### June 1, 2025

### **Ascension of the Lord**

Go and make disciples of all nations, says the Lord: I am with you always, to the close of the age.

Matthew 28: 19-20

#### **Scripture Readings:**

• Acts 1: 1-11

• Psalm 47

• Ephesians 1: 15-23

• Luke 24: 44-53

We celebrate today as we read the scriptures which tell us of Jesus entry into heaven. We are all witnesses to Jesus' earthly life of teaching, healing and many miracles. We witness the deep, dep love that Jesus has for us. We read how everything is fulfilled in the scriptures and that He is still with us spiritually fulfilling our daily lives with His love.

**Collect:** Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that He might rule over all things as Lord. Keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of His peace, and bring the whole creation to worship at His feet, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

God of love, as we celebrate this festival of Jesus' entry into heaven as Saviour and Lord, we pray for unity in the church and reconciliation and renewed vision.

Both heaven and earth: are full of God's glory.

As we recall the shout of praise in heaven as the Lamb of God appears, we pray for all who are hailed as heroes and given great honour on earth, for all who worship anyone or anything other than the true God.

Both heaven and earth: are full of God's glory.

We pray for all farewells and homecomings among our families and in our community and for all who have lost touch with loved ones and long for reunion.

Both heaven and earth: are full of God's glory.

We pray for those who are full of tears and cannot imagine being happy again. We pray for the hardened and callous, whose inner hurts have never yet been healed. We pray for wholeness, comfort and new life.

Both heaven and earth: are full of God's glory.

We commend to your eternal love those we remember who have died and we pray, too, for those who miss their physical presence.

Both heaven and earth: are full of God's glory.

We praise and bless you, God of our waking, for the way you draw us deeper into the meaning of life. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

#### June 8, 2025

### The Day of Pentecost

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in us the fire of your love.

#### **Scripture Readings:**

• Acts 2: 1-21

• Psalm 104: 25-35, 37

• Romans 8: 14-17

• John 14: 8-17

At Pentecost, as Jesus promised, the Holy Spirit is poured out on the apostles. They were able to talk in tongues and to understand each in their own language. This was prophesized by the the prophet Joel. Jesus tells them they will be able to do great things in His name in faith and truth. May it be to us to be open to receive God's truth, faith and love to continue His work here on earth. Praise the Lord, O my soul.

**Collect:** Almighty and everliving God, who fulfilled the promises of Easter by sending us your Holy Spirit and opening to every race and nation the way of life eternal, keep us in the unity of your Spirit, that every tongue may tell of your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

As the Spirit enables us let us gather ourselves to pray. May all church leaders, ordained ministers and laity be filled to overflowing with love for your people and kindled with fresh zeal for spreading the good news of the gospel.

Spirit of the living God: fall afresh on us.

May all of those negotiating for peace in the delicate areas of national conflict, industrial disputes and entrenched bitterness be blessed with the peace of God, tranquil and patient beneath the pressure.

Spirit of the living God: fall afresh on us.

In our homes and places of work, our schools and hospitals may there always be time for the warmth of loving concern and comfort of being valued.

Spirit of the living God: fall afresh on us.

Give help to all rescue workers and keep them safe. May all who are trapped in damaged bodies or minds, in poverty or tyranny, in earthquakes, floods or storms be brought to freedom and safety and be aware of your love for them.

Spirit of the living God: fall afresh on us.

We pray for all those who have died and all who mourn their passing. Calm the fears of the dying and have mercy on all of us.

Spirit of the living God: fall afresh on us.

We thank you, Heavenly Father, for the gift of your Holy Spirit among us. We look forward to the future infused with your life. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

### The Lord's Prayer

June 15, 2025

Trinity Sunday - Father's Day

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Hosts, the whole earth is full of His glory.

Isaiah 6: 3

#### **Scripture Readings:**

• Proverbs 8: 1-4, 22-31

• Psalm 8

Romans 5: 1-5John 16: 12-15

Wisdom calls out understanding. God has always been before the world was made. He formed the earth in all its beauty. In time He sent His Son to be our Saviour of the world. Then in His deep, deep love He sent His Holy Spirit to be with us for ever until we meet again in heaven. God is celebrated today as we reflect on the truth that God is Creator, Redeemer and the giver of life eternal. Pray for wisdom!

**Collect:** Father, we praise you: through your Word and Holy Spirit you created all things. You reveal your salvation in all the world by sending to us Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Through your Holy Spirit you give us a share in your life and love. Fill us with the vision of your glory, that we may always serve and praise you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Let us pray to the Father in the power of the Holy Spirit through Jesus Christ the Son. We pray for all theologians and those who teach the faith in colleges and Bible study groups throughout your church. We pray for Godly wisdom and human insight.

Holy God: help us to know you more.

We pray for peace and co-operation, harmony and mutual respect in all our dealings with one another locally, nationally and internationally.

Holy God: help us to know you more.

We pray for those who depend on us and those on whom we depend for our physical and spiritual needs. Enable us to honour one another as children of your making.

