

**Welcome to St Timothy's**

## **The Ascension of the Lord**



*Ascension, Bagong Kussudiardja (1983)*

May 17th, 2026

In-Person & Online Service at 10:00am

# Ascension

*by John Donne*

Salute the last, and everlasting day,  
Joy at the uprising of this Sun, and Son,  
Ye whose true tears, or tribulation  
Have purely wash'd, or burnt your drossy  
clay.

Behold, the Highest, parting hence away,  
Lightens the dark clouds, which He treads  
upon;

Nor doth he by ascending show alone,  
But first He, and He first enters the way.

O strong Ram, which hast batter'd heaven  
for me!

Mild lamb, which with Thy Blood hast  
mark'd the path!

Bright Torch, which shinest, that I the way  
may see!

O, with Thy own Blood quench Thy own  
just wrath;

And if Thy Holy Spirit my Muse did raise,  
Deign at my hands this crown of prayer  
and praise.

# The Gathering of the Community

*Prelude:* **Heut triumphieret Gottes Sohn (This Day in Triumph God the Son), BWV 630** (J.S. Bach)  
(Performed by George Fung)

*Processional Hymn:* (Please stand as you are able)

## **246, Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus**

Hail, thou once despised Jesus!  
Hail, thou Galilean King!  
Thou didst suffer to release us;  
thou didst free salvation bring.  
Hail, thou universal Saviour!  
Thou hast borne our sin and shame;  
by thy merit we find favour:  
life is given through thy name.

Paschal Lamb, by God appointed,  
all our sins on thee were laid:  
by almighty love anointed,  
thou hast full atonement made.  
All thy people are forgiven  
through the virtue of thy blood:  
opened is the gate of heaven,  
peace is made 'twixt us and God.

Jesus, hail! Enthroned in glory,  
there for ever to abide;  
all the heavenly hosts adore thee,  
seated at thy Father's side.

Worship, honor, power, and blessing  
thou art worthy to receive;  
highest praises, without ceasing,  
right it is for us to give.

*(In Babilone)*

### *The Penitential Rite*

Presider: The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit:  
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not  
despise. *(Psalm 51.18)*

Let us confess our sins against God and our  
neighbour.

*Silence is kept.*

**All: Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us,  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Presider: Almighty God have mercy upon us,  
pardon and deliver us from all our sins,  
confirm and strengthen us in all goodness,

and keep us in eternal life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

### *Opening Responses*

Presider: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**All: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Presider: Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**All: He gave us new life and hope  
by raising Jesus from the dead.**

Presider: Rejoice, then, even in your distress.

**All: We shall be counted worthy when Christ appears.**

Presider: God has claimed us as his own.

**All: He called us from our darkness into the light of  
his day.**

Presider: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**All: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

### *The Venite (Ps. 95)*

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed:

**O come, let us worship.**

Come, let us sing to the Lord; \*

**let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.**

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*

**and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.**

For the Lord is a great God, \*

**and a great king above all gods.**

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*

**and the heights of the hills are his also.**

The sea is his for he made it, \*

**and his hands have moulded the dry land.**

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*

**and kneel before the Lord our maker.**

For he is our God,

and we are the people of his pasture and the

sheep of his hand. \*

**Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!**

Glory to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit;

**as it was in the beginning is now**

**and shall be for ever. Amen.**

### *Psalm 93*

The Lord is king;

he has put on splendid apparel; \*

the Lord has put on his apparel

and girded himself with strength.

**He has made the whole world so sure \***

**that it cannot be moved;**

Ever since the world began, your throne has

been established; \*

you are from everlasting.

**The waters have lifted up, O Lord,**

**the waters have lifted up their voice; \***

**the waters have lifted up their pounding waves.**

Mightier than the sound of many waters,  
mightier than the breakers of the sea, \*  
mightier is the Lord who dwells on high.

**Your testimonies are very sure, \*  
and holiness adorns your house, O Lord,  
for ever and for evermore.**

Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;

**as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

*(The children will come up to the front for the message)*

### *Children's Message*

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## **The Proclamation of the Word**

*Each reading ends with the line "**Listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches**" (as cited throughout Revelation chapters 2 and 3) to declare that the Scripture that has been read is given by the Holy Spirit for all churches yesterday, today, and for ever, not just the people to whom it was written in ancient times.*

### *A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles*

To Theophilus, The first book I wrote was about everything that Jesus did and taught. I wrote about the whole life of

Jesus, from the beginning until the day he was taken up into heaven. Before this, Jesus talked to the apostles he had chosen. With the help of the Holy Spirit, Jesus told them what they should do. After his death, he showed himself to them and proved in many ways that he was alive. The apostles saw Jesus during the 40 days after he was raised from death. He spoke to them about the kingdom of God. Once when he was eating with them, he told them not to leave Jerusalem. He said, "The Father has made you a promise which I told you about before. Wait here to receive this promise. John baptized people with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." The apostles were all together. They asked Jesus, "Lord, are you at this time going to give the kingdom back to Israel?" Jesus said to them, "The Father is the only One who has the authority to decide dates and times. These things are not for you to know. But the Holy Spirit will come to you. Then you will receive power. You will be my witnesses—in Jerusalem, in all of Judea, in Samaria, and in every part of the world." After he said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up. A cloud hid him from their sight. As he was going, they were looking into the sky. Suddenly, two men wearing white clothes stood beside them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why are you standing here looking into the sky? You saw Jesus taken away from you into heaven. He will come back in the same way you saw him go."

