

CHRIST AND SAINT LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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**THE FEAST OF THE ASCENSION**

MAY 18, 2023, 7PM HYMN FESTIVAL



*The Ascension, Rembrandt (1636)*

*The Choir of St. Andrew's Church, Stephen Leist, Director of Music Ministry*

*The Choir of St. Paul's Church, Charles Woodward, Director of Music*

*The Choir of Christ & St. Luke's Church, Kevin Kwan, Director of Music*

*Marjorie Setnicky, Assistant Organist*

*L. Graham Schultz, Guest Conductor and Organist*

*Organist & Choirmaster, Saint Stephen's Church, Providence, Rhode Island*

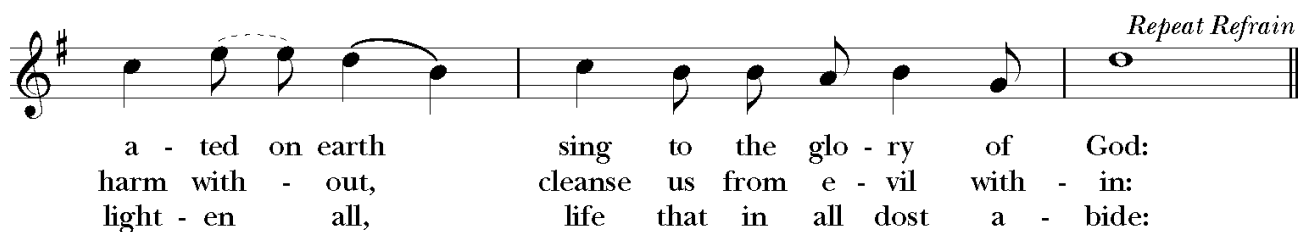
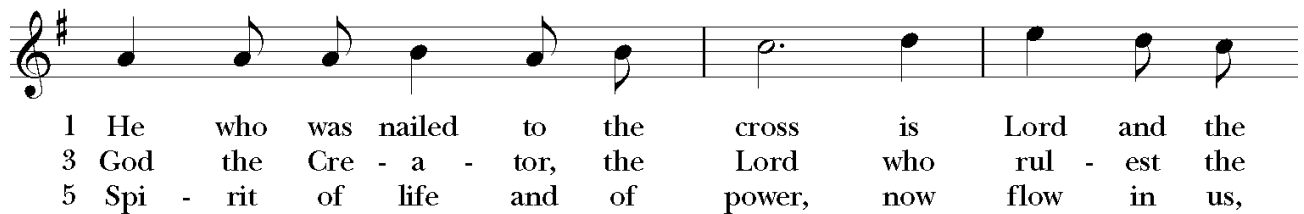
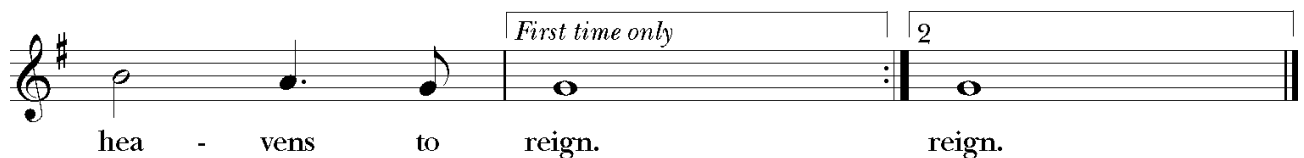
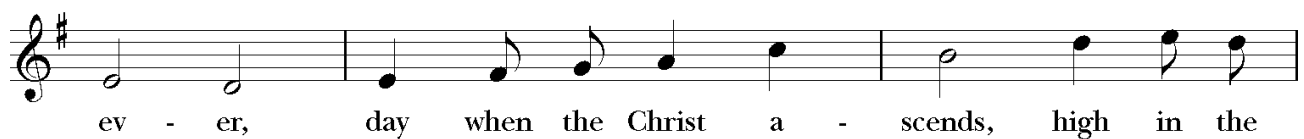
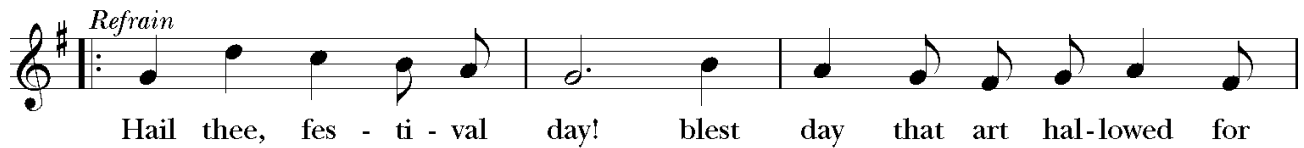
**PRELUDE:** Prelude & Fugue in C Major, BWV 547

*Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)*

*The People stand at the ringing of the Tower Bell.*

**HYMN 216:** Hail thee, festival Day!

*Salve festa dies*



2 Dai - ly the love - li - ness grows, a - dorned with the  
 4 Je - sus the health of the world, en - light - en our  
 6 Praise to the Giv - er of good! Thou Love who art

glo - ry of blos - som; hea - ven her gates un -  
 minds, thou Re - deem - er, Son of the Fa - ther su -  
 au - thor of con - cord, pour out thy balm on our

bars, fling - ing her in - crease of light:  
 preme, on - ly - be - got - ten of God:  
 souls, or - der our ways in thy peace:

## THE COLLECT FOR ASCENSION

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Officiant* Let us pray. 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.**

*Please be seated.*

## FIRST READING

Luke 24:44-53

**J**ESUS 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.

**ANTHEM:** Christ whose glory fills the skies

*Harold Darke (1888-1976)*

Christ whose glory fills the skies,  
Christ, the true, the only Light,  
Sun of Righteousness, arise,  
Triumph o'er the shades of night;  
Dayspring from on high, be near,  
Daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn  
Unaccompanied by Thee;  
Joyless is the day's return,  
Till Thy mercy's beams I see,  
Till Thou inward light impart,  
Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine,  
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;  
Fill me, Radiancy divine,  
Scatter all my unbelief;  
More and more Thyself display,  
Shining to the perfect day.

