



# ST STEPHEN'S UNITING CHURCH

197 Macquarie St, Sydney

*An Oasis of Christian Worship, Thought and Action*

Minister: .....Rev. Ken Day  
Director of Music: .....Mark Quarmby  
Choral Conductor: .....Dr David Hood  
Organ Scholar: .....Benjamin McKenzie



*Ph: 02 9221 1688*

[www.ssms.org.au](http://www.ssms.org.au)

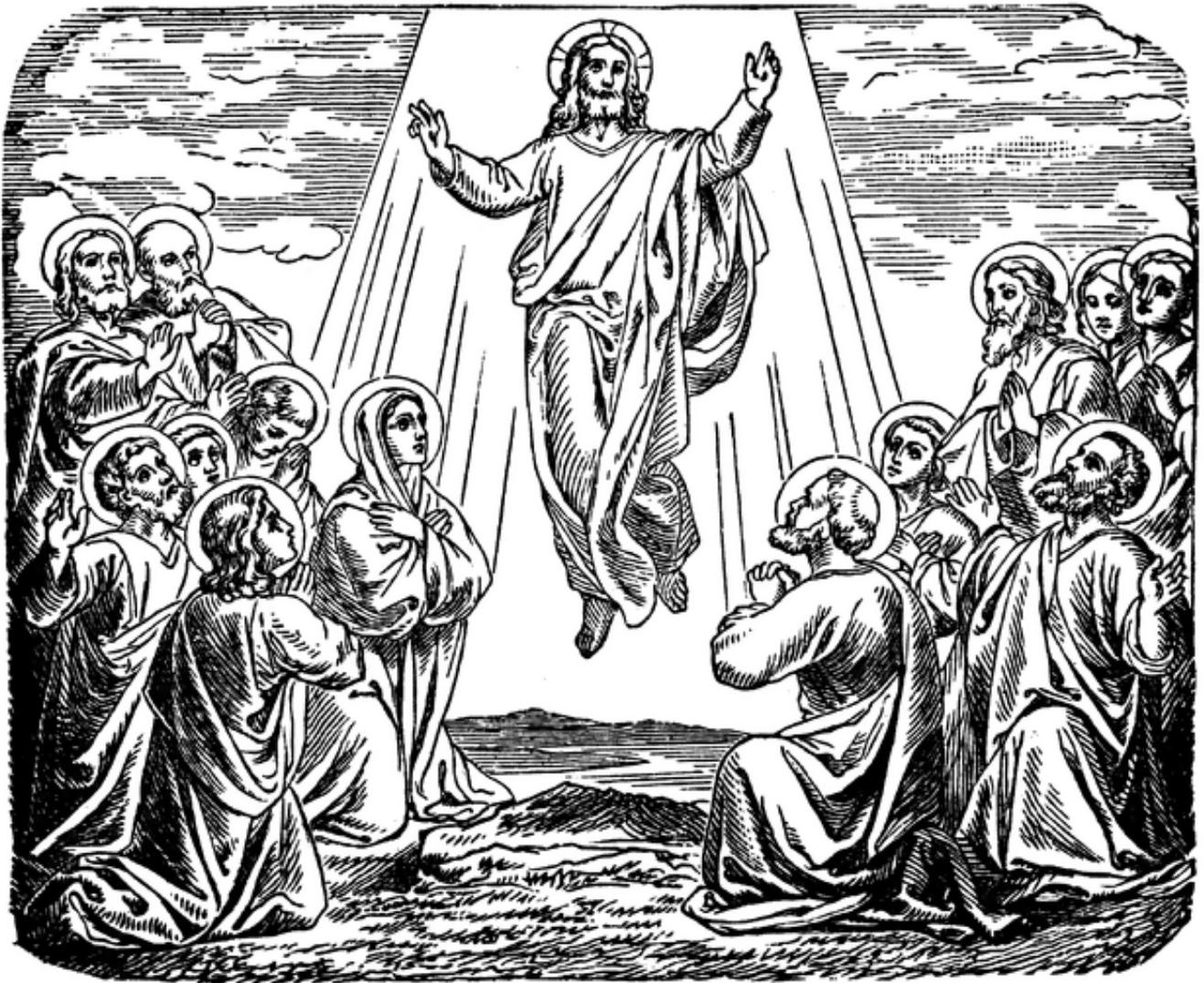
***8 May 2016 – 10 am***

***MORNING WORSHIP***

***Sunday after Ascension***

***Mother's Day***

Led by Rev. Ken Day



*The Ascension of Jesus at the Mount of Olives*

## **SOME HELPFUL NOTES FOR YOU ABOUT THE WAY THIS WORSHIP SERVICE FLOWS:**

- **CHILDREN** are welcome here. If you have a pram, there are aisles beside the walls where you can 'park' your pram, if that helps. Also, there is more pram space at the back of the church where there is a wider gap. Children do not disturb us, and we are very happy for you to explain to your children what is happening during the service.
- We stand to sing. In the Order of Service it will say other places **WHERE WE STAND UP**, if you are able.
- **HYMNS** are numbered and found in the red hymn book *Together in Song*, or printed in the Order of Service.
- If the **LORD'S SUPPER** (communion) is being celebrated, (there will be a white cloth on the communion table) everyone of every age and background is welcome to share in the supper with us. We serve bread (and gluten free bread is available if you indicate to the server) and grape juice.
