



St Michaels and All Angels, Galleywood, 17th May, 2026 (7th Sunday of Easter)

Service of the Word: The Ascension

Welcome and introduction

Almighty God, your ascended Son has sent us into the world to preach the good news of your kingdom: inspire us with your Spirit and fill our hearts with the fire of your love, that all who hear your Word may be drawn to you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Come on and celebrate (MP 99)

Come on and celebrate
His gift of love, we will celebrate
The Son of God who loved us
And gave us life.

We'll shout your praise, O King,
You give us joy nothing else can bring,
We'll give to you our offering
In celebration praise.

*Come on and celebrate, celebrate,
Celebrate and sing,
Celebrate and sing to the King.
Come on and celebrate, celebrate,
Celebrate and sing,
Celebrate and sing to the King.*

Come on and celebrate
His gift of love, we will celebrate
The Son of God who loved us
And gave us life.

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*Come on and celebrate, celebrate,
Celebrate and sing,
Celebrate and sing to the King.
Come on and celebrate, celebrate,
Celebrate and sing,
Celebrate and sing to the King.*

Tell out, my soul (MP 631)

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;
Tender to me the promise of his word;
In God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name!
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
His mercy sure, from age to age the same;
His holy name—the Lord, the mighty One.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by;
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
The hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure:
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
To children's children and forever more!

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At your feet we fall (MP 45)

At your feet we fall, mighty risen Lord,
As we come before your throne to worship you.
By your Spirit's power you now draw our hearts,
And we hear your voice in triumph ringing clear.

*I am he that liveth, that liveth and was dead,
Behold I am alive forever more.*

There we see you stand, mighty risen Lord,
Clothed in garments pure and holy, shining bright.
Eyes of flashing fire, feet like burnished bronze,
And the sound of many waters is your voice.

*I am he that liveth, that liveth and was dead,
Behold I am alive forever more.*

Like the shining sun in its noonday strength,
We now see the glory of your wondrous face.
Once that face was marred, but now you're glorified,
And your words like a two-edged sword have mighty power.

*I am he that liveth, that liveth and was dead,
Behold I am alive forever more.*

Dave Fellingham. Copyright © 1982 Kingsway's Thankyou Music

Confession and absolution

God of all ages, who from generation to generation
has heard the cries of your children humbly seeking forgiveness,
and has welcomed sinners back into your embrace,
hear the thoughts of our hearts,
examine our motives, and forgive us our faults.
We ask this through your Son who died and rose that we might know
the true cost of forgiveness. **Amen**

May almighty God have mercy on us,
Forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Collect:

O God the King of glory,
you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:
we beseech you, leave us not comfortless,
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us
and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Prayer for Sonlight and Mega

Before the throne of God above (MP 975)

Before the throne of God above,
I have a strong, a perfect plea,
A great High Priest whose name is Love,
Who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on His hands,
My name is written on His heart;
I know that while in heaven He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart,
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair,
And tells me of the guilt within,
Upward I look and see Him there
Who made an end to all my sin.
Because the sinless Saviour died,
My sinful soul is counted free;
For God the Just is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me,
To look on Him and pardon me.

Behold Him there! The risen Lamb,
My perfect, spotless righteousness;
The great unchangeable I AM,
The King of glory and of grace!
One with Himself I cannot die,
My soul is purchased with His blood;
My life is hid with Christ on high,
With Christ, my Saviour and my God,
With Christ my Saviour and my God.

Charitee L. Bancroft, adapted by Vicki Cook (1997)

Bible reading: (Ann M)

Ezekiel 36:24-28 (page 868)

²⁴ “For I will take you out of the nations; I will gather you from all the countries and bring you back into your own land. ²⁵ I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. ²⁶ I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. ²⁸ Then you will live in the land I gave your ancestors; you will be my people, and I will be your God.

Acts 1:6-14 (page 1092)

⁶ Then they gathered around him and asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”

⁷ He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

⁹ After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

¹⁰ They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹ “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

¹² Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day’s walk from the city. ¹³ When they arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying. Those present were Peter, John, James and Andrew; Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew; James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴ They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Sermon: (Travers)

Affirmation of faith:

We say together in faith

**Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty,
who was, and is, and is to come.**

We believe in God the Father,
who created all things:

**For by his will they were created
and have their being.**

We believe in God the Son, who was slain:

**For with his blood,
he purchased us for God,
from every tribe and language,
from every people and nation.**

We believe in God the Holy Spirit:

**The Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come!'
Even so come, Lord Jesus! Amen.**

King of Kings (Not in MP)

In the darkness we were waiting
Without hope, without light
till from Heaven You came running
There was mercy in Your eyes
To fulfil the law and prophets
To a virgin came the word
From a throne of endless glory
To a cradle in the dirt.

*Praise the Father, praise the Son
Praise the Spirit, three in one
God of glory, Majesty
Praise forever to the King of Kings*

To reveal the kingdom coming
And to reconcile the lost
To redeem the whole creation
You did not despise the cross
For even in your suffering
You saw to the other side
Knowing this was our salvation
Jesus for our sake you died

*Praise the Father, praise the Son
Praise the Spirit, three in one
God of glory, Majesty
Praise forever to the King of Kings*

And the morning that You rose
All of Heaven held its breath
Until that stone was moved for good
For the Lamb had conquered death
And the dead rose from their tombs
And the angels stood in awe
For the souls of all who'd come
To the Father are restored

And the church of Christ was born
Then the Spirit lit the flame
Now this gospel truth of old
Shall not kneel, shall not faint
By His blood and in His name
In His freedom I am free
For the love of Jesus Christ
Who has resurrected me.

*Praise the Father, praise the Son
Praise the Spirit, three in one
God of glory, Majesty
Praise forever to the King of Kings
Praise forever to the King of Kings*

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Intercessions (David)

Lord's prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray
**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.**

Thanksgiving for our offering

Notices and family news

Cornerstone (MP 1334)

My hope is built on nothing less,
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly trust in Jesus' name.

My hope is built on nothing less,
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly trust in Jesus' name.

*Christ alone. Cornerstone.
Weak made strong in the Saviour's love.
Through the storm, He is Lord.
Lord of all.*

When darkness seems to hide His face,
I rest on His unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale,
My anchor holds within the veil.
My anchor holds within the veil.

*Christ alone. Cornerstone.
Weak made strong in the Saviour's love.
Through the storm, He is Lord.
Lord of all.*

(Repeat)

When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh, may I then in Him be found.
Dressed in His righteousness alone.
Faultless to stand before the throne.

*Christ alone, Cornerstone.
Weak made strong in the Saviour's love.
Through the storm, He is Lord.
Lord of all.*

(Repeat)

Edward Mote, Eric Liljero, Jonas Myrin, Reuben Morgan, and William Batchelder Bradbury ©2011 Hillsong Music Publishing

Conclusion and blessing

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing,
through the power of the Holy Spirit
And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
be among us and remain with us always. **Amen**

Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

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