

# St. Sampson and St. Mary's Churches Guernsey



## Parish Communion for Ascension Day

## **The Gathering**

### **The Greeting**

*Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you*

**All and also with you.**

### **Introduction**

*Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, for forty days we have been celebrating with joyful hearts the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, his bursting from the tomb and his defeat of the power of sin and death. He appeared to his disciples many times and told them about the kingdom of God.*

*Today we recall how he left this earth and returned to his Father, ascending into heaven to take his throne over all dominions and powers. Trusting in his reign over all creation, and submitting to his kingly yet loving rule, let us hear the story of his parting.*

### **The Ascension Reading**

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (1.1-11)*

*Alleluia. Christ is risen.*

**All 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.*

**All Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you  
for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God,  
Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;**

**you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,**

**you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the  
Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

## **The Collect**

*Let us pray that our risen and ascended Lord will lead us  
to eternal life.*

*Silence is kept.*

*Grant, we pray, almighty God,  
that as we believe your only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus  
Christ to have ascended into the heavens,  
so we in heart and mind may also ascend  
and with him continually dwell;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.***

## **Gospel Reading Luke 24.44-53**

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

**All Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end*

*This is the gospel of the Lord.*

**All Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Homily

### Affirmation of Faith

*Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.*

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and  
earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of  
God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true  
God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the  
Father;**

**through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from  
heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the  
Virgin Mary**

**and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;**

**he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and  
the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of  
life,**

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,**

**who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and  
glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic  
Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the  
forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of  
the dead,**

**and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

*This response may be used*

*Lord, in your mercy*

**All hear our prayer.**

*and at the end*

**All Merciful Father, accept these prayers, for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen**

## **The Liturgy of the Sacrament**

### **THE PEACE**

*Jesus says: '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*

**All and also with you.**

### **The Preparation of the table**

*Blessed be God,  
by whose grace creation is renewed,  
by whose love heaven is opened,  
by whose mercy we offer our sacrifice of praise.*

**All Blessed be God for ever.**

### **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER A**

*The Lord is here.*

**All His Spirit is with us.**

*Lift up your hearts.*

**All We lift them to the Lord.**

*Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

**All It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*It is indeed right and good,  
our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ the King of glory.  
Born of a woman, he came to the rescue of our human  
race. Dying for us, he trampled death and conquered sin.  
By the glory of his resurrection he opened the way to life  
eternal and by his ascension, gave us the sure hope that  
where he is we may also be. Therefore the universe  
resounds with Easter joy and with choirs of angels we sing  
for ever to your praise:*

**All Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and as we follow his example and obey his command,*

*grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of  
bread and wine  
may be to us his body and his blood;  
who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread  
and gave you thanks;*

*he broke 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.*

*In the same way, after supper  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying:  
Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,*

*which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.*

*Therefore, heavenly Father,  
we remember his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross;  
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious  
ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom,  
and with this bread and this cup  
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.*

*Accept through him, our great high priest, this our  
sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink  
these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty,  
renew us by your Spirit,*

*inspire us with your love  
and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our  
Lord.*

*Through him, and with him, and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we  
worship you, Father almighty,  
in songs of everlasting praise:*

**All Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

*As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:*

**All Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy  
name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done; on earth  
as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our  
trespasses, as we forgive those who 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 for ever. Amen.**

*We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.*

**All** **Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.**

**All** **Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.**

*Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.*

**All** **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

## **Post Communion Prayer**

*God our Father, you have raised our humanity in Christ and have fed us with the bread of heaven: mercifully grant that, nourished with such spiritual blessings, we may set our hearts in the heavenly places; through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

**All** **Amen.**

**All** **We thank you, Lord, that you have fed us in this sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet prepared for all peoples.**

**Amen.**

## **Blessing and Ending**

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (1.12,13a,14)  
No responses are used at the end of the reading. Silence is kept.*

*As we wait in silence,*

**All** **make us ready for your coming Spirit.**



*As we listen to your word,*

**All make us ready for your coming Spirit.**

*As we worship you in majesty,*

**All make us ready for your coming Spirit.**

*As we long for your refreshing,*

**All make us ready for your coming Spirit.**

*As we long for your renewing,*

**All make us ready for your coming Spirit.**

*As we long for your equipping,*

**All make us ready for your coming Spirit.**

*As we long for your empowering,*

**All make us ready for your coming Spirit.**

*May the Spirit, who set the Church on fire upon the day of Pentecost, bring the world alive with the love of the risen Christ. And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.*

**All Amen.**

*Waiting expectantly for the promised Holy Spirit, go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.*

**All Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**