

26 May 2022 - Ascension Day

The Collect

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that as we believe your only-begotten Son
our Lord Jesus Christ
to have ascended into the heavens,
so we in heart and mind may also ascend
and with him continually dwell;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

First Reading

Daniel 7.9-14

As I watched,
thrones were set in place,
and an Ancient One took his throne;
his clothing was white as snow,
and the hair of his head like pure wool;
his throne was fiery flames,
and its wheels were burning fire.
A stream of fire issued
and flowed out from his presence.
A thousand thousand served him,
and ten thousand times ten thousand stood
attending him.
The court sat in judgement,
and the books were opened.
I watched then because of the noise of the arrogant
words that the horn was speaking. And as I watched, the
beast was put to death, and its body destroyed and given
over to be burned with fire. As for the rest of the beasts,
their dominion was taken away, but their lives were
prolonged for a season and a time. As I watched in the
night visions,
I saw one like a human being
coming with the clouds of heaven.
And he came to the Ancient One
and was presented before him.
To him was given dominion
and glory and kingship,
that all peoples, nations, and languages
should serve him.
His dominion is an everlasting dominion
that shall not pass away,
and his kingship is one
that shall never be destroyed.

Second Reading

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 towards heaven,
suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. 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.'

Gospel

Luke 24.44-53

Jesus said to the 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 worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with
great joy; and they were continually in the temple
blessing God.

Post Communion Prayer

God our Father,
you have raised our humanity in Christ
and have fed us with the bread of heaven:
mercifully grant that, nourished with such spiritual
blessings,
we may set our hearts in the heavenly places;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
All Amen. Amen.