- **TEXT IN BOLD** is to be said by the congregation.
- It is the tradition at St Stephen's to refrain from talking during the **PRELUDE** and **POSTLUDE** as these form part of our worship.
- After the service has concluded, you are most welcome to join us downstairs in the hall for **MORNING TEA**. Please use the stairs at each end of the vestibule.
- **TOILETS** are located downstairs below the vestibule. A baby changing table is located in the women's toilet area.
- For those with **IMPAIRED HEARING** a hearing loop is available in the church. Please switch your hearing aid to the 'T' position.

# ***The Gathering of the People of God***

## **Organ Prelude**

*'Finale' from Sonata no. 6 in D, Op. 65, No. 6*  
*Felix Mendelssohn (1809 - 1847)*

## **Call to Worship**

## **Processional Hymn 373**

*Hail, our once despised Jesus* (Ebenezer)

*If able, let us remain standing*

## **Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the community of the Holy Spirit be with you.  
**And also with you.**

## **Confession**

## Declaration of Forgiveness

The Lord loves those who hate evil;  
God guards the lives of God's faithful,  
rescuing them from the hand of the wicked.

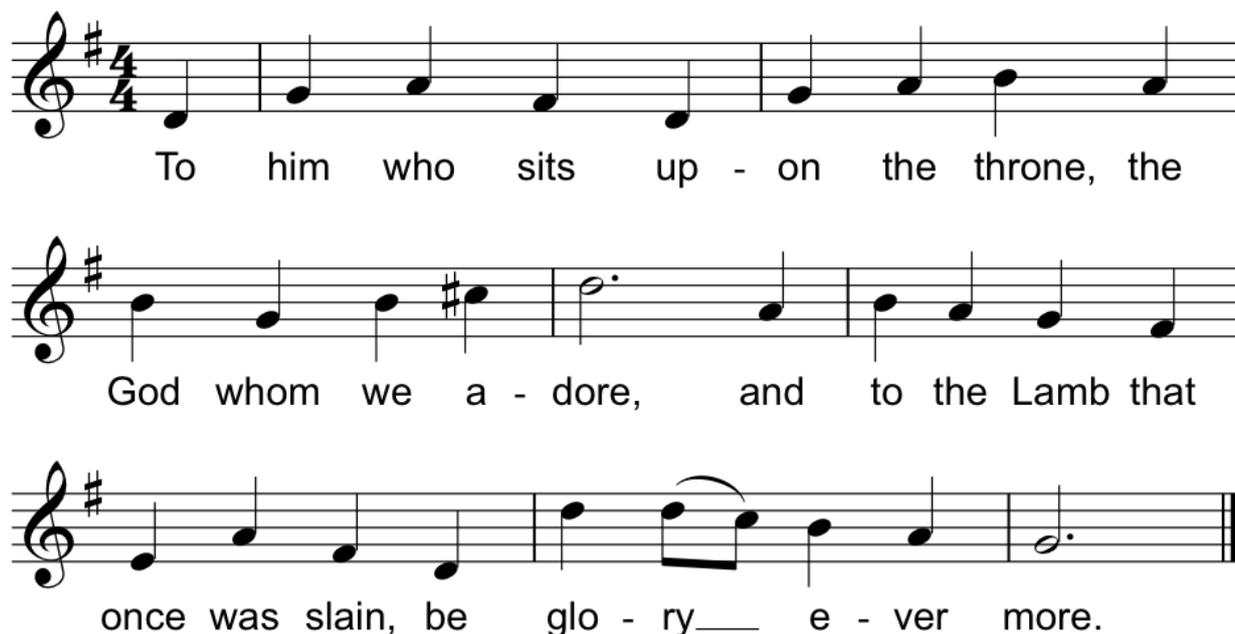
Light dawns for the righteous,  
and joy for the upright in heart.

