

EXETER COLLEGE CHAPEL

CHORAL EUCHARIST ASCENSION DAY

THE GATHERING

Processional Hymn

*Hail thee, Festival Day! Blest day that art hallowed forever;
Day when the Lord ascends, high in the heaven to reign.*

Lo, the fair beauty of earth, from the death of the winter arising,
every good gift of the year, now with its Master returns.

He who has conquered the grave now rises to heavenly splendour;
fitly the light gives his praise – meadows and ocean and sky.

Christ in thy triumph ascend: thou hast left captivity captive;
heaven her gates unbars, flinging her increase of light.

So shalt thou bear in thine arms an immaculate people to heaven,
Bearing them pure unto God, pledge of thy victory here.

*Editors of the New English Hymnal, based on Fortunatus, C5th
Salve festa dies R. Vaughan Williams*

In the name of the God of love: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Seeing we have a great high priest who has passed through the heaven, Jesus the
Son of God, let us offer him the praise worthy of his name.

Gloria in excelsis Deo et in terra
pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.
Laudamus te, benedicimus te,
adoramus te, glorificamus te,
gratias agimus tibi propter magnam
gloriam tuam, Domine Deus, Rex
caelestis, Deus Pater omnipotens.
Domine Fili Unigenite, Iesu
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, Iesu
Christe, cum Sancto Spiritu: in
gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

*Glory be to God on high, and in earth
peace, goodwill to men. We praise 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, Jesu 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.*

Mass in a Imogen Holst

THE COLLECT

Grant, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that like as we do believe thy only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens; 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.**

¶ *All sit*

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

THE LESSON

2 Kings 2

And it came to pass, when the Lord would take up Elijah into heaven by a whirlwind, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal. And the sons of the prophets that were at Bethel came forth to Elisha, and said unto him,

Knowest thou that the Lord will take away thy master from thy head to day? And he said, Yea, I know it; hold ye your peace. And Elijah said unto him, Tarry, I pray thee, here; for the Lord hath sent me to Jordan. And he said, As the Lord liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. And they two went on. And fifty men of the sons of the prophets went, and stood to view afar off: and they two stood by Jordan. And Elijah took his mantle, and wrapped it together, and smote the waters, and they were divided hither and thither, so that they two went over on dry ground. And it came to pass, when they were gone over, that Elijah said unto Elisha, Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken away from thee. And Elisha said, I pray thee, let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me. And he said, Thou hast asked a hard thing: nevertheless, if thou see me when I am taken from thee, it shall be so unto thee; but if not, it shall not be so. And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

The head that once was crowned with thorns
is crowned with glory now;
A royal diadem adores
The mighty victor's brow.

The highest place that heaven affords
is his, is his by right,
the King of kings and Lord of lords,
and heaven's eternal light.

The joy of all who dwell above,
the joy of all below,
to whom he manifests his love,
and grants his name to know.

*words: J. Kelly,
music: St Magnus, J. Clark*

THE HOLY GOSPEL

¶ *Remain standing*

The Lord be with you:

And with thy spirit.

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Luke.

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

And Jesus 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 to thee, O Christ.

THE ANTHEM

O clap your hands, all ye people;
shout unto God with the voice of triumph.

For the Lord most high is terrible.

He is a great King over all the earth.

God is gone up with a shout,
the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

Sing praises to God; sing praises.

Sing praises to our King; sing praises.

For God is the King of all the earth.
Sing ye praises with understanding.
God reigneth over the heathen.
God sitteth upon the throne of His holiness.
Sing praises unto our King. Sing praises.

words: Psalm 47
music: R. Vaughan Williams

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 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 Catholick and Apostolick 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 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

¶ *All kneel or sit*

Let us pray:

Jesus Christ, great high priest, living for ever to intercede for us,
pray for the Church, your broken body in the world.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus Christ, king of righteousness, enthroned in majesty on high,
pray for the world, that it may know your gentle rule.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus Christ, Son of Man, drawing humanity into the life of God,
pray for your sisters and brothers in need, distress, or sorrow.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Jesus Christ, Lord over all things, ascended far above the heavens and filling
the cosmos, pray for us to receive the gifts you give us for work in your
service.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Rejoicing with our ascended Lord in the company of the Blessed Virgin Mary
and all the saints we commend ourselves, and all for whom we have prayed,
indeed the whole creation to your unfailing love.

