

Ascension of Our Lord, All Years or Seventh Sunday of Easter, Year A

Color: White

- Ascension of Our Lord -

Scriptures: [Scripture linked to NRSV at Oremus Bible Browser]
[Acts 1:1-11](#) (*Jesus ascends into heaven, sends the apostles*)
[Psalm 47](#) (*God has gone up with a shout*)
or [Psalm 93](#) (*The Lord reigns in majesty, high above the mighty waters*)
[Ephesians 1:15-23](#) (*Eyes to see the risen and ascended Christ for those who believe*)
[Luke 24:44-53](#) (*Christ, ascended, is present in all times and places*)

- Seventh Sunday of Easter -

Scriptures: [Acts 1:6-14](#) (*Jesus' companions at prayer after his ascension*)
[Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35](#) (*Sing to God, who rides upon the heavens*)
[1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11](#) (*God will sustain and restore those who suffer*)
[John 17:1-11](#) (*Christ's prayer for his disciples*)

Themes: Risen Christ, Ascension, Holy Spirit, God's Providence and Care

HYMN SUGGESTIONS

Hymn Suggestions link to Hymnary.org, a searchable resource with a wealth of information. The tunes listed here are the ones most commonly associated with the texts, and the biblical/thematic references suggest the hymn's association with the morning's scriptures or themes.

All Praise to Thee (<i>SINE NOMINE; ENGELBERG</i>)	Ascension
Alleluia! Sing to Jesus (<i>HYFRYDOL</i>)	Psalms, Luke, Acts, Ephesians
Blessed Assurance (<i>ASSURANCE</i>)	1 Peter
Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing (<i>TRURO</i>)	Acts, Luke
Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies (<i>RATISBON; LUX PRIMA</i>)	Acts, John
Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain (<i>GAUDEAMUS PARITER; ST. KEVIN</i>)	Acts, Luke
Crown Him with Many Crowns (<i>DIADEMATA</i>)	Acts
Hail Thee, Festival Day (<i>SALVA FESTA DIES</i>)	Acts, Luke

How Firm a Foundation (<i>FOUNDATION</i>).....	1 Peter
Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee (<i>HYMN TO JOY</i>)	Acts, John
Look, Ye Saints! The Sight Is Glorious (<i>CORONAE; REGENT SQUARE; BRYN CALFARIA</i>)	John
My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less (<i>SOLID ROCK; MELITA</i>).....	Ephesians
Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven (<i>LAUDA ANIMA</i>).....	Psalms
Rejoice, the Lord Is King (<i>DARWALL</i>).....	Psalms, Ephesians
Thine Be the Glory (<i>Judas MACCABAEUS</i>).....	Acts, Psalms, Luke
This Is the Threefold Truth (<i>ACCLAMATIONS</i>).....	Ascension, Communion

ANTHEMS

E = Easy, M = Moderate, MD = Moderately Difficult

Achieved Is the Glorious Work - MDAscension
 Franz Joseph Haydn (from *The Creation*)
 Various publishers; CPDL #21012
 SATB, Keyboard

Ascension Prayer - MAscension
 Thomas Keesecker
 © 2017, Choristers Guild, CGA 1538
 SATB, a cappella

At the Name of Jesus - MActs
 Ralph Vaughan Williams
 © 1955, Oxford University Press, 9780193851016
 SATB, Organ

Come Away to the Skies - MAscension
 Paul Halley
 © 1998, Pelagos Music., PEL 2037
 SATB, Solo, Piano, opt. Bass Guitar, Organ, Perc.