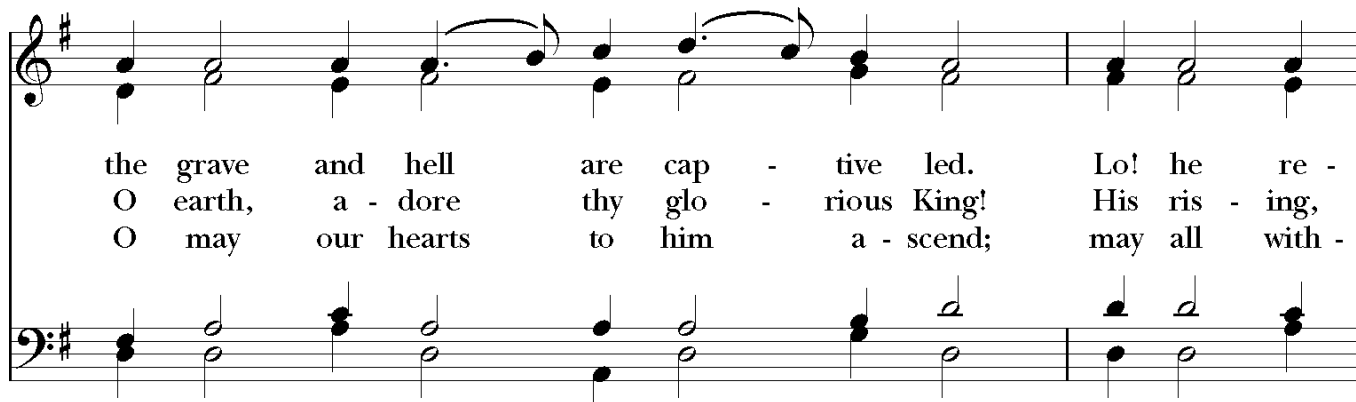
*-Charles Wesley*

*Unison or harmony*

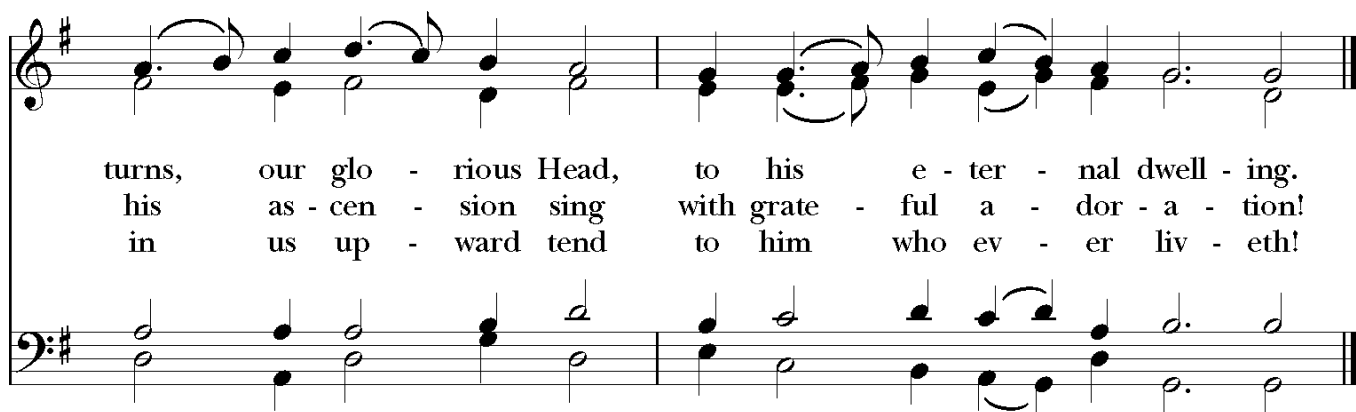

1 The Lord a - scend - eth up on high, the Lord hath tri - umphed  
 2 The heavens with joy re - ceive their Lord, by saints, by an - gel  
 3 Our great High Priest hath gone be - fore, up - on his Church his



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!

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,  
 While 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.

HYMN 221

*Gonfalon Royal*

1 O Lord Most High, e - ter - nal King, by  
 2 A - scend - ing to the Fa - ther's throne, thou  
 3 Be thou our joy, O Might - y Lord, as  
 4 O ris - en Christ, a - scend - ed Lord, all

thee re - deemed thy praise we sing. The bonds of  
 claim'st the king - dom as thine own; and an - gels  
 thou wilt be our great re - ward; let all our  
 praise to thee let earth ac - cord, who art, while

death are burst by thee, and grace has won the  
 won - der when they see how changed is our hu -  
 glo - ry be in thee both now and through e -  
 end - less a - ges run, with Fa - ther and with

*After stanza 4*

vic - to - ry.  
 man - i - ty.  
 ter - ni - ty.  
 Spi - rit, One. Al - le - lu - ia!

*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.**

**ANTHEM:** King of Glory, King of Peace

*Harold Friedell (1905-1958)*

King of glory, King of peace, I will love Thee;  
and that love may never cease, I will move Thee.  
Thou hast granted my request, Thou hast heard me;  
Thou didst note my working breast, Thou hast spared me.


Wherefore with my utmost art I will sing Thee,  
and the cream of all my heart I will bring Thee.  
Though my sins against me cried, Thou didst clear me;  
and alone, when they replied, Thou didst hear me.

Seven whole days, not one in seven, I will praise Thee;  
in my heart, though not in heaven, I can raise Thee.  
Small it is, in this poor sort to enroll Thee:  
e'en eternity's too short to extol Thee.

*-George Herbert*


# HYMN: O King most high of earth and sky

*Parsifal*




1. O King most high of earth and sky, On  
 2. O Christ, be - hold thine or - phaned fold, Which  
 3. The glo - rious gain of all thy pain, Hence -

3



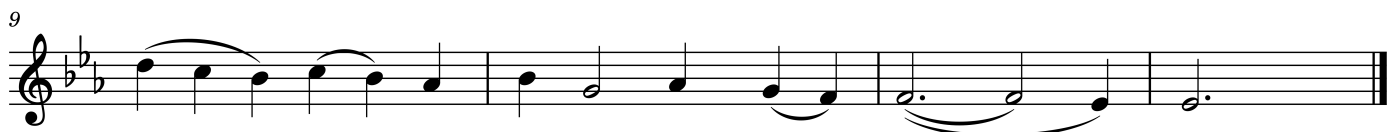
pro - strate death thou tread - est,  
 thou hast borne with an - guish,  
 forth dost thou in - her - it;

