



SOLEMN EUCHARIST FOR  
THE FEAST OF THE ASCENSION

THURSDAY 29 MAY 2025 ✠ 6.00 PM

TRINITY COLLEGE CHAPEL  
CAMBRIDGE

Welcome to this service of HOLY COMMUNION  
sung by The Choir of Trinity College Cambridge.  
To follow the service, you will need this booklet  
and a green New English Hymnal.

Please ensure that all electronic devices,  
including cameras, are switched off.

Services from Trinity College Chapel are video webcast live  
and available to watch again. You may be identifiable  
as in attendance at the service.

You are invited to join in with all text in **bold** type.  
Where directions are given to stand, sit, or kneel,  
please follow them as you are able.

If you receive communion in your own church,  
you are welcome to do so here.

Gluten-free hosts are available upon request;  
please speak to a Chaplain or the Verger.

If you would rather receive a blessing,  
please indicate this by crossing your arms  
over your chest as you approach the altar.

This service includes the use of incense  
in procession and at the altar.

**Cover Image:**

*The Ascension* (1636)  
Rembrandt van Rijn (1606–69)  
Alte Pinakothek, Munich

**Mass Setting:**

*Missa Sicut lilium inter spinas*  
Giovanni Pierluigi de Palestrina (1525–94)

# PRELUDE

*Heut triumphieret Gottes Sohn, BWV 630*

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

*Please stand as the altar party and choir enter.*

# HYMN

NEH 128 (ii)

GONFALON ROYAL

1 Eternal Monarch, King most high, whose blood hath brought redemption nigh, by whom the death of Death was wrought, and conquering grace's battle fought:

2 Ascending to the throne of might, and seated at the Father's right, all power in heaven is Jesu's own, that here his manhood had not known.

3 Yea, angels tremble when they see how changed is our humanity; for flesh hath purged what flesh had stained, and God, the flesh of God, hath reigned.

4 Be thou our joy and strong defence, who art our future recompense: so shall the light that springs from thee be ours through all eternity.

5 O risen Christ, ascended Lord, all praise to thee let earth accord, who art, while endless ages run, with Father and with Spirit one. Amen.

Words: c. 5th century Latin  
trans. John Mason Neale (1818–66)  
Music: Percy Buck (1871–1947)

## THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Let us pray.

*Please kneel or sit.*

**A**lmighty God, unto whom all hearts be open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

**O**ur Lord Jesus Christ said: Hear, O Israel, The Lord our God is one Lord; and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength. This is the first commandment.

And the second is like, namely this: Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

**Lord, have mercy upon us, and write all these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.**

*The choir sings:*

## THE KYRIE

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

*Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.*

## THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

**G**rant, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that like as we do believe thy only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into heaven; so we may also in heart and mind thither ascend, and with him continually dwell, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

*Please stand as the choir sings:*

## THE GLORIA

Gloria in excelsis Deo et in terra pax hominibus bonæ voluntatis.

Laudamus te, benedicimus te, adoramus te, glorificamus te,

Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam.

Domine Deus, Rex cælestis, Deus Pater omnipotens.

Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu Christe;

Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris,

Qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.

Qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe deprecationem nostram.

Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris, miserere nobis.

Quoniam tu solus Sanctus; tu solus Dominus;

Tu solus Altissimus, Jesu Christe, Cum Sancto Spiritu,

✠ in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

*Glory be to God on high and on earth peace, good will towards men.*

*We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee,*

*We give thanks to thee for thy great glory.*

*O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.*

*O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;*

*O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,*

*That takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.*

*Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.  
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.  
For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord;  
Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high  
✠ in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

*Please sit.*

## THE FIRST LESSON

ACTS 1.1–11

**T**he former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen: To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God: And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.



*The choir sings:*

## PSALM 47

O clap your hands together, all ye people : O sing unto God with the voice of melody.

For the Lord is high, and to be feared : he is the great King upon all the earth.

He shall subdue the people under us : and the nations under our feet.

He shall choose out an heritage for us : even the worship of Jacob, whom he loved.

God is gone up with a merry noise : and the Lord with the sound of the trump.

O sing praises, sing praises unto our God : O sing praises, sing praises unto our King.