Rejoice in the Lord, and give thanks to God's holy name!  
(based on Psalm 97:10-12)

Hear the good news to us through Jesus: 'Our sins are forgiven'.

## Thanks be to God

## Doxology 770 *To him who sits upon the throne* (St Magnus)



To him who sits up - on the throne, the  
God whom we a - dore, and to the Lamb that  
once was slain, be glo - ry e - ver more.

## Welcome

*Ministry and mission news, celebrations and pastoral prayer.*

## **Prayers of the People for Family Life**

### **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.  
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.**

**Hymn 654**      *When love is found*      (O Waly Waly)

### **Passing of the Peace**

**The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
And also with you.**

### **Collect for the Sunday after Ascension**

Listen for the word of God to you:

#### **A first reading from Acts 1:1-14**

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning <sup>2</sup>until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup>After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. <sup>4</sup>While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; <sup>5</sup>for John baptised with water, but you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

<sup>6</sup>So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" <sup>7</sup>He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." <sup>9</sup>When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup>While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup>They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

<sup>12</sup>Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. <sup>13</sup>When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. <sup>14</sup>All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

## **Anthem**

### ***A Choral Hymn for Ascensiontide***

*Text: Edward Perronet (1726 - 92) and  
John Rippon (1751 - 1826)*

*Music: Henry Ley (1887 - 1962)*

All hail the power of Jesus' name!  
Let angels prostrate fall;  
bring forth the royal diadem,  
and crown Him Lord of all.

Crown Him, ye martyrs of our God,  
Who from His altar call;  
Praise Him whose way of pain ye trod,  
and crown Him Lord of all.

Ye seed of Israel's chosen race,  
ye ransomed from the Fall,  
hail Him who saves you by His grace,  
and crown Him Lord of all.

Hail Him, ye heirs of David's line,  
whom David Lord did call;  
The God incarnate Man Divine;  
and crown Him Lord of all.

Let every tribe and every tongue  
before Him prostrate fall;  
And shout in universal song  
the crownèd Lord of all.  
Amen.

## **A second reading from Ephesians 1:11-14**

<sup>11</sup>In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance,

having been destined according to the purpose of him who  
accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will,

<sup>12</sup>so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ,

might live for the praise of his glory.

<sup>13</sup>In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel  
of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the  
seal of the promised Holy Spirit;

<sup>14</sup>this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's  
own people, to the praise of his glory.

In this is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Hymn 237

*Hail Redeemer! King Divine (Rex)*

## Sermon

### ***The Sending Forth of the People of God***

The **Offering** will be received during the following hymn:

**Hymn**      *Look, ye saints, the sight is glorious*      (Triumph)

- 1 Look, ye saints! the sight is glorious;  
See the Man of Sorrows now.  
From the fight returned victorious,  
Every knee to him shall bow.  
Crown him! Crown him! Crown him! Crown him!  
Crowns become the Victor's brow!
- 2 Crown the Saviour! angels crown him,  
Rich the trophies Jesus brings;  
In the seat of power enthrone him,  
While the vault of heaven rings.  
Crown him! Crown him! Crown him! Crown him!  
Crown the Saviour King of kings!
- 3 Sinners in derision crowned him,  
Mocking thus the Saviour's claim;  
Saints and angels now surround him,  
Own his title, praise his name.  
Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him!  
Spread abroad the Victor's fame!

4 Hark! those bursts of acclamation!  
Hark! those loud triumphant chords!  
Jesus takes the highest station;  
Oh, what joy the sight affords!  
Crown him! Crown him! Crown him! Crown him!  
King of kings, and Lord of lords!

*Thomas Kelly*

## **Blessing**

... and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## **Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ.**

## **Sung Threefold Amen**

## **Organ Postlude**

*'Allegro' from Concerto in D minor for 2 violins BWV 596*

Antonio Vivaldi (1678 - 1741)

arranged for organ by J.S. Bach (1685 - 1750)

Adapted from *Uniting in Worship 2* (2005)  
Bible Readings taken from the *New Revised Standard Version* (1989)