Holy God: help us to know you more.

We pray for those who feel shut out, for those forced to live apart from loved ones through war, political unrest, natural disasters or poverty. We commend their pain to your comforting.

Holy God: help us to know you more.

We remember those who told us of you through their words and lives. We think of those who have died in faith and ask that we may share with them in the joy of your presence for ever.

Holy God: help us to know you more.

We give you thanks for meeting us where we are and travelling with us in person. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

### The Lord's Prayer

### Father's Day Prayer

God, you are the source of all love and blessings. We turn to you in gratitude for the gift of fathers, formed in your likeness and image, and vessels of your unconditional love. You entrusted your Son Jesus, to the care of Joseph, His earthly father. Bless all fathers as they care for their families. Give them strength and wisdom, tenderness and patience, in times of struggles, help them to "not to be afraid or discouraged- for you are with them wherever they go". (Joshua 1: 9 adapted)

We acknowledge as well this Father's Day, those who walk alongside children with the same caring hands and hearts of fathers - always ready to serve the needs of those entrusted to their care as role models and mentors. Heavenly Father, pour your abundant blessings upon them. We know that "where You guide, You provide." (Isaiah 58: 11 adapted)

We remember and honour all fathers who have found their home with you in heaven. We pray that their children will know the ongoing spiritual presence of their fathers in their lives – an ever present light along life's pathway.

We ask this in Jesus' name, as we pray to His Father and our Spiritual Father:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

June 22, 2025

### **2nd Sunday after Pentecost**

My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord. I know them and they follow me.

John 10: 27

#### **Scripture Readings:**

• 1 Kings 19: 1-4, 8-15

Psalm 42 and 43

• Galatians 3: 23-29

• Luke 8: 26-39

When our faith is being tested we cry out to God for help. In the gospel of Luke the demon possessed man was cured by Jesus and wanted to stay with Him because of his gratitude, but Jesus instructed him to return home and tell how much God had done for him. God is full of compassion. He hears or crying and He rescues us. Let us never forget to tell others of His great love and mercy to others.

**Collect:** O God our defender, storms rage about us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us all from unbelief; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Let us bring to God who loves us our prayers and concerns for the church and the world. God of compassion, take our hearts of stone and give us feeling hearts so that we as the church may be more responsible to the needs and sorrows around us.

God of love: show us the way.

God of wisdom, teach all in authority, inspire those who lead, protect each nation from evil and further each right decision.

God of love: show us the way.

God of tenderness, dwell in our homes through all times of joy and all the heartaches and sadness, teaching us to show one another the love you show us.

God of love: show us the way.

God of wholeness, speak into the despair and loneliness of all who struggle with life and its troubles. Reassure, affirm and encourage them and alert us to ways we can help.

God of love: show us the way.

God of peace be with the dying and as you welcome those who have died in the faith into the full life of your kingdom, we, too, remember them with thanks and love. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

### The Lord's Prayer

June 29, 2025

St. Peter & St. Paul, Apostles

Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you. John 21: 17

#### **Scripture Readings:**

• Ezekiel 34: 1-16

Psalm 87

• 2 Timothy 4: 1-18

• John 21: 15-19

We are told to be ready in and out of season to be true to God's word. Keep the faith of God's truth and He will supply all our needs. He will give us strength to do the work. Jesus affirms Peter in His love for him and it is that same love Jesus has for us. He will never leave us. God is close through all our troubles and can bring us safely through them.

**Collect:** Almighty God, your blessed apostles Peter and Paul glorified you in their death as in their life. Grant that your Church, inspired by their teaching and example, and made one by your Spirit, may ever stand firm upon the one foundation, Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Let us pray to the faithful God who knows us already and love us so much. We pray that any barriers within the church built up by fear or prejudice, misunderstanding or hurt, may be broken down in Christ and unity restored.

Whatever our journey, O Lord: walk with us on the way.

We pray for our world to be governed wisely and well with proper consideration for the vulnerable and weak with co-operation, honesty and respect for all.

Whatever our journey, O Lord: walk with us on the way.

We pray for healing of hurts and tensions in our families and for our friends thanking you for the blessings they give. As friends of Christ may we be generous in our friendships.

Whatever our journey, O Lord: walk with us on the way.

We pray for those who suffer from mental illness and for all who are rejected and despised. We pray for all in desolate situations and any kind of sickness. We ask for your comfort and healing.

Whatever our journey, O Lord: walk with us on the way.

We remember those whose earthly life has ended and for those grieving loved ones. Enfold them in your love and let them become aware of you beside them.

Whatever our journey, O Lord: walk with us on the way.

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the loving way you provide for us even during darkest times. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

### **A Celtic Prayer**

May the Christ who walks on wounded feet walk with you on the road.

May the Christ who serves with wounded hands stretch out your hands to serve.

May the Christ who loves with a wounded heart open up your hearts to love.

May you see the face of Christ in everyone you meet, And may everyone you meet see the face of Christ in you.