



Ascension Day 2020 and Launch of *Thy Kingdom Come*

Welcome

Hymn: Thine be the glory (TKC website)

The Ascension:

Dear brothers and sisters, for forty days we have been celebrating with joyful hearts the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, his bursting from the tomb and his defeat of sin and death. He appeared to his disciples many times and told them about the kingdom of God.

Today we recall how he left this earth and returned to his Father, ascending into heaven to take his throne over all dominions and powers. Trusting in his reign over all creation, and submitting to his kingly yet loving rule, let us hear the story of his parting.

Reading 1: Acts 1:4-11

The prayer for Ascension Day

Risen Christ,
you have raised our human nature to the throne of heaven:
help us to seek and serve you,
that we may join you at the Father's side,
where you reign with the Spirit in glory,
now and for ever.

Song Bless the Lord O my soul, Matt Redman (TKC website)

Reading 2: Matthew 28.16-20

Sermon

Archbishop John Sentamu (TKC website) 03.17

Prayers

Response: ...we pray:

Your kingdom come.

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

Conclusion

May Christ, who has opened the kingdom of heaven,
Bring us to reign with him in glory. **Amen**

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia

You are warmly encouraged to linger for all or part of:

an hour of prayer, in three sections, 8.30-9.30pm

a short service of Night Prayer at 9.30pm

An Hour of Prayer

We will divide this hour into three sections, each about 15-20 minutes long. A framework is offered below to guide our prayer & reflections. There will be some time for quiet & reflection, but our active participation in praying is encouraged.

Section One Praying for Five

One of the primary goals of Thy Kingdom Come is that we should pray faithfully & hopefully for five of our friends or family, that they might have an encounter with Jesus.

Using the five digits of our hand, rather than leather cords, we spend time in quiet reflection asking the Lord to confirm five people that we are to pray for.

'Speak Lord, for your servant is listening.....' Music will play quietly in the background

Reading: Philippians 3.8

'I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord'

We imagine our five friends in the presence of Jesus of Nazareth.

We pray for each of our five friends to encounter Jesus in all his grace, challenge and love, that they might say with Paul, 'For me to live is Christ'.

Open Prayer

Section Two Praying for our National & International Mission Partners

Reading: Philippians 1.4-6

'In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel for the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.'

Open Prayer for each and all of our Mission Partners:

Open Theological Seminary encouraging Disciples in **Sialkot Diocese**, Pakistan, especially their Compassion Campaign to feed 1500 families

Garden Route Children's Trust – Trustees meeting tonight; food distribution in lock-down

Embrace the Middle East – plans for a visit & specific link

Tanka Subedi, his Churches & leadership of iTEEN in Nepal

Paula & Dean Finnie & *The Gathering* near Capetown, South Africa

New Mission Partner A Rocha (UK) – St Andrew's becoming an Eco Church

Section Three Praying for our Community

Open Prayer for the Oxshott area, groups and needs e.g.

Shops & Businesses

Health Care Providers

Local Mission Partners: Cobham & District Foodbank & B@titude

Community Groups

Schools – RKS, Reed's, Bevendean & Danes Hill

Closing Prayer

Holy Spirit, thank you that you live in us and work through us. Help me, help all of us together, to shine like stars in the world, as we hold firmly to the Word of Life, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen

An Order for Night Prayer Thursday, 21 May 2020, Ascension Day

Preparation *(Perhaps have a lighted candle in front of you, reflecting that on screen)*

The Lord almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end. **Amen.**

Our help is in the name of the Lord **who made heaven and earth.**

A period of silence for reflection on the day.

Words of penitence.

Most merciful God, we confess to you,
before the whole company of heaven and one another,
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed
and in what we have failed to do.

Forgive us our sins, heal us by your Spirit
and raise us to new life in Christ. **Amen.**

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

Hymn

Before the ending of the day,
Creator of the world, we pray
That you, with steadfast love, would keep
Your watch around us while we sleep.

From evil dreams defend our sight,
From fears and terrors of the night;
Tread underfoot our deadly foe
That we no sinful thought may know.

O Father, that we ask be done
Through Jesus Christ, your only Son;
And Holy Spirit, by whose breath
Our souls are raised to life from death.

Psalm 4

¹ Answer me when I call, O God of my right!

You gave me room when I was in distress.

Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.

² How long, you people, shall my honour suffer shame?

How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies?

³ But know that the LORD has set apart the faithful for himself;

The LORD hears when I call to him.

⁴ When you are disturbed, do not sin;

ponder it on your beds, and be silent.

⁵ Offer right sacrifices,
and put your trust in the LORD.

⁶ There are many who say, "O that we might see some good!"
Let the light of your face shine on us, O LORD!

⁷ You have put gladness in my heart
more than when their grain and wine abound.

⁸ I will both lie down and sleep in peace;
for you alone, O LORD, make me lie down in safety.

Creator God,
send your Holy Spirit to renew this living world,
that the whole creation,
in its groaning and striving,
may know your loving purpose
and come to reflect your glory;
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

Reading **1 Peter 5:8-9**

⁸ Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering.

Responses: Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit. Alleluia, alleluia.
Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit. Alleluia, alleluia.

For you have redeemed me, Lord God of truth.
Alleluia, alleluia.

Glory to the Father and to the
Son and to the Holy Spirit.
Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit. Alleluia, alleluia.

Keep me as the apple of your eye.
Hide me under the shadow of your wings.

The Nunc Dimittis (Song of Simeon)

**Save us Lord while waking,
and guard us while sleeping,
that awake we may watch with Christ
and asleep may rest in peace.**

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace:
your word has been fulfilled.

My own eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared in the sight of every people;

A light to reveal you to the nations
and the glory of your people Israel.

(Luke 2.29-32)

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

**Save us Lord while waking,
and guard us while sleeping,
that awake we may watch with Christ
and asleep may rest in peace.**

Prayers

The Collect Keep watch, dear Lord,
With those who wake, or watch, or weep this night,
And give your angels charge over those who sleep.
Tend the sick,
Give rest to the weary,
Sustain the dying,
Calm the suffering,
And pity the distressed;
All for your love's sake, O Christ our Redeemer. **Amen**

Silence is kept

Visit our homes, O Lord, we pray,
and drive far from them the snares of the enemy;
may your holy angels dwell with us and guard us in peace,
and may your blessing be always upon us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer, said in the version & language of our hearts

The Conclusion

In peace we will lie down and sleep;
for you alone, Lord, make us dwell in safety.

Abide with us, Lord Jesus,
for the night is at hand and the day is now past.

As the night watch looks for the morning,
so do we look for you, O Christ.

The Lord bless us and watch over us;
The Lord make his face to shine upon us and be gracious to us;
The Lord look kindly upon us and give us peace.
Amen