

*Ascension Day*

SOLEMN MASS

Thursday, May 26, 2022, 6:00 PM

**The Church of Saint Mary the Virgin  
in the City of New York**



# *Ascension Day*

In Saint Luke's gospel, which we hear today, Jesus ascends to the Father on the evening of the day of resurrection. In Luke's second book, the Acts of the Apostles, our Lord is described as being present to his disciples for forty days after his resurrection. On the fortieth day he ascended to heaven and took his place at the right hand of the Father. Today the Church celebrates the Ascension of our Lord. It is one of our seven principal feasts.

Solemn Mass is the full traditional form of Christian worship for Sundays and the principal feasts of the Church year. Week by week, festival by festival, the assembly gathers to hear the Word of God, to sing God's praises, to offer thanks for God's gifts, to receive Holy Communion and to be sent forth to love and serve. Easter, the Church's great season, does not end today, but continues for fifty days. Eastertide concludes with Evening Prayer on Pentecost.

## *The Music at the Mass*

The Italian composer Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (c. 1525–1594) stood on foundations largely laid by the Netherlandish composers Guillaume Dufay (c. 1397–1474) and Josquin des Prez (c. 1450–1521). He is responsible for setting the canons for Renaissance polyphony and the standards for Catholic liturgical music which pertain even in our time. Among his hundreds of compositions are over one hundred Masses, most of which were published in thirteen volumes between 1554 and 1601. Palestrina's works also include more than three hundred motets.

The setting of the Mass and the motet this evening are both works of Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (c. 1525–1594), and both spring from a common scriptural inspiration. His motet *Viri Galilaei* was published in Venice in 1591. It is scored for six voices and, in effect, has two movements. The first part, this evening's Communion motet, derives its text from Acts 1:11. (The motet's second part, *Ascendit Deus*, is based upon Psalm 47:5 and Psalm 103:19.) While the Prima and Secunda Pars of Palestrina's motet, taken together, comprise the liturgical Offertory for the Feast of the Ascension, his polyphony makes no specific

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melodic reference to the traditional chant. The motet begins with two voices, then five, summoning the attention of the “men of Galilee” to ask the question, “Why do you stand gazing up?” Palestrina uses the six voices in various combinations, phrase by phrase, maintaining freshness even as the text is repeated. There are some dramatic rising lines in all voices but, curiously, much of the melodic motion in the exuberant concluding alleluias is downward, coming from above. Palestrina’s *Missa Viri Galilaei* takes its musical impetus from the motet. The date of its composition is uncertain, and it was published posthumously in Venice in 1601. Like the motet, the Mass movements employ six voices. The closing section of the *Gloria* is particularly rich in upward sweeping melodic figures. In the *Sanctus*, Palestrina reduced the texture to four voices at *Pleni sunt coeli*, returning to six voices at *Hosanna*. Likewise, *Benedictus* is set for four voices with all six voices returning for the closing *Hosanna*.

## *The Organ Recital*

**5:30 PM**

*Dr. Raymond Nagem, Minister of Music,  
The Brick Presbyterian Church, New York City*

Three Impromptus, Op. 78

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875–1912)

I. F Major. Allegro ma non troppo

II. C Major. Molto moderato

III. A Minor. Allegro molto

*Allegro vivace*, from Symphony No. 5, Op. 42, No. 1     Charles-Marie Widor (1844–1937)

**Raymond Nagem** is Minister of Music at The Brick Presbyterian Church in New York City, and a member of the organ faculty at Manhattan School of Music, where he teaches organ literature, service playing, and improvisation. He completed his D.M.A. at The Juilliard School in 2016, where he was a student of Paul Jacobs.

A native of Medford, Massachusetts, Dr. Nagem attended the Boston Archdiocesan Choir School and began organ lessons there with John Dunn. He earned his B.A. from Yale University in 2009, studying the organ with Thomas Murray, and his M.A. in 2011 from Juilliard.

