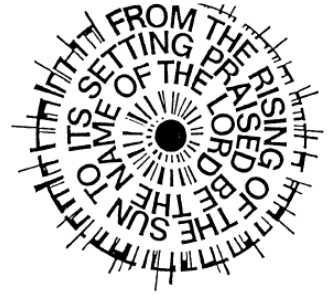


The Society of St Francis

Celebrating Common Prayer

Midday Prayer – Thursday 18 May, Ascension Day



Preparation

God is with you

And also with you

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to God, Creator, Word, Spirit

As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever. Amen .

Alleluia!

A HYMN *or* CANTICLE *may be said or sung, the following or some other.*

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:

Such a Way, as gives us breath:

Such a Truth, as ends all strife:

And such a Life, as killeth death.

Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength:

Such a Light, as shows a Feast:

Such a Feast, as mends in length:

Such a Strength, as makes his guest.

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:

Such a Joy, as none can move:

Such a Love, as none can part:

Such a Heart, as joys in Love.

The Word of God

Psalmody

PSALM 47

1 Clap your hands, all you peoples; *
shout to God with a cry of joy.
2 For GOD Most High is to be feared; *
GOD is the great Ruler over all the earth.
3 GOD subdues the peoples under us, *
and the nations under our feet.
4 GOD chooses our inheritance for us, *
the pride of Jacob whom GOD loves.
5 God has gone up with a shout, *
GOD with the sound of the ram's-horn.
6 Sing praises to God, sing praises; *
sing praises to our Sovereign, sing praises.
7 For God is Ruler of all the earth; *
sing praises with all your skill.
8 God reigns over the nations; *
God sits upon the holy throne.
9 The nobles of the peoples have gathered together *
with the people of the God of Abraham.
10 The rulers of the earth belong to God, *
and God is highly exalted.

Glory to God, Creator, Word, Spirit

As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever. Amen .

Short Reading

Jesus said to them, "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.

Luke 24:44-53

Responsory

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you,
I have called you by name; you are mine.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
And when you pass through rivers,
they shall not overwhelm you.

When you walk through fire, you shall not be burned:
And the flame shall not consume you.

Do not fear, for I am with you,
I am the Holy One, your Saviour.

Prayers

THE KYRIES may be used as responses to intercession.

Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

The Collect

God unheld by word or wall:
lift us from dullness and cynical contempt;
make us ready for your Spirit of transforming power;
and turn our hearts to the mending of the world,
through Jesus Christ, the name above all names.
Amen.

Benedict of Nursia (c.550)

THE DISCIPLES' PRAYER may be said.

[Let us pray for the unity of all peoples on earth,
in the words our Saviour has taught us:]

**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.
Save us from the time of trial,
And deliver us from evil.
For the Kingdom, the power and the Glory are yours,
Now and forever.
Amen**

,

Blessing

May Christ our redeemer give us healing and wholeness. **Amen.**

Let us bless our Loving God.
Thanks be to God.