Hymns, Lessons, Gradual Ascension Sunday 2022

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1. A Hymn of glory let us sing:

New songs throughout the world shall ring:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Chirst, by a road before untrod,

Ascendeth to the throne of God.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

2. The holy apostolic band

Upon the Mount of Olives stand;

Alleluia! Alleluia!

And with His followers they see

Jesus' resplendent majesty.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

3. To whom the angels, drawing nigh,

"Why stand and gaze upon the sky?

Alleluia! Alleluia!

This is the Savior!" thus they say;

"This is His noble triumph-day."

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

4. "Again shall ye behold Him so

As ye today have seen Him go,

Alleluia! Alleluia!

In glorious pomp ascending high,

Up to the portals of the sky."

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

5. Oh, grant us thitherward to tend

And with unwearied hearts ascend

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Unto Thy kingdom's throne, where Thou,

As is our faith, art seated now.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

6. Be Thou our Joy and strong Defense

Who art our future Recompense:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

So shall the light that springs from Thee

Be ours through all eternity.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

7. O risen Christ, ascended Lord,

All praise to Thee let earth accord,

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Who art, while endless ages run,

With Father and with Spirit One.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.

Lesson: Isaiah 57.15

15 For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

Epistle: Acts 1:1-11

1 The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, 2 Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen: 3 To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God: 4 And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. 5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. 6 When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? 7 And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. 8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judæa, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. 9 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. 10 And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; 11 Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

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Hallelujah. Hallelujah. God is gone up with a shout: the Lord with the sound of a trumpet. Hallelujah. Thou hast ascended on high: Thou hast led captivity captive. Hallelujah.

Gospel: Mark 16:14-20

14 Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen. 15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. 16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. 17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; 18 They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. 19 So then after the Lord had spo-

ken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. 20 And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

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1. Lo, God to heaven ascendeth!

Throughout its regions vast
With shouts triumphant blendeth
The trumpet's thrilling blast:
Sing praise to Christ the Lord;
Sing priase with exultation,

King of each heathen nation,

The God of hosts adored!

- 2. With joy is heaven resounding Chirst's glad return to see;
 Behold the saints surrounding
 The Lord who set them free.
 Bright myriads, thronging, come;
 The cherub band rejoices,
 And loud seraphic voices
 All welcome Jesus home.
- 3. From cross to throne ascending, We follow Chirst on high And know the pathway wending To mansions in the sky. Our Lord is gone before; Yet here He will not leave us, But soon in heaven receive us And open wide the door.
- 4. Our place He is preparing; To heaven we, too, shall rise, With Him His glory sharing, Be where our Treasure lies. Bestir thyself, my soul! Where Jesus Christ has entered, There let thy hope be centered; Press onward toward the goal.
- 5. Let all our thoughts be winging
 To where Thou didst ascend,
 And let our hearts be singing:
 "We seek Thee, Christ, our Friend,
 Thee, God's exalted Son,
 Our Life, and Way to heaven,
 To whom all power is given,
 Our Joy and Hope and Crown." Amen.

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- 1. On Christ's ascension I now build the hope of mine ascension; This hope alone has ever stilled all doubt and apprehension; For where the Head is, there full well I know His members are to dwell When Christ shall come and call them.
- 2. Since He returned to claim His throne, Great gifts for men obtaining, My heart shall rest in Him alone, no other rest remaining; For where my treasure went before, there all my thoughts shall ever soar To still their deepest yearning.
- 3. Oh, grant, dear Lord, this grace to me, recalling Thine ascension,
 That I may ever walk with Thee, adorning Thy redemption;
 And then, when all my days shall cease,
 Let me depart in joy and peace in answer to my pleading. Amen.

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Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.