Prior to his appointment at Brick, he served for eleven years at the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine, where he was Associate Director of Music and Organist. His album *Divine Splendor*, recorded on the Great Organ of Saint John the Divine, is available on the Pro Organo label. At the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in spring of 2020, Dr. Nagem began a weekly online recital series from the cathedral, “Tuesdays at 6,” featuring a diverse range of music spanning the entire organ repertoire. In his spare time, he enjoys running, cycling, and crossword puzzles.

# THE REGINA COELI

6:00 PM

*All stand at the sound of the bell. The Officiant says*

*People*           ✠ O Queen of Heaven, be joyful,  
Alleluia.

*Officiant*        Because he whom so meetly thou barest,  
*People*            Alleluia,

*Officiant*        Hath arisen as he promised,  
*People*            Alleluia.

*Officiant*        Pray for us to the Father,  
*People*            Alleluia.

*Officiant*        Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia;  
*People*            For the Lord is risen indeed, alleluia.

*The Officiant continues*

Let us pray.

*Officiant*        O God, who, by the resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ,  
didst vouchsafe to give gladness unto the world: Grant, we  
beseech thee, that we, being holpen by the Virgin Mary, his  
mother, may attain unto the joys of everlasting life, through  
the same Christ our Lord.

*People*            Amen.

# SOLEMN MASS

## THE WORD OF GOD

### **The Entrance Song**

*All stand at the signal of the bell. The ministers of the assembly enter, and the Choir sings the appointed Introit.*

Viri Galilaei,  
quid admiramini aspicientes  
in coelum, alleluia:  
quemadmodum vidistis  
eum ascendentem in coelum,  
ita veniet,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
Omnes gentes plaudite manibus:  
iubilare Deo in voce exsultationis.  
Gloria Patri,  
et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto.  
Sicut erat in principio, et nunc,  
et semper, et in saecula saeculorum.  
Amen.

*Men of Galilee,  
why do you stand looking  
into heaven? alleluia;  
in the same way that you saw  
him ascending into heaven  
will you see him coming again,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
Clap your hands, all you peoples;  
shout to God with a cry of joy.  
Glory 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.*

### **The Sprinkling with Holy Water**

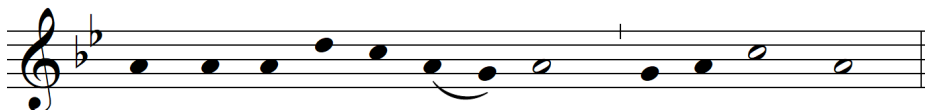
*The Choir sings Vidi aquam as the Celebrant sprinkles the People with holy water, recalling the promises and the grace of Holy Baptism. The setting is by David Hurd (b. 1950)*

I saw water flowing from the right side of the temple, alleluia, alleluia.  
And it brought to people everywhere God's life and his salvation,  
and the people sang in joyful praise: alleluia, alleluia.

## The Opening Acclamation



*Celebrant* ✠ Al - le - lu - ia. Christ is ris - en.



*People* The Lord is ris - en in - deed. Al - le - lu - ia.

Setting: Louis Weil (1935–2022)

## The Song of Praise

*The Choir sings Gloria in excelsis Deo. The setting is Missa Viri Galilaei, by Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (c. 1525–1594).*

Gloria in excelsis Deo  
et in terra pax  
hominibus bonae voluntatis.  
Laudamus te. Benedicimus te.  
Adoramus te. Glorificamus te.  
Gratias agimus tibi  
propter magnam gloriam tuam.

Domine Deus, Rex coelestis,  
Deus Pater omnipotens.  
Domine Fili unigenite, Iesu Christe.  
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris.  
Qui tollis peccata mundi,  
miserere nobis.  
Qui tollis peccata mundi,  
suscipe deprecationem nostram.  
Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,  
miserere nobis.

Quoniam tu solus Sanctus.  
Tu solus Dominus.  
Tu solus Altissimus,  
Iesu Christe.  
Cum Sancto Spiritu,  
in gloria Dei Patris.  
Amen.

*Glory be to God on high,  
and on earth peace  
to those of good will.  
We praise you. We bless you.  
We worship you. We glorify you.  
We give thanks to you  
for your great glory.*

*O Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ,  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.  
You take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer.  
You are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.*

*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

*The Celebrant sings*

*People*           The Lord be with you.  
                    And also with you.