For God is the King of all the earth : sing ye praises with understanding.

God reigneth over the heathen : God sitteth upon his holy seat.

The princes of the people are joined unto the people of the God of Abraham : for God, which is very high exalted, doth defend the earth, as it were with a shield.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost : as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be; world without end. Amen.

*Please stand as the Gospel is brought to the people.*

# THE GOSPEL

LUKE 24.44–53

The Holy Gospel is taken from the Gospel according to Saint Luke, Chapter 24, beginning to read at the 44th verse.

**Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

**A**nd he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me. Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And ye are witnesses of these things. And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy: And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to thee, O Christ.**



*Please stand, turning eastward:*

## THE NICENE CREED

**I** believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; and in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord, and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church; I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, ✠ and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## THE OFFERTORY

**L**ay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal.

# HYMN

NEH 132

REX GLORIAE

1 See the Conqueror mounts in triumph, see the King in royal state riding on the clouds his chariot to his heavenly palace gate; Hark! the choirs of angel voices joyful alleluyas sing, and the portals high are lifted to receive their heavenly King.

2 Who is this that comes in glory, with the trump of jubilee? Lord of battles, God of armies, he has gained the victory; he who on the cross did suffer, he who from the grave arose, he has vanquished sin and Satan, he by death has spoiled his foes.

3 Thou hast raised our human nature in the clouds to God's right hand; there we sit in heavenly places, there with thee in glory stand; Jesus reigns, adored by angels; man with God is on the throne; mighty Lord, in thine ascension we by faith behold our own.

4 Glory be to God the Father; glory be to God the Son, dying, risen, ascending for us, who the heavenly realm has won; glory to the Holy Spirit; to One God in persons Three; glory both in earth and heaven, glory, endless glory be. Amen.

Words: Christopher Wordsworth (1807–85)

Music: Henry Smart (1813–79)

**L**et us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church militant here in earth:

Almighty and everliving God, who by thy holy Apostle hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men; We humbly beseech thee most mercifully to accept our oblations, and to receive these our prayers, which we offer unto thy Divine Majesty; beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord: And grant that all they who do confess thy

holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

We beseech thee also to save and defend all Christian Kings, Princes, and Governors; and specially thy servant Charles our King; that under him we may be godly and quietly governed: And grant unto his whole Council, and to all that are put in authority under him, that they may truly and indifferently minister justice, to the punishment of wickedness and vice, and to the maintenance of thy true religion, and virtue.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all Bishops, Priests and Deacons, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments. And to all thy People give thy heavenly grace; and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear, and receive thy holy Word; truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succour all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity. And we also bless thy holy Name ✠ for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear; beseeching thee to give us grace so to follow their good examples, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

## THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**Y**e that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways; Draw near with faith, and take this holy Sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to Almighty God, meekly kneeling upon your knees.

*Please kneel or sit.*

**A**lmighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, Judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honour and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**A**lmighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you; ✠ pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Please stand.*

## THE COMFORTABLE WORDS

**H**ear what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith unto all who truly turn to him:

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you.

God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Hear also what Saint Paul saith: This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, That Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

Hear also what Saint John saith: If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the Propitiation for our sins.

## THE PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

**And with thy spirit.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

**It is meet and right so to do.**

**I**t is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God, through thy most dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who, after his most glorious Resurrection, manifestly appeared to all his Apostles, and in their sight ascended up into heaven, to prepare a

place for us; that where he is, thither we might also ascend, and reign with him in glory.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and singing:

*The choir sings:*

## THE SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth:

Pleni sunt cæli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis.

✠ Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Hosanna in excelsis.

*Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts:*

*Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Hosanna in the highest.*

✠ *Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*

*Please kneel or sit.*

## THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

**W**e do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.



## THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

**A**lmighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption; who made there (by his one oblation of himself once offered) a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death, until his coming again; Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee; and grant that we receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine, according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood: who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took Bread; and, when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat, this is my Body which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me. ✠

Likewise after supper he took the Cup; and, when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins: Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me. ✠

*The choir sings:*

## THE AGNUS DEI

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.

