that you are present in their weakness, pain and suffering. We pray especially for those who have no one to help them, that in their loneliness they may know that you are with them.

Today we pray especially for:

< Names >

and for those you wish to pray for either silently or aloud.

Let us pray to the Lord

Lord hear our prayer and move our hearts to action.

Holy God, we lift our hearts in prayer and praise. We thank you that we can reach out to you through your Son Jesus and that you are always here with us. Help us to pray simply and sincerely, unselfishly, and gratefully, remembering the needs of others as well as our own, and giving thanks always for the abundance of your blessing upon us.

Let us pray to the Lord

Lord hear our prayer and move our hearts to action.

We pray for those who are less fortunate than ourselves; those who live in developing countries and countries where there is little stability. Teach us to be mindful of those who are weary with the struggle to stay alive; for those who can never look forward to a good meal and a comfortable bed, and those who barely have the necessities of life.

Let us pray to the Lord

Lord hear our prayer and move our hearts to action.

We pray for children and young people. Help us understand their needs and show us how best we can help them and prepare them for life in the world. Help us not to pass judgements or make assumptions as we seek to establish relationships of trust. We pray for students who are graduating from university, for those pursuing further studies and those seeking to find meaningful work in their field.

Let us pray to the Lord

Lord hear our prayer and move our hearts to action.

We pray for those who have died and those who are grieving. God of hope, we pray for those who have experienced the death of someone significant in their lives, for members of our families who have died and whose anniversary we recall; may they rest in peace and rise in eternal glory.

Let us pray to the Lord

Lord hear our prayer and move our hearts to action.

Merciful God, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen**

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;
he welcomes sinners
and invites them to his table.
Let us confess our sins,
confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept.

Celebrant Most merciful God,
All we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us,
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your name. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
People Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And also with you.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Hymn

CP 309 Praise the Lord With the Sound of Trumpet

Prayer over the Gifts

Eternal Giver of love and power, your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to preach the gospel of his kingdom. Confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer 3

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 our thanks and praise.**

Ascension

Blessed are you, gracious God,
creator of heaven and earth;
we give you thanks and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who after his glorious resurrection
appeared to his disciples,
and in their sight ascended into heaven
to prepare a place for us;
that where he is, there we might also be,
and reign with him in glory.
Therefore we praise you with angels and archangels
and with all the company of heaven,
who for ever sing this hymn
to proclaim the glory of your name.

Sanctus & Benedictus – CP 719 Holy, Holy, Holy Lord (Sung)

*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,
Hosanna in the highest.*

Celebrant We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son.

For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, 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, Father, according to his command,

*All we remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;*

Celebrant and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

People Amen (Sung)

The Lord's Prayer – (Said)

Celebrant And now, as our Saviour Christ has 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.**

The Breaking of Bread - 8 Easter Season

Celebrant Lord, we died with you on the cross.

All **Now we are raised to new life.**

Celebrant We were buried in your tomb.

All **Now we share in your resurrection.**

Celebrant Live in us, that we may live in you.

Celebrant Alleluia, the gifts of God for the people of God.

People **Thanks be to God, Alleluia!**

The Communion

Agnus Dei – Proulx

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 peace.

The introduction for the first Communion Hymn will play while Slides explaining Communion play while Choir receives their Communion.

Communion Music

Hymns: CP 482 Come and Journey With the Saviour
CP 313 Sing, Praise and Bless the Lord
CP 496 Teach Me, My God and King

Prayer After Communion

Eternal Giver of love and power, your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to preach the gospel of his kingdom. Confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Doxology

Celebrant Glory to God,
All whose power, working in us,
can do infinitely more
than we can ask or imagine.
Glory to God from generation to generation,
in the Church and in Christ Jesus,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Benediction/The Blessing

Amen- Sung

Announcements

Closing Hymn

CP 246 Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus

Dismissal

Leader Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia!

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Organ Postlude – Paul Tree

Land of Hope and Glory (Elgar)

CLOSING CREDITS