*Celebrant*       Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son our Savior Jesus Christ ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things: Mercifully give us faith to perceive that, according to his promise, he abides with his Church on earth, even to the end of the ages; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting.

*People*           **AMEN.**

## The Lessons

*All are seated for the Lessons. The first Lesson, Acts 1:1–11, is now read.*

In the first book, O The-oph'ilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commandment through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. To them he presented himself alive after his passion by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days, and speaking of the kingdom of God. And while staying with them he charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me, for John baptized with water, but before many days you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit." So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Jude'a and Samaria and to the end of the earth." And when he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

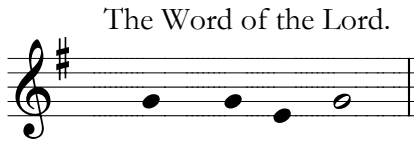
*After the Lesson, the Reader says*

*People*           The Word of the Lord.  
                    Thanks be to God.





*After the Lesson, the Reader sings*



*People* Thanks be to God.

### **The Gospel Acclamation**

*All stand. The ministers of the assembly prepare for the Gospel while the appointed antiphon is sung.*

Alleluia. Dominus in Sina in sancto,  
ascendens in altum, captivam duxit  
captivitatem. Alleluia

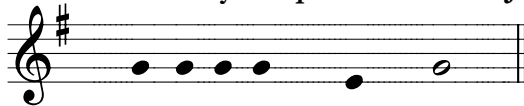
*Alleluia. The Lord is in Sinai, in the holy place;  
ascending on high, he has led captivity  
captive. Alleluia.*

### **The Holy Gospel**

*A Minister proclaims the Gospel, first singing*

*People* The Lord be with you.  
And also with you.

*Minister* ✠ **The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.**



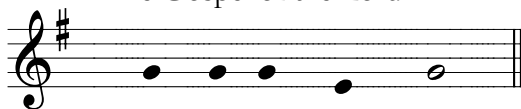
*People* Glo-ry to you, Lord Christ.

*The appointed Gospel, Luke 24:44–53, is now proclaimed.*

Then Jesus said to his disciples, “These are my words which I spoke to you, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and the psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you; but stay in the city, until you are 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 blessed them, he parted from them, and was carried up into heaven. And they returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple blessing God.

*After the Gospel, the Minister sings*

The Gospel of the Lord.



*People*

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**The Sermon**

The Reverend Dr. Jeffrey Hanson

**The Nicene Creed**

*All stand. The Creed is sung by all.*

*Introduction*

A series of ten staves of musical notation in a single system. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The text is: "We be-lieve in one God, the Fa-ther, the Al-might-y, ma-ker of hea-ven and earth, of all that is, seen and un-seen. We be-lieve in one Lord, Je-sus Christ, the on-ly Son of God, e-ter-nal-ly be-got-ten of the Fa-ther, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, be-got-ten, not made, of one Be-ing with the Fa-ther. Through him all things were made. For us and for our sal-va-tion he came down from hea-ven:"

We be-lieve in one God, the  
Fa-ther, the Al-might-y, ma-ker of hea-ven and  
earth, of all that is, seen and un-seen. We be-lieve in  
one Lord, Je-sus Christ, the on-ly Son of God, e-ter-nal-ly be-  
got-ten of the Fa-ther, God from God, Light from Light, true God from  
true God, be-got-ten, not made, of one Be-ing with the Fa-ther.  
Through him all things were made. For us and for our sal-va-tion  
he came down from hea-ven:

*Bow*



by the pow-er of the Ho-ly Spi - rit



he be-came in-car-nate from the Vir-gin Ma-ry,



and was made man.



For our sake he was cru-ci-fied un-der Pon-tius Pi-late;



he suf-fered death—and was bur-ied. On the third day he



rose a-gain in ac-cord-ance with the Scrip-tures; he a-scend-ed



in-to hea-ven and is seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther.



He will come a-gain in glo-ry to judge the liv-ing and the



dead, and his king-dom will have no end. We be-lieve in the



Ho-ly Spi-rit, the Lord, the giv-er of life, who pro-ceeds from the



Fa-ther and the Son. With the Fa-ther and the Son he is wor-shipped and



glo-ri-fied. He has spo-ken through the Pro-phets. We be-lieve in



one ho-ly cath-o-lic and a-po-sto-lic Church.

