



The Feast of the Ascension
May 21, 2020
A Contemplative Liturgy
6-7pm

Opening Chant

Invitatory Prayer

Before Jesus' ascension, he relentlessly pushed his followers toward a new level of subtlety, like a mother bird pushing her fledglings out of the nest. He knew his disciples would be able to recognize the spirit of truth when it descended on them ten days later.

May we too be pushed out of our nest, for we know how to do this, we do know the way. Let us remember the ascension as an event in the imaginal realm, irreversibly altering the nature of the disciples' consciousness. May our consciousness be irreversibly altered as we surrender to Jesus who in his realized nature provides intimate access to our own realized eternal nature.

May we open ourselves to be filled with the Holy Spirit through which the Christ comes to meet us with wisdom, energy, truth, and love. AMEN. (adapted C Bourgeault)

[Ascension](#) by Malcom Guite

We saw his light break through the cloud of glory
Whilst we were rooted still in time and place
As earth became a part of Heaven's story
And heaven opened to his human face.
We saw him go and yet we were not parted
He took us with him to the heart of things
The heart that broke for all the broken-hearted
Is whole and Heaven-centered now, and sings,
Sings in the strength that rises out of weakness,
Sings through the clouds that veil him from our sight,
Whilst we our selves become his clouds of witness
And sing the waning darkness into light,
His light in us, and ours in him concealed,
Which all creation waits to see revealed.

The Gospel

John 14 "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you.

“I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’

Chant

Silence (20 minutes)

Chant

The Eucharistic Celebration (based on The Hymn of Jesus from The Acts of John)

Celebrant:

On the night before he died for us, Our Lord gathered all of us together and said, “Before I am delivered up, let us sing a hymn to the Father and so go forth to what lies before us.” He bade us therefore to make a ring, holding one another’s hands, And himself standing in the midst, he said, “Answer Amen unto me.”

The Prayer of Consecration

Celebrant:

I am the light shining upon all things.

I am the sum of everything, for from me everything,

for from me everything has come forth, and towards me everything unfolds.

Split a piece of wood, and there I am. Pick up a stone, and you will find me there.

What was promised in pain has been delivered in glory:

“Lo! I will be with you all unto the end of time.”

(adapted from The Gospel of Thomas)

Celebrant places hand on bread.

When you eat this bread, remember me.

Celebrant places hand on cup.

When you drink this cup, remember me.

The Lord’s Prayer

Silent epiclesis, then elevation, and then fraction

Celebrant:

Whoever drinks what flows from my mouth will come to be like me and I will

Come to be like them so that what is hidden may become manifest.

Chris: Eat friends, drink! Drink deeply of love! (Song of Songs 5:1)

Sonare Divina *Abide in my love by Darlene Franz*

A CLOSING PRAYER

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family on heaven and earth takes its name.

I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you be strengthened in your inner being through the power of his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have the power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know the love that surpasses knowledge-that you may be filled with the very nature of God. (Ephesians 3: 14-18)



my love
Guest
Creator: Abide in my love
Invited Guest: Jesus remember me this day in paradise.
Christ the Host: Where I am may you also be. Many rooms.

