**Feast of the Ascension**

**Nativity Worships May 25, 2022**

**The Collect**

Grant, we pray, Almighty God, that as we believe your only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into heaven, so we may also in heart and mind there ascend, and with him continually dwell; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

**The First Lesson: 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 toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. 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."

**The Psalm: 93 *Dominus regnavit***

1 The Lord is King;
he has put on splendid apparel; \*
the Lord has put on his apparel
and girded himself with strength.

2 He has made the whole world so sure \*
that it cannot be moved;

3 Ever since the world began, your throne has been established; \*
you are from everlasting.

4 The waters have lifted up, O Lord,
the waters have lifted up their voice; \*
the waters have lifted up their pounding waves.

5 Mightier than the sound of many waters,
mightier than the breakers of the sea, \*
mightier is the Lord who dwells on high.

6 Your testimonies are very sure, \*
and holiness adorns your house, O Lord,
for ever and for evermore.

**The Epistle: Ephesians 1:15-23**

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

**The Gospel: Luke 24:44-53**

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

**Prayers of the People**

We pray for our parish members: Members: Jamie, Nancy, Marge, Donna, Dan, Nina A, Marian, Penny, Judy, Steve, Juliette and our family and friends: Mary P, Jan W, John, Miles, Deidra, Layla, Brigitte, Mary Lou, Seanna, Lauren, Karen, Cris, Andrew, Thomas, Anna, Atlantis, Annie, Emi, Harry and Jean.

We pray for those who have died and those who mourn remembering especially those who have died in the war in Ukraine and those who died in the Buffalo, NY and Uvalde, Texas shootings.

We pray for those preparing for Baptism this Easter Season, especially Adeleine Page, daughter of Jen and Cait, sister of Everett, and Adeleine’s godparents Sky and Dylan and Marigold Avis daughter of Allison and Lance and Goldie’s godparents Elizabeth and Salim.

*O God, you prepared your disciples for the coming of the Spirit through the teaching of your*

*Son Jesus Christ: Make the hearts and minds of your servants ready to receive the blessing of*

*the Holy Spirit, that they may be filled with the strength of his presence; through Jesus*

*Christ our Lord.* Amen.

**Announcements**

Join us for a joyful house blessing and housewarming party after worship on June 12th. We’ll celebrate the completion of the Clergy Apartment above the kitchen and honor those who made it possible with donations to the capital campaign. Rev. Scott has moved in. We are so grateful to the Vestry, Kathy Schlegel (project manager) and our wonderful architect and contractors who have made a home for present and future Nativity clergy.

Please send names and photos of 2022 graduates. Also send a note about the graduate’s favorite charity and we will honor them by making a donation in their name. We welcome graduate names from kindergarten through graduate school. Our grad celebration will be on June 19th.

We will with thanksgiving receive offerings of Nativity pledges and plate today. You can contribute by sending a check to the church or by using the “Give” button on our website,[www.nativityonthehill.org](http://www.nativityonthehill.org).

All who participate in this Holy Eucharist virtually receive the full benefits of the sacrament by coming with the intention of being united with Christ and one another. (BCP 457)