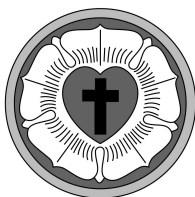


Brighton Lutheran Mission



The Ascension of Our Lord
(Observed)
12 May 2013

brightonlutherans.wordpress.com

Pastor Tapani Simojoki

Tel: 01329 822832

Mobile: 07825 447475

E-mail: pastor@oslc.org.uk

Welcome to Brighton Lutheran Mission!

**May God bless you richly as we
gather together to receive His gifts.**

Please stay behind for a cup of tea or
coffee afterwards.

Holy Communion — A note to visitors

It is our desire that all people receive the body and blood of our Lord at this altar! However, our Lord has told us in His Word that His body and blood, given into our mouths, are powerful and not to be given or received lightly or in a careless way. Therefore, in respecting the Word of the Lord that anyone who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner is doing harm to themselves, and that He desires that all who commune together be truly united in the confession of the truth, we ask that only those who have been instructed in the Lutheran Confessions and are under our pastor's care come forward to receive the Lord's Supper.

All who are visiting us and who desire to commune with us are asked to first speak with our pastor before the service, so that all can make an informed decision about participating with us in our fellowship in this place. *We are not condemning anyone with this practice; we seek only to follow the Word of the Lord and carry out responsible pastoral care.*

If you are not communing with us today, please do come forward for a blessing.

Thank you for honouring our beliefs.

Explanation of Symbols:

- C** Congregation
- P** Pastor (ordained)
- A** Assistant minister (ordained or lay)
- L** Liturgist (ordained or lay)
- ✠ You may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of your baptism.
- ❖ You may bow at this point as a sign of reverence.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Hymn: A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

1. A hymn of glo-ry let us sing! New
songs through-out the world shall ring: Al-le-
lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia. Christ, by a road before un-
trod As-cendeth to the throne of God. Al-le-
lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-
lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia.

2. The holy apostolic band
Upon the Mount of Olives stand
Alleluia, Alleluia.
And with His followers they see
Their Lord ascend in majesty.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.
3. To them the angels drawing cry,
“Why stand and gaze upon the sky?”
Alleluia, Alleluia.
“This is the Saviour,” thus they say.
“This is His noble triumph day.”
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.
4. “Again ye shall behold Him so,
As ye have today seen Him go.”
Alleluia, Alleluia.
“In glorious pomp ascending high
Up to the portals of the sky.”
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.
5. O grant us thitherward to tend
And with unwearied hearts ascend,
Alleluia, Alleluia.
Unto Thy kingdom’s throne, where Thou
As is our faith, art seated now,
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

6. Be Thou our Joy and strong Defence,
Who art our future Recompense,
Alleluia, Alleluia.
So shall the light that springs from Thee
Be ours through all eternity,
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.
7. O risen Christ, ascended Lord,
All praise to Thee let earth accord,
Alleluia, Alleluia.
Who art, while endless ages run,
With Father and with Spirit One,
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

*Text: Bede (673–735); tr. Benjamin Webb (1819–85), alt.
Music: German, 1623*

Confession and Absolution

Catechism

P The Lord's Prayer, the Conclusion

C Amen.

P What does this mean?

C **This means that I should be certain that these petitions are pleasing to our Father in heaven, and are heard by Him; for He Himself has commanded us to pray in this way and has promised to hear us. Amen, amen means “yes, yes, it shall be so”.**

Introit (*Ps. 47:1–2, 5, 8; antiphon: Acts 1:11*)

L Men of Galilee,*

why do you stand looking into heaven? Alleluia.

This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven,*

will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven. Alleluia.

C **Clap your hands, all peoples!***

Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

L For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared,*
a great king over all the earth.

C **God has gone up with a shout,***

the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

L God reigns over the nations,*

God sits on his holy throne.

C ❖ **Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

L Men of Galilee,*

why do you stand looking into heaven? Alleluia.

C **This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven,***

will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven. Alleluia.

Kyrie

Gloria in Excelsis

Salutation and Collect of the Day

Almighty God, as Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ascended into the heavens, so grant that we also ascend in heart and mind and continually dwell there with Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

The Readings

Jesus Is Ascended, but Not Absent

On the fortieth day after His resurrection, our Lord ascended to the right hand of the Father. But although Jesus is hidden from your eyes, He is not absent from you. For He now fills all things in heaven and on earth. He continues “to do and to teach” (Acts 1:1), preaching repentance and forgiveness of sins through those sent in His name (Mark 16:14–20; Luke 24:44–53), giving you His true body and blood in the Supper. Jesus is your great Elijah who pours out on you a double portion of His Spirit in the Word and the Sacraments (2 Kings 2:5–15). He is Lord over all things for the sake of the Church. He whom heaven cannot contain has raised your human nature to share fully in the glory of God. You who believe and are baptised into Christ’s body are already sitting in the heavenly places; for you are in Him who is at the Father’s right hand. When He comes again in the clouds on the Last Day, you also will appear with Him in glory.

Old Testament Reading—2 Kings 2:5–15

⁵The sons of the prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD will take away your master from over you?” And he answered, “Yes, I know it; keep quiet.”

⁶Then Elijah said to him, “Please stay here, for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.” But he said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them went on. ⁷Fifty men of the sons of the prophets also went and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸Then Elijah took his cloak and rolled it up and struck the water, and the water was parted to the one side and to the other, till the two of them could go over on dry ground.