*Acts 1: 1 - 11 (ICB)*

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**Reader:** Listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

*Hymn:*

**84, Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendour**

Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour,  
first begotten from the dead,  
thou alone, our strong defender,  
liftest up thy people's head.  
Alleluia,  
Jesus, true and living bread!

Here our humblest homage pay we,  
here in loving reverence bow;  
here for faith's discernment pray we,  
lest we fail to know thee now.  
Alleluia,  
thou art here, we ask not how.

Though the lowliest form doth veil thee  
as of old in Bethlehem,  
here as there thine angels hail thee,  
branch and flower of Jesse's stem.  
Alleluia,  
we in worship join with them.

Paschal Lamb, thine offering, finished  
once for all when thou wast slain,  
in its fullness undiminished  
shall forevermore remain,  
alleluia,  
Cleansing souls from every stain.

Life-imparting heavenly Manna,  
stricken Rock with streaming side,

heaven and earth with loud hosanna  
worship thee, the Lamb who died,  
    alleluia,  
risen, ascended, glorified!

*(St. Osmund)*

### *A Reading from the Letter to the Ephesians*

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

*Ephesians 1: 15 - 23 (NRSV)*

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**Reader:** Listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

*Canticle 22A: Jesus Christ is Lord*

Christ Jesus, by nature divine,  
did not grasp for himself  
a rank as equal with God.  
He chose to empty himself,  
becoming a humble slave,  
and living the life of a man.  
And human in every way,  
he abased himself still more,  
obedient to death on a cross.  
So God has exalted him on high,  
and given to him the name,  
the greatest of all the names;  
So that at Jesus' name  
every knee should bend low  
in heaven, on earth, in the depths,  
And every tongue proclaim:  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father!

*(Philippians 2: 6 – 11)*

*Gospel Acclamation*

*(Please stand as you are able)*

**82, Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises**

*Refrain*

**Hallelujah! We sing your praises,  
all our hearts are filled with gladness.**

**Hallelujah! We sing your praises,  
all our hearts are filled with gladness.**

Christ the Lord to us said:

I am wine, I am bread;

I am wine, I am bread,  
give to all who thirst and hunger.

*Refrain*

*(Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises, Vs. 1)*

*The Gospel*

*(Please remain standing as you are able)*

Reader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
according to Luke.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Then Jesus said to them, ‘These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.’ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, ‘Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.’ Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

*Luke 24: 44 - 53 (NRSV)*

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

*Gospel Acclamation*

**82, Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises**

*Refrain*

**Hallelujah! We sing your praises,  
all our hearts are filled with gladness.**

**Hallelujah! We sing your praises,  
all our hearts are filled with gladness.**

Now he sends us all out,  
strong in faith, free of doubt;  
strong in faith, free of doubt,  
tell to all the joyful gospel.

*Refrain*

*(Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises, Vs. 2)*

*(Please be seated)*

**Homily**

*Jonathan Kang*

*Silence is kept.*

*(Please remain seated for the Anthem)*

*Anthem:*

**Ascension Hymn**

When Christ their Lord, to Heav'n upraised,  
was wafted from th' Apostles' sight,  
and upwards wistfully they gazed  
into the far, blue infinite,  
behold two men in white apparel dressed  
who thus bespake them on the mountain crest:

“Why stand ye, men of Galilee,  
so sadly gazing on the skies?  
For this same Jesus, whom ye see  
caught in the clouds to Paradise,  
shall in like manner from the starry height  
return again to greet your joyful sight.”

Would, O Lord Jesus! thus to hear  
thy farewell words we too had met,  
among thine own disciples dear,  
upon the brow of Olivet!  
Yet are we blest, though of that joy bereaved,  
who having seen thee not, have yet believed.

O then in each succeeding year  
when thine Ascension Day draws round,  
with hearts so full of holy fear  
may we within thy Church be found,  
that in the spirit we may see  
thee rise and bless us with pierced hands  
from out the skies!

Amen, Amen!

*(Charles Wood, words A. P. Graves)*

*The Apostles' Creed*

*(Please stand as you are able)*

Presider: Let us confess the faith of our baptism,  
as we say,

**All: I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy  
Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again  
to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Prayers of the People*

*(Please adopt the pose most comfortable for you - stand, sit or kneel  
- and respond as indicated.)*

Leader: ... We pray to the Lord:

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*The Collect of the Day*

Presider: Let us pray.

