Saint George and Saint James

Anglican Parish in the Borough of Queenscliffe

Reading Sheet for Ascension Day

Thursday 21st May 2020

Collect

God of majesty,
you led the Messiah through suffering into risen life,
and took him up into the glory of heaven:
clothe us with the power promised from on high,
and send us forth to the ends of the earth
as heralds of repentance and witnesses of Jesus Christ,
the firstborn from the dead,
who lives with you now and always in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever. Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

A reading from the Acts of the Apostle *(1.1-11)*

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 over the course of
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 towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them.[11] They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards 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.'

Pause)

Hear the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Psalm 110 *(APBA p. 342)*

[1] The Lord said to my lord:
'Sit at my right hand,
until I make your enemies your footstool.'
[2] The Lord commits to you the sceptre of your power:
reign from Zion in the midst of your enemies.
[3] Noble are you, from the day of your birth
upon the holy hill:
radiant are you, even from the womb,
in the morning dew of your youth.
[4] The Lord has sworn and will not turn back:
'You are a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.'
[5] The king shall stand at your right hand, O Lord:
and shatter kings in the day of his wrath.
[6] Glorious in majesty, he shall judge among the nations:
and shatter heads over a wide land.
[7] He shall slake his thirst from the brook beside the way:
therefore shall he lift up his head.

St Pauls letter to the Ephesians *(1.15-23)*

15 I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards 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.

Pause)

Hear the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Hear the Good News of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **Matthew** *(28.16-20)*

✞ **Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

44 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, 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.

For the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