We ac - know - ledge one bap - tism for the for - give - ness of sins.  
 We look for the re - sur - rec - tion of the dead.\_\_\_\_  
 and the life of the world to come. A - men. A - men.\_\_\_\_

Setting: Calvin Hampton (1938–1984)

### The Prayers of the People

*A Minister bids the prayers of the assembly. At the end of each petition the People sing*

Hear our prayer.

Setting: David Hurd (b. 1950)

*The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.*

### The Peace

*All stand. The Celebrant sings*

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People* And also with you.

*Then the Ministers and People may share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.*

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

## The Preparation of the Gifts

*The Congregation is seated as the Choir sings the appointed song and the offerings of the assembly are collected.*

Ascendit Deus in jubilatione,  
Dominus in voce tubae,  
alleluia.

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

## Hymn: Lord enthroned in heavenly splendor

*All stand and sing the hymn while the ushers bring forward the People's gifts, and the Altar is prepared.*

1 Lord, en - throned in heaven - ly splen - dor, first - be -  
\*2 Here our hum - blest hom - age pay we, here in  
\*3 Though the low - liest form doth veil thee as of  
4 Pas - chal Lamb, thine of - fering, fi - nished once for  
5 Life - im - part - ing heaven - ly Man - na, smit - ten

1 got - ten from the dead. Thou a - lone, our strong de -  
2 lov - ing rev - erence bow; here for faith's dis - cern - ment  
3 old in Beth - le - hem, here as there thine an - gels  
4 all when thou wast slain, in its full - ness un - di -  
5 Rock with stream - ing side, heaven and earth with loud ho -

Al - le -  
1 fend - er, lift - est up thy peo - ple's head.  
2 pray we, lest we fail to know thee now.  
3 hail thee, branch and flower of Jes - se's stem.  
4 min - ished shall for ev - er - more re - main.  
5 san - na wor - ship thee, the Lamb who died.

lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia!

1 Je - sus, true and liv - ing  
 2 Thou art here, we ask not  
 3 We in wor - ship join with  
 4 Cleans - ing us from ev - ery  
 5 Risen, a - scend - ed, glo - ri -

1 bread! Je - sus, true and liv - ing bread!  
 2 how. Thou art here, we ask not how.  
 3 them. We in wor - ship join with them.  
 4 stain. Cleans - ing us from ev - ery stain.  
 5 fied! Risen, a - scend - ed, glo - ri - fied!

Words: George Hugh Bourne (1840–1925)  
 Music: *Bryn Calgaria*, melody William Owen (1813–1893); harmonization *Christian Hymns*, 1977

## The Great Thanksgiving

*All remain standing. The Celebrant faces the People and sings*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And al - so 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 him thanks and praise.

*The Celebrant proceeds*

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

*The Choir sings Sanctus and Benedictus. The setting is by Giovanni Palestrina.*

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus,  
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.  
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.  
Hosanna in excelsis.  
Benedictus qui venit  
in nomine Domini.  
Hosanna in excelsis.

*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.*



*The People stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues*

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

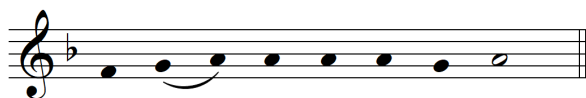
Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

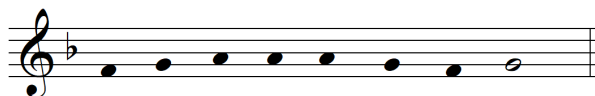
Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup,



*Celebrant* ...we praise you and we bless you.



*All* We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you,



and we pray to you, Lord our God.