Almighty God,

your Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of  
heaven

that he might rule over all things as Lord.

Keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit

and in the bond of his peace,

and bring the whole of creation

to worship at his feet,

who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy  
Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

All: **Amen.**

*Offertory Hymn:*

*(Please stand as you are able)*

**247, Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise**

Hail the day that sees him rise, alleluia!

To his throne above the skies; alleluia!

Christ, the Lamb for sinners given, alleluia!

enters now the highest heaven! Alleluia!

There for him high triumph waits; alleluia!

lift your heads, eternal gates; alleluia!

he hath conquered death and sin; alleluia!

take the King of Glory in. Alleluia!

Highest heaven its Lord receives, alleluia!  
yet he loves the earth he leaves; alleluia!  
though returning to his throne, alleluia!  
still he calls the world his own. Alleluia!

Still for us he intercedes; alleluia!  
his prevailing death he pleads, alleluia!  
near himself prepares our place, alleluia!  
he the first-fruits of our race. Alleluia!

*(vs. 1-3, 5, Ascension)*

*If you wish to make a donation and would like to use a donation envelope, they are available at the back of the church.*

*All cheques should be made payable to Church of St. Timothy.*

*You can also donate online through Canada Helps – just open your camera app and scan this code.*



*If the collection plate doesn't reach you and you have a donation, please hand it to a greeter as you leave the church.*

**Lord's Prayer:** *As children of one Creator, we pray the prayer Jesus taught (Matthew 6:9–13), asking for daily bread, forgiveness, and the coming of God's kingdom before sharing the bread of life.*

### ***The Lord's Prayer***

Presider: And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us,  
we are bold to say,

**All:** 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.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

*Doxology*

**Presider:** Glory to God,  
**All:** whose power, working in us,  
can do infinitely more  
than we can ask or imagine.  
Glory to God from generation to generation,  
in the Church and in Christ Jesus,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

*The Blessing*

**Presider:** May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace  
in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit  
**All:** Amen.

*Recessional Hymn:*

*(Please stand as you are able)*

**378, Crown Him with Many Crowns**

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne:  
hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns all music  
but its own!

Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave,  
and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save.

His glories now we sing who died and rose on high,  
who died eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.

Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,  
rich wounds yet visible above in beauty glorified.

All hail, Redeemer, hail! for thou hast died for me;  
thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.

*(vs. 1, 2, 4, Diademata)*

*The Dismissal*

**Leader:** Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia!

**People:** **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**Postlude: Prelude Op.29, No. 1**

*(Gabriel Pierne)*

*(Performed by George Fung)*

# Our worship is over – our service begins.

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## Coffee Hour

A warm welcome is extended especially to all visitors and newcomers.

Please join us for coffee and refreshments in Soward Hall. Your hosts today will be the Elizabeth Loach and Kathleen Chopping. **Gluten free** options are available.

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## Guest Organist – George Fung

*Our thanks to George Fung for substituting for Ed this morning.*

George has been an organist in the GTA for over 35 years, only having recently retired from a regular organist position following pandemic. He was most recently Organist at Calvin Presbyterian/Deer Park United at Yonge and St. Clair, and is now active as a freelance substitute organist. An engineering manager during the week, George always explains to the congregation that he's an "Engineer by day, Organist by night".



## Week of May 18th to 22nd

The Office will be closed on Monday, May 18th due to the Victoria Day holiday.

The Office is open for in-person drop ins on Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday this week from 10:00am – 3:00pm.

Please call ahead and **make an appointment** if you wish to meet with a specific member of the clergy or staff.

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### This Week at St. Timothy's

- *Morning Prayer with a Thought for the Day* will be broadcast online via Zoom every morning, **Monday to Friday at 9:30am.**
- *The ESL Conversation and Practice Group* meets in the Children's Chapel on **Tuesdays at 10:00am.**
- *Open Church Hour* every week on **Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday from 1:00 - 2:00pm.**  
*The church will be accessible for drop-in quiet prayer, and if desired, pastoral care and time with the clergy. Please use the Ridley Boulevard entrance and ring the bell for access.*
- *Contemplative Art* every **Wednesday at 10:00am** in the Loft. *All materials provided. Open to all.*
- *Mid-Week Eucharist* every **Wednesday at 11:30am.**

- *St. Andrew's Group* meets in-person in the Parlour on **Wednesdays at 12:00nn** for lunch and fellowship.
  - **Next Sunday, May 24th – *The Day of Pentecost***
    - **8:30am:** Adult Christian Education in the Parlour
    - **10:00am:** Intergenerational Service of Holy Eucharist with Children's Programming
    - **4:00pm:** Confirmation Service at St. Clement's Church
-