⁹When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Ask what I shall do for you, before I am taken from you.” And Elisha said, “Please let there be a double portion of your spirit on me.” ¹⁰And he said, “You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so for you, but if you do not see me, it shall not be so.” ¹¹And as they still went on and talked, behold, chariots of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them. And Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. ¹²And Elisha saw it and he cried, “My father, my father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!” And he saw him no more.

Then he took hold of his own clothes and tore them in two pieces. ¹³And he took up the cloak of Elijah that had fallen from him and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. ¹⁴Then he took the cloak of Elijah that had fallen from him and struck the water, saying, “Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah?” And when he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over.

¹⁵Now when the sons of the prophets who were at Jericho saw him opposite them, they said, “The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha.” And they came to meet him and bowed to the ground before him.

Epistle Reading—Acts 1:1–11

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, ²until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands

through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

⁴And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me; ⁵for John baptised with water, but you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” ⁹And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, ¹¹and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Alleluia Verse (Ps. 47:5; 68:18a)

G Alleluia!

**God has gone up with a shout,
the LORD with the shout of a trumpet.**

Alleluia!

**You ascended on high,
leading a host of captives in your train.**

Alleluia!

Gospel Reading—Luke 24:44–53

L The ✠ holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

G Glory be to You, O Lord.

⁴⁴Then [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 and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.”

⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

⁵⁰Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. ⁵¹While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵²And they worshipped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, ⁵³and were continually in the temple blessing God.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise be to You, O Christ

The Nicene Creed

Hymn: See, the Lord Ascends in Triumph



1. See, the Lord as - cends in tri - umph,
2. Who is this that comes in glo - ry
3. While He lifts His hands in bless - ing
4. Now our heav'n - ly Aa - ron en - ters



Con - qu'ring King in roy - al state
With the trump of ju - bi - lee?
He is par - ted from His friends;
With His blood with - in the veil;



Rid - ing on the clouds, His chari - ot
Lord of bat - tles, God of ar - mies,
While their ea - ger eyes be - hold Him,
Jo - shua now is come to Ca - naan,



To His heav'n - ly pa - lace gate;
He has gained the vic - to - ry.
He up - on the clouds as - cends.
And the kings be - fore Him quail.



Hark! The choirs of an - gel voic - es
He who on the cross did suf - fer,
He who walked with God and pleased Him,
Now He plants the tribes of Is - rael



Joy - ful al - le - lu - ias sing,
He who from the grave a - rose,
Preach - ing truth and doom to come,
In their prom - ised rest - ing place,



And the por - tals high are lif - ted
He has van - quished sin and Sa - tan;
He, our E - noch, is trans - lat - ed
Now our great E - li - jah of - fers



To re - ceive their heav'n - ly King.
He by death has spoiled His foes.
To His ev - er - last - ing home.
Doub - le por - tion of His grace.

5. He has raised our human nature
On the clouds to God's right hand;
There we sit in heav'nly places,
There with Him in glory stand.
Jesus reigns, adored by angels;
By our mighty Lord's ascension
We by faith behold our own.

*Text: Christopher Wordsworth (1807–85), abr. Alt.
Music: Henry T. Smart (1813–79)*

Sermon

The Offertory

Offering

Prayer of the Church

The Service of the Sacrament

Hymn: In Thee Is Gladness



1. In Thee is glad - ness A - mid all
2. If He is ours, — We fear no



sad - ness, Je - sus, sun - shine of my
pow - ers, Not of earth nor sin nor



heart. By Thee are giv - en The gifts of
death. He sees and bless - es In worst dis -



heav - en, Thou the true Re - deem - er
tress - es; He can change them with a



art. Our souls Thou wakest, Our bonds Thou
breath. Wherefore the sto - ry Tell of His



breakest; Who trusts Thee sure - ly Has built se -
glo - ry With hearts and voic - es; All heav'n re -



cure - ly; He stands for - ev - er: Al - le - lu -
joic - es In Him for ev - er: Al - le - lu -



ia! Our hearts are pin - ing To see Thy
ia! We shout for glad - ness, Tri - umph o'er



shin - ing, Dy - ing or liv - ing To Thee are
sadness, Love Him and praise Him And still shall



cleav - ing; Naught can us sev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!
raise Him Glad hymns for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!

*Text: Johann Lindemann (1549–1631),
tr. Catherine Winkeworth (1827–87), alt.
Music: Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi (c. 1556–c. 1622)*

IN OUR PRAYERS

Ascension Lutheran Church; Pr. Samiec; India
Evangelical Lutheran Church; Lutherans in Africa,
Pr. James May; Holland Road Baptist Church, Pr.
David Treneer

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF CONCORD THE SMALL CATECHISM PART III: THE CREED

THE THIRD ARTICLE

Sanctification

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

What does this mean?

Answer: I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him. But the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise up me and all the dead and will give eternal life to me and to all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.

CONDENSED QUOTATION FROM CONCORDIA: THE LUTHERAN
CONFESSIONS, COPYRIGHT © 2005, 2006 BY CONCORDIA PUBLISHING HOUSE. USED
BY PERMISSION. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

**God willing, the next service
will be held on
9 June 2013 at 4.30pm**

The service will be led by Pr. Jon Ehlers