



# Worship Service Order

## Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May

### ASCENSION DAY

#### **INVOCATION**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

#### **OPENING RESPONSES – Psalm 110**

The LORD said to my Lord,  
**“Sit at my right side,  
until I make your enemies  
into a footstool for you.”**

My Lord is at your right side,  
**and when he gets angry  
he will crush the other kings.**

He will drink from any stream  
that he chooses,  
**while winning  
victory after victory.**

***Glory to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it  
was in the beginning is now and will be forevermore. Amen.***

#### **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

We come before God to confess our sins.

For not always recognising God’s love and power in our lives, and  
not responding to these in the things we think, say, and do.

Lord God, forgive us for neglecting You and Your Word in our lives;  
*(allow a short time for quiet prayer)*

Because Jesus gave us His life for our sins,  
**Father forgive us.**

Dear Jesus, for not always wanting to live in the love You show to us,  
and not always showing this same love to other people;  
*(allow a short time for quiet prayer)*

Because Jesus gave us His life for our sins,  
***Father forgive us.***

Holy Spirit, as people who have received the good news of God's  
love through Your power, we confess that at times our words and  
actions don't act as a good witness to Your message;  
*(allow a short time for quiet prayer)*

Because Jesus gave us His life for our sins,  
***Father forgive us.***

On Ascension Day, we remember that Jesus completed all the work  
which God had sent Him to do, and so He was taken back to heaven  
to rule over all Creation in love and power. Because of all He did, we  
know that when we come to God and ask for His forgiveness, He  
forgives us and brings us back to Him.

Go in God's peace, knowing that God has forgiven You, and that  
through the Holy Spirit you now have peace with Him.

***Amen.***

### **PRAYER**

Heavenly Father, as You raised Jesus up in glory to sit at Your right  
hand, be with us also in everything we go through in our lives each  
day. As people who live in Your love help us to share this love out  
with others.

***Amen.***

**BIBLE READINGS** – *use from the separate file sent out.*

*After each reading*

This is the Word of the Lord

***Thanks be to God***

### **CONFESSION OF FAITH**

*Luther's explanation of the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed*

***And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,***

**born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and sits at the right hand of God, the Father almighty,  
from thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

What this means for us?

**I believe that Jesus Christ is my Lord.  
He is truly God –  
He has always been  
the Son of the Father.  
He is also a real human being,  
the Virgin Mary's son.**

**Jesus rescued me  
when I was lost  
and sentenced to death.  
He set me free from all my sins,  
from death,  
and from the power of the devil.  
It cost Him more than gold or silver;  
it cost Him His life.  
Even though He was  
holy and innocent,  
He suffered and died for me.**

**Jesus did this  
so that I can belong to Him,  
and He can rule over me as my king.  
I can live under Him  
and serve Him,  
innocent and happy forever,  
just as He was raised to life,  
and lives and rules forever.**

**This is certainly true.**

**ADDRESS** – read and/or watch Pastor Andrew's introduction to this week's address.  
Then go through the rest of the address and reflect on or discuss the questions there.

**SONG** – if you wish to, use one of the songs suggested in the email/on the website, or  
find and use your own choices.

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

*Lord God, we know that all we have comes from you. We ask you to use us and all that you have given us in your service.  
**Amen.***

## **PRAYERS**

*You may wish to use the prayers which have been sent out, or to come up with your own.*

*After each prayer, you may wish to use the response:*

*Lord, in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.***

## **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 forever. Amen.***

## **BLESSING**

The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make His face shine on us and be gracious to us. The Lord look upon us with favour and give us His peace.

**Amen.**

<sup>9</sup> After Jesus had said this and while they were watching, he was taken up into a cloud. They could not see him, <sup>10</sup> but as he went up, they kept looking up into the sky. Suddenly two men dressed in white clothes were standing there beside them. <sup>11</sup> They said, "Why are you men from Galilee standing here and looking up into the sky? Jesus has been taken to heaven. But he will come back in the same way that you have seen him go."  
Acts 1:9-11 CEV