*O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.*

*O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.*

*O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.*

*The altar party and choir receive communion. Please remain seated until the Verger and Wardens invite you to join the queue.*

## THE MUSIC AT COMMUNION

*Ave verum corpus*  
William Byrd (c. 1540–1623)

Ave verum corpus, natum de Maria virgine:  
vere passum, immolatum in cruce pro homine:  
cuius latus perforatum, unda fluxit sanguine:  
esto nobis praegustatum in mortis examine.  
O dulcis, o pie, o Jesu Fili Mariae, miserere mei. Amen.

*Hail, true body, of the Blessed Virgin born,  
which in anguish to redeem us didst suffer upon the cross;  
from whose side, when pierced by spear, there came forth both water and blood:  
be to us at our last hour the source of consolation.  
O loving, O holy, O Jesu, thou Son of Mary, have mercy upon me. Amen.*

## AFTER COMMUNION

**O**ur Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. Amen.

**A**lmighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee, for that thou dost vouchsafe to feed us, who have duly received these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favour and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in

the mystical body of thy Son, which is the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs through hope of thy everlasting kingdom, by the merits of the most precious death and passion of thy dear Son. And we most humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

*Please stand, turning eastward.*

## THE BLESSING

**T**he Peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: And the Blessing of God Almighty, ☩ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

# HYMN

NEH 130 (i)

LLANFAIR

1 Hail the day that sees him rise,  
Alleluya! glorious to his native  
skies; Alleluya! Christ, awhile to  
mortals given, Alleluya! enters  
now the highest heaven! Alleluya!

2 There the glorious triumph  
waits; Alleluya! lift your heads,  
eternal gates! Alleluya! Christ  
hath vanquished death and sin;  
Alleluya! take the King of glory  
in. Alleluya!

3 Lord, though parted from our  
sight, Alleluya! far above yon  
azure height, Alleluya! grant our  
hearts may thither rise, Alleluya!  
seeking thee beyond the skies.  
Alleluya!

4 There we shall with thee  
remain, Alleluya! partners of  
thine endless reign; Alleluya!  
there thy face unclouded see,  
Alleluya! find our heaven of  
heavens in thee. Alleluya!

Words: Charles Wesley (1707–88)  
and Thomas Cotterill (1779–1823)  
Music: Robert Williams (1781–1821)

*Please remain standing as the altar party and choir depart.*

# POSTLUDE

*Toccata in F, BuxWV 157*  
Dieterich Buxtehude (1637–1707)

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## THIS SUNDAY'S PREACHER

Alan Smith, First Estates Commissioner will speak on Romans 2:24  
as part of our series on Words from Paul.

*[www.trinitycollegechapel.com](http://www.trinitycollegechapel.com)*

## CHAPLAINS' EVENTS

For details of all events and activities, please see the Chaplains' weekly email, and follow us on Facebook (Trinity College Chapel, Cambridge) and Instagram (@trincollchapel).

## THIS TERM'S CHARITIES

### CONCRETE ROSE

A local initiative offering additional support for those aged 16-23 who are at risk of homelessness, including care leavers, those estranged from family, unaccompanied asylum seekers, and young parents.

Mentoring and supported lodgings are a couple of the ways Concrete Rose meets the needs of local young people. **[concreterose.co.uk](http://concreterose.co.uk)**

### UNICEF SUDAN EMERGENCY APPEAL

Children and families in Sudan need urgent protection and humanitarian aid. UNICEF is working for safe passage, protection, and access to services for children, families and their staff across the country during this time of armed violence. **[www.unicef.org.uk/donate/sudan-appeal](http://www.unicef.org.uk/donate/sudan-appeal)**



Scan here using your smartphone to make a donation to this term's charities or visit **[www.trin.cam.ac.uk/chapelcharities](http://www.trin.cam.ac.uk/chapelcharities)**

## Trinity College Chapel

The Reverend Prof Michael Banner, Dean of Chapel

The Reverend Anne Strauss, Chaplain

The Reverend Sophie Young, Chaplain

## The Choir of Trinity College Cambridge

Steven Grahl, Director of Music

Augustine Cox, Senior Organ Scholar

Thomas Simpson, Junior Organ Scholar