Setting: Ambrosian chant; adapted by Richard Proulx (1937–2010)

*The Celebrant continues*

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace. Remember Michael our presiding bishop, Andrew our own bishop, and all who minister in your Church. Remember all your people, and those who seek your truth. Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light. And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, martyrs, and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever



*All* **A-MEN.**

Memorial Acclamation: Ambrosian chant; adapted by David Hurd (b. 1950)

*Celebrant*      And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

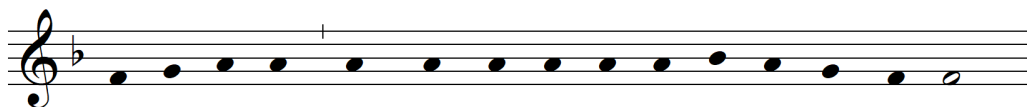
*Then all sing the Lord's Prayer.*

Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed  
be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our  
dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,  
as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead  
us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us  
from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,  
and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

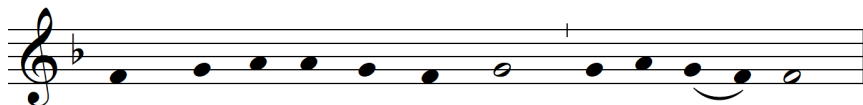
Setting: Plainsong; adapt. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867–1944)

## The Breaking of the Bread

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread, and then a Minister sings*



Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;



*People* There-fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

Setting: Ambrosian Chant adapt. Mason Martens (1933–1991)

*The Choir sings Agnus Dei. The setting is by Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina.*

Agnus Dei,  
qui tollis peccata mundi;  
miserere nobis.

*Lamb of God,  
you take away the sins of the world;  
have mercy on us.*

Agnus Dei,  
qui tollis peccata mundi;  
miserere nobis.

*Lamb of God,  
you take away the sins of the world;  
have mercy on us.*

Agnus Dei,  
qui tollis peccata mundi;  
dona nobis pacem.

*Lamb of God,  
you take away the sins of the world;  
grant us peace.*

## **The Invitation**

*The Celebrant invites the People to receive the Holy Communion.*

### **We are all invited to the Lord's Table**

Those who wish to receive Communion should proceed to the Communion rail, guided by the ushers. At the rail, you may either stand or kneel.

In the Episcopal Church all baptized persons are invited to receive the Holy Communion. Members of other Christian churches who are baptized are also invited to receive the Body of Christ.

Persons who do not wish to receive the Holy Communion are also invited to come forward to receive a blessing. If you would like someone to bring you Communion at your seat, please notify an usher. We would be happy to accommodate you.



## **The Communion Song and Motet**

*As the ministrations of Communion begins, the Cantor sings the appointed antiphon.*

Psallite Domino,  
qui ascendit super coelos coelorum  
ad Orientem, alleluia.

*Sing to the Lord  
who has ascended the highest heavens,  
towards the East, alleluia.*

*Then the Choir sings the motet, Viri Galilaei. The setting is by Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina.*

Viri Galilaei, quid statis aspicientes  
in coelum?  
Hic Jesus, qui assumptus est a vobis  
in coelum,  
sic veniet, quemadmodum vidistis eum  
euntem in coelum. Alleluia.

*Ye men of Galilee, why stand you looking  
up to heaven?  
This Jesus who is taken up from you into  
heaven,  
shall so come as you have seen him  
going into heaven. Alleluia.*

# Hymn: Hail the day that sees him rise, Alleluia!

*The Congregation stands and sings the hymn.*

1 Hail the day that sees him rise, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 2 There the glo - rious tri - umph waits; Al - le - lu - ia!  
 \*3 See! he lifts his hands a - bove; Al - le - lu - ia!  
 4 Lord be - yond our mor - tal sight, Al - le - lu - ia!

glo - rious to his na - tive skies; Al - le - lu - ia!  
 lift your heads, e - ter - nal gates! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 See! he shows the prints of love: Al - le - lu - ia!  
 raise our hearts to reach thy height, Al - le - lu - ia!

Christ, a - while to mor - tals given, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Wide un - fold the ra - diant scene; Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Hark! his gra - cious lips be - stow, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 there thy face un - cloud - ed see, Al - le - lu - ia!

en - ters now the high - est heaven! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 take the King of glo - ry in! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 bless - ings on his Church be - low. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 find our heaven of heavens in thee. Al - le - lu - ia!