6



And with thy Blood dost mark the road where - by to heav'n thou  
 Steeped in the tide from thy rent side: O leave us not to  
 Now comes the hour, then gen - tly shower on us thy pro - mised

9



lead - est, Where - by to heav'n thou lead - est.  
 lan - guish! O leave us not to lan - guish!  
 Spi - rit! On us thy pro - mised Spi - rit.



*“A Cloud received Him out of their sight.”*

When Christ went up to Heaven the Apostles stayed  
Gazing at Heaven with souls and wills on fire,  
Their hearts on flight along the track He made,  
Winged by desire.

Their silence spake: “Lord, why not follow Thee?  
Home is not home without Thy Blessed Face,  
Life is not life. Remember, Lord, and see,  
Look back, embrace.

“Earth is one desert waste of banishment,  
Life is one long-drawn anguish of decay.  
Where Thou wert wont to go we also went:  
Why not today?”

Nevertheless a cloud cut off their gaze:  
They tarry to build up Jerusalem,  
Watching for Him, while thro’ the appointed days  
He watches them.

They do His Will, and doing it rejoice,  
Patiently glad to spend and to be spent:  
Still He speaks to them, still they hear His Voice  
And are content.

For as a cloud received Him from their sight,  
So with a cloud will He return ere long:  
Therefore they stand on guard by day, by night,  
Strenuous and strong.

They do, they dare, they beyond seven times seven  
Forgive, they cry God’s mighty word aloud:  
Yet sometimes haply lift tired eyes to Heaven—  
“Is that His cloud?”

**ANTHEM:** God omnipotent reigneth

*Charles Wood (1866-1926)*

God omnipotent reigneth, Clad in apparel bright;  
Sov'ran King He remaineth, Girded about with might;  
By him the world alone Immutably was grounded;  
In heav'n hath He His throne, From everlasting founded.

Ocean billow and breaker Uplift the voice of pride;  
But their mightier Maker Governeth wind and tide.  
His laws and sure decree Of holiness are telling,  
Which evermore shall be Sole inmate of His dwelling. Amen.

*-Paraphrase of Psalm 93  
by George Ratcliffe Woodward*

*Following the anthem, please kneel.*

### **A LITANY OF THANKSGIVING**

Let us give thanks to God our Father for all his gifts so freely bestowed upon us.  
For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea.

**We thank you, Lord.**

For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of Christ,

**We thank you, Lord.**

For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends,

**We thank you, Lord.**

For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve,

**We thank you, Lord.**

For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play,

**We thank you, Lord.**

For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity,

**We thank you, Lord.**

For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice,

**We thank you, Lord.**

For the communion of saints, in all times and places,

**We thank you, Lord.**

Above all, we give you thanks for the great mercies and promises  
given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord;

**To him be praise and glory, with you,**

**O Father, and the Holy Spirit,**

**now and for ever. Amen.**

### **CLOSING PRAYERS**

# HYMN 214: Hail the day that sees him rise, Alleluia!

*Llanfair*

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 - dant 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!

## POSTLUDE: Hymne d'Action de grâce 'Te Deum'

*Jean Langlais (1907-1991)*



CHRIST AND ST. LUKE'S CHURCH

### **Upcoming Events**

[christandstlukes.org/smss](http://christandstlukes.org/smss)

Sunday, June 4, 5:30pm

#### **MUSIC FOR ROYAL OCCASIONS**

*Our spring concert will feature all things royal  
with the Choir of Christ & St. Luke's accompanied by full orchestra,  
including Handel's Music for Royal Fireworks and Zadok the Priest.  
Music by Parry, Rutter, Vaughan Williams, and more. Not to be missed!*

Sunday, June 11, 10:15am

#### **ANGLICAN HERITAGE CELEBRATION**

*Our program year closes with a celebration of our Anglican heritage,  
followed by a high tea.*