Merciful God:

**Accept these prayers, for the sake of thy Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE SACRAMENT

¶ *All stand*

THE PEACE

Jesus said: 'Peace I leave with you: my peace I give to you. If you love me, rejoice, because I am going to the Father.' Alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you. Alleluia, Alleluia!
And with thy spirit, Alleluia! Alleluia!

HYMN

Christ triumphant, ever reigning,
Saviour, Master, King!
Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining,
hear us as we sing:
*Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name.*

Suffering servant, scorned, ill - treated,
victim crucified!
death is through the cross defeated,
sinners justified:

Priestly king, enthroned for ever
high in heaven above!
sin and death and hell shall never
stifle hymns of love:

So, our hearts and voices raising
through the ages long,

ceaselessly upon you gazing,
this shall be our song:

words: M. Seward
music: Guiting Power, J. Barnard

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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.

It is very meet, right, and a joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thee thanks, O God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. And now we give thee thanks, because after his most glorious resurrection Jesus appeared to his disciples, and in their sight ascended 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 the whole company of heaven we laud and magnify thy glorious name, evermore praising thee, and singing:

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus

Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni
sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.

Hosanna in excelsis.

Holy, holy, holy Lord.

*God of hosts. Heaven and earth are
full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O*

Lord most high.

¶ *All kneel or sit*

Holy and gracious God, in thy infinite love thou didst make us for thyself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, thou in thy mercy didst send Jesus Christ, thine only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to thee, the God and Father of all.

Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to thy will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord and Brother, Jesus Christ took bread: and when he had given thanks to thee he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said 'Take, eat. This is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.'

After supper he took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said "Drink ye all of this, for this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink this, do this for the remembrance of me."

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption O God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer thee these gifts.

Sanctify them by thy Holy Spirit to be for thy people the body and blood of thy Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve thee in unity, constancy, and peace, and, at the last day bring us with all thy saints into the joy of thy eternal kingdom. This we ask through thy Son Jesus Christ:

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honour and glory be thine, O loving God, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our 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.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us keep the feast! Alleluia.

All who seek to follow Christ are welcome at this Eucharist. Please allow the choir to come forward first. During the Communion the choir sings:

Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.	<i>O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.</i>
Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.	<i>O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.</i>

POST COMMUNION

¶ *All kneel or sit*

Christ Jesus was in the form of God,
but he did not cling to equality with God.
He emptied himself, taking the form of a servant,
and was born in our human likeness.
Being found in human form he humbled himself,
and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.
**Therefore God has highly exalted him,
and bestowed on him the name above every name,
That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth;
And every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

c.f. Philippians 2

HYMN

Alleluya! Sing to Jesus!
His the sceptre, his the throne.
Alleluia! His the triumph,
His the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Sion
Thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus out of every nation
Hath redeemed us by his blood."

Alleluya! Not as orphans
Are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluya! He is near us;
Faith believes, yet questions how.
Though the cloud from sight received him
When the forty days were o'er,
Shall our hearts forget his promise:
"I am with you evermore?"

Alleluya! Bread of Angels,
thou on earth our food, our stay;
alleluya! here the sinful
flee to thee from day to day;
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,
Earth's Redeemer, plead for me,
where the songs of all the sinless
sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluya! King eternal,
Thee the Lord of lords we own;
Alleluia! Born of Mary,
Earth thy footstool, heav'n thy throne.
Thou within the veil have entered,
Robed in flesh, our great high priest;
Thou on earth both Priest and Victim
In the Eucharistic Feast.

*words: W. Chatterton Dix
music: Hyfrydol, R. Pritchard*

THE BLESSING

¶ *All standing*

Christ our exalted King pour on you his abundant gifts
and make you faithful and strong to do his will,
that may you reign with him in glory.
And the blessing of the God of love,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be upon you now and for ever more.
Amen.

The Lord preserve your going out and your coming. Alleluia! Alleluia!
From this time forth, forever more. Alleluia! Alleluia!

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Pasticcio Langlais