Words: Charles Wesley (1707–1788), alt.  
 Music: *Lanfair*, Robert Williams (1781–1821)

## **The Postcommunion Prayer**

*The Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant* Almighty and everliving God,

*All* we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food  
of the most precious Body and Blood  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;  
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries  
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,  
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.  
And now, Father, send us out  
to do the work you have given us to do,  
to love and serve you  
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.  
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

## **The Blessing**

*The Celebrant says*

The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Go into the world in peace, be of good cheer,  
hold fast to that which is good, return to no one evil for evil,  
strengthen the fainthearted, support the weak,  
help the poor, honor all people, love and serve our Lord Jesus,  
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; and the blessing of God  
Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among  
you, and remain with you always.

*People* **AMEN.**

## **Welcome and Announcements**

*All are seated for the announcements.*

*Refreshments are served in Saint Joseph's Hall immediately following the service. All are welcome.*

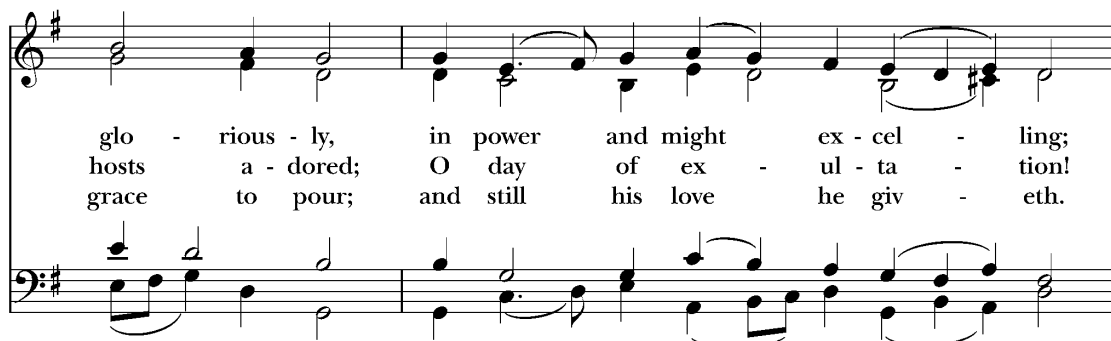
# Hymn: The Lord ascendeth up on high

*The Congregation stands and sings the hymn.*

*Unison or harmony*



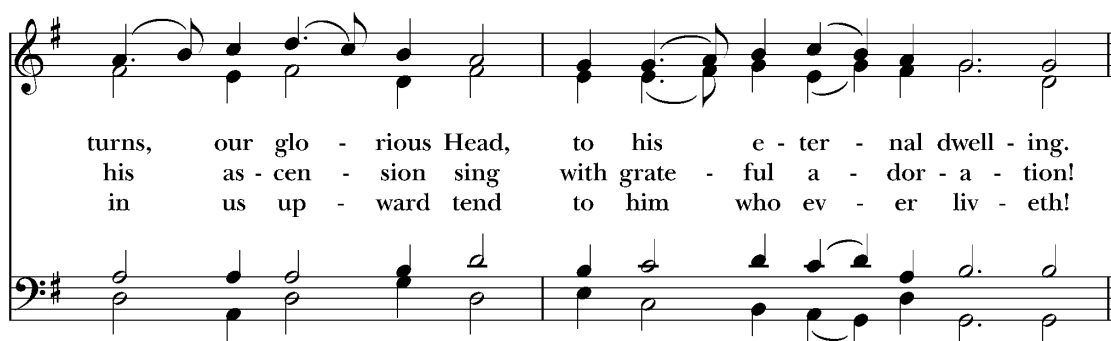
1 The Lord a - scend - eth up on high, the Lord hath tri - umphed  
2 The heavens with joy re - ceive their Lord, by saints, by an - gel  
3 Our great High Priest hath gone be - fore, up - on his Church his



glo - rious - ly, in power and might ex - cel - ling;  
hosts a - dored; O day of ex - ul - ta - tion!  
grace to pour; and still his love he giv - eth.



the grave and hell are cap - tive led. Lo! he re -  
O earth, a - dore thy glo - rious King! His ris - ing,  
O may our hearts to him a - scend; may all with -



turns, our glo - rious Head, to his e - ter - nal dwell - ing.  
his as - cen - sion sing with grate - ful a - dor - a - tion!  
in us up - ward tend to him who ev - er liv - eth!

