



Sunday Service

Sunday 24th May 2020 – The Seventh Sunday of Easter

Opening Prayer

Risen ascended Lord, fill us with power and compassion,
that in our brokenness we may seek your forgiveness and be established in your peace
to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Bible reading

In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptised with water, but in a few days you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit."

Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. 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. After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. "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."

Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day's walk from the city.

Acts 1 : 1 - 12

Reflection : The Ascension

- What do we want from God?
- Do we understand the implications of Jesus' promises?
- Will we truly recognise Jesus as Lord of all?

A prayer for all those affected by coronavirus

Keep us good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy.
Sustain and support the anxious, be with all those who care for the sick,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may find comfort knowing nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Final prayer

Eternal God, giver of love and power, confirm us in your mission and help us to share the Good News of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Blessing

May the Spirit of truth lead us into all truth, and give us the courage to declare that Jesus Christ is Lord.
And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with us now and evermore. Amen.