

Daily Office for the Feast of the Ascension of Jesus Christ.

Becoming present to God

Through a sign of attentiveness like lighting a candle or

+ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

or

Risen, ascended and glorified Lord,
bearing the name above all names
to the throne of Godhead
through countless ranks of angels,
our hearts cry, **Alleluia, King of Glory!**

or

Ascended on the clouds of glory
hidden from human sight,
**you shine your light into our hearts
and speak your new, best, name
of Love.**

Celebrating the presence of God

Risen and ascended One,
your body bears still
the marks of your passion,
taking our humanity into the heart of the Godhead.

**In your passion you reveal
what it is to be God;
in your resurrection
what it is to be human;
in your glory,
what it is to make all things new.**

Risen and ascended One,
you remember what it is to be
born,

You who gives life to all things.

You remember what it is to toddle,

You who walk upon the wings of the morning.

You remember what it is to learn to talk,

You who are the eternal Word.

You remember what it is to thirst,

You who give the Water of Life.

You remember what it is to be hungry,

You who are the bread of heaven.

You remember what it is to be exhausted,

You who never slumber nor sleep.

You remember what it is to weep,

You who are the joy of Heaven.

You remember what it is to die,

You whom death could not hold.

You remember what it is to be raised,

You who reach low into the depths of our human frailty and grief.

A pause to name any specific thanks or praise

Acknowledging our humanity

Hidden from our sight,

Lord may we see glimpses of your glory.

Raised to the heights,

Lord remember us before the Father's throne.

Worshipped by the hosts of heaven,

Lord, forgive us when we put our trust in that which usurps your throne,

With our names written on the palms of your hands,

take us by our hands and raise us to glory.

Listening for the Word of God

From The Common Lectionary

Canticle - Optional

Unity in the Body of Christ

4 I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, **²with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love,** ³making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. **⁴There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling,** ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

⁷ But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. ⁸ Therefore it is said,

"When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive;
he gave gifts to his people."

⁹ (When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended^[a] into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰ He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) ¹¹ **The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers,** ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³ **until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.**

Ephesians 4:1–13

Reflecting on our roots

*Living God, enable us this day
to be pilgrims and companions:
committed to the way of Christ,
faithful to the call of Christ,
discerning the mind of Christ,
offering the welcome of Christ,
growing in the likeness of Christ,
engaging in the mission of Christ,
in the world that belongs to Christ.*

Bringing our concerns

Seated at the Father's right hand,
you ever intercede for us, and so we join our prayers to yours,
loving Christ,

For all who seek your presence,
may they meet you where you might be found;

For all who wait in darkness
may they see you in the light of your glory;

For all who listen for you,
but cannot catch

the whisper of your voice,
**draw near and speak your grace
into listening hearts;**

For all who long for the embrace of your love,
meet with them with the assurance that lo, you are with them, to the end of the age.

The Lord's Prayer

***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.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.***

Going to love and serve

You who dwell in unimaginable Light
May we be lights to our world.

You whose praises are sung by angel choirs
May we live to your praise today

Lord, keep us watching, waiting and attentive today, responsive to your Word and Spirit with hands swift to lift the downcast, and feet firm on the Way to Life.

Optional:

+ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

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