Words: Arthur T. Russell (1806–1874), alt.

Music: *Ach Herr, du allerhöchster Gott*, Michael Praetorius (1571–1621)



## The Dismissal

*A Minister dismisses the assembly, first singing*

*People* The Lord be with you.  
And also with you.



## **Ascension**

John Donne (1571–1631)

Salute the last, and everlasting day,  
Joy at the uprising of this Sun, and Son,  
Ye whose true tears, or tribulation  
Have purely wash'd, or burnt your drossy clay.  
Behold, the Highest, parting hence away,  
Lightens the dark clouds, which He treads upon;  
Nor doth he by ascending show alone,  
But first He, and He first enters the way.  
O strong Ram, which hast batter'd heaven for me!  
Mild lamb, which with Thy Blood hast mark'd the path!  
Bright Torch, which shinest, that I the way may see!  
O, with Thy own Blood quench Thy own just wrath;  
And if Thy Holy Spirit my Muse did raise,  
Deign at my hands this crown of prayer and praise.

## **Ascension**

Malcolm Guite (b. 1957)

We saw his light break through the cloud of glory  
Whilst we were rooted still in time and place  
As earth became a part of Heaven's story  
And heaven opened to his human face.  
We saw him go and yet we were not parted  
He took us with him to the heart of things  
The heart that broke for all the broken-hearted  
Is whole and Heaven-centred now, and sings,  
Sings in the strength that rises out of weakness,  
Sings through the clouds that veil him from our sight,  
Whilst we ourselves become his clouds of witness  
And sing the waning darkness into light,  
His light in us, and ours in him concealed,  
Which all creation waits to see revealed.

## **We Need Your Help**

We are enormously grateful to all the members and friends of Saint Mary's from far and wide who have supported the parish during the extraordinary events of the past twenty-six months. Your gifts have encouraged us, and they have kept us going.

We hope that you will make a pledge to the parish for 2022 at this time. Pledge cards may be found on the ushers' table at the Forty-sixth Street entrance to the church. If you are able to make an additional donation to support the parish at this time, we would happily receive it. Donations may be made online via the Giving section of the parish website. You may also arrange to pay in other ways by contacting our parish administrator, Christopher Howatt, who would be happy to assist you. He may be reached at 212-869-5830 x 10.

If you have questions about pledging, please speak to a member of the clergy or to one of the members of the Stewardship Committee, MaryJane Boland, Steven Heffner, or Marie Rosseels.

We are grateful to you for your crucial support of Saint Mary's at this time.

# THE CHURCH OF SAINT MARY THE VIRGIN

145 West Forty-sixth Street  
New York, New York 10036-8502

Web: [www.stmvirgin.org](http://www.stmvirgin.org)

Phone: 212.869.5830

## The Parish Clergy

The Reverend Sammy Wood, *interim rector*

The Reverend James Ross Smith, *associate rector*

The Reverend Dr. Matthew Daniel Jacobson, *assistant to the rector*

The Reverend Canon Victor Conrado,

The Reverend Dr. Peter Ross Powell,

The Reverend Alison J. Turner, *assisting priests*

## The Music Program

Dr. David Hurd, *organist & music director*

Mr. Lawrence Trupiano, *organ curator*

## The Parish Staff

Mr. Christopher Howatt, *parish administrator*

Mr. Harka Gurung, Mr. Marcos Orenge Roman, Mr. Jorge Trujillo, *sextons*

## The Board of Trustees

Ms. MaryJane Boland; Mr. Steven Heffner, *treasurer*; Mr. Thomas Jayne;  
Dr. Charles Morgan; Mrs. J. Grace Mudd; Dr. Mark Risinger, *vice president*;  
Ms. Mary Robison *secretary*; Ms. Marie Rosseels; Dr. Leroy Sharer

**Saint Mary's ministries are supported  
by the financial gifts of those  
who worship here.**