Coronation - E.....Ascension
 Craig Courtney
 © 1986, Beckenhorst, BP 1273
 2-Part Mixed, Keyboard, opt. Horn or Brass Quartet

God Has Gone Up With a Shout - MPsalms
 Franz Joseph Haydn/Hal Hopson, arr.
 © 1993, Coronet Press, 392-41760
 SAB, Keyboard

I Know That My Redeemer Lives - EEaster
SHOUT ON!/Evelyn R. Larter, arr.
 © 2014, Augsburg Fortress, 978-1-4514-9250-7
 SATB, Piano, Flute

O Clap Your Hands - MPsalms
 Kevin McChesney
 © 1996, Lorenz Publishing Co, 10/1376L
 SATB, Piano

Rejoice, the Lord Is King - MAscension/Easter
 Malcolm Archer
 © 1995, GIA, Publications, RA604
 SATB, Organ

-- youth and children --

Lord of the Dance - MEaster/Ascension
 Sydney Carter/Allen Pote, arr.
 © 1997, Hope Publishing, A 712
 2-Part Mixed, Piano

Witness - E.....Acts
African-American Spiritual/Mark Patterson, arr.
 © 2008, Choristers Guild, CGA 1138
 Unison/2-Part, Piano

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL (Prayers, Poems, Quotes & Liturgies)

The kingdom was realized in the life, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus; and, as Jesus has entered eternity where time is no more, so the kingdom is present at every moment, through the prodigal, outpouring generosity of the Holy Spirit. Pray for the day that lies ahead, that in it you may glimpse the work of God.

-- CHRISTOPHER HERBERT, from *Pocket Prayers for Commuters*

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CALL TO WORSHIP

This morning we offer God our most joyous praise,
because the Lord Most High is awesome.
Our voices sing to God who is King of the whole world,
because the Lord Most High is awesome.
As God's people, we gather around God who is King over all,
because the Lord Most High is awesome.
We no longer exalt ourselves but we exalt God who is beyond all,
because the Lord Most High is awesome.
Let us sing praises and listen for God's instruction.
because the Lord Most High is awesome.

— SCOTT WAGONER*

ATTENTIVE PRAYERS OF PRAISE, ENCOUNTER, AND INTERCESSION

Risen Christ, as you did with your disciples, open our minds to understand the Scriptures. Reveal to us your intentions and remind us of your promises. Empower us to be your faithful witnesses. May your blessing rest upon us and lead us to joyful worship. Amen.

*based on Luke 24:44-53, Common English Bible

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Leader: We pray, O God
People: For wisdom and deeper intimacy with You
Leader: We pray, O God
People: For greater illumination to see Your richness in our life
Leader: We pray, O God
People: For your energizing Presence to raise us to new life!
Leader: We pray, O God
People: That you would fill all of creation with Your Presence and Grace
All: Thanks be to God

*for Ascension, based upon Ephesians 1:15-23, Common English Bible

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Lord Jesus,

We want to know the plan. We want to know the “next step.” We want to know the Agenda. Forgive us when we are focused only on our well thought out plans and pre-set Agendas. Forgive us when we try to bring in the Kingdom with our own ingenuity rather than through the power of your Spirit. Empower us to bear witness of your love, life, and teachings. Move us out into our community and world as your Living Presence. Amen.

**based on Acts 1:6-14, Common English Bible*

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Loving and Gracious God,

As we exalt you in our worship, may we not forget those who are hurting and living on the margins...

- ...the lonely in their homes
- ...the prisoners in their cells
- ...the poor with nothing to live on
- ...the widows and orphans
- ...the vulnerable and the outcast

May our exaltation of You ground us in the realities of our world’s pain. May our worship of You replenish our souls so we may go forth and help create a flourishing world. Amen.

**based on Psalm 68:1-10, Common English Bible*

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Loving and Gracious God,

Because you care for us, you invite us to throw all our anxiety onto You.

In this moment, we throw onto you our anxiety around _____

(in the silence, offer to God whatever is causing you anxiety)

- In our anxiousness, grant us peace.
- In our suffering, grant us hope.
- In our weakness, grant us strength.
- In our arrogance, grant us humility. Amen.

**based on 1 Peter 5:6-11, Common English Bible*

*Thanks to Scott Wagoner for contributing this week’s prayers and liturgies.

Warren Howell, editor