

The Sunday after Ascension Day

The Sunday Collect:

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

First Lesson: Exodus 28:1-4, 9-10, 29-30

“Then bring near to you Aaron your brother, and his sons with him, from among the people of Israel, to serve me as priests—Aaron and Aaron's sons, Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar. And you shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother, for glory and for beauty. You shall speak to all the skillful, whom I have filled with a spirit of skill, that they make Aaron's garments to consecrate him for my priesthood. These are the garments that they shall make: a breastpiece, an ephod, a robe, a coat of checker work, a turban, and a sash. They shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother and his sons to serve me as priests.

You shall take two onyx stones and engrave on them the names of the sons of Israel, six of their names on the one stone, and the names of the remaining six on the other stone, in the order of their birth.

So Aaron shall bear the names of the sons of Israel in the breastpiece of judgment on his heart, when he goes into the Holy Place, to bring them to regular remembrance before the Lord. And in the breastpiece of judgment you shall put the Urim and the Thummim, and they shall be on Aaron's heart, when he goes in before the Lord. Thus Aaron shall bear the judgment of the people of Israel on his heart before the Lord regularly.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 68:1-10 *Exsurgat Deus*

- 1 God shall arise, his enemies shall be scattered;*
and those who hate him shall flee before him!
- 2 As smoke is driven away, so you shall drive them away; as wax melts before fire,*
so the wicked shall perish before God!
- 3 But the righteous shall be glad; they shall exult before God;*
they shall be jubilant with joy!
- 4 Sing to God, sing praises to his name; lift up a song to him who rides through the
deserts;*
his name is the Lord; exult before him!
- 5 Father of the fatherless and protector of widows*
is God in his holy habitation.
- 6 God settles the solitary in a home;*
he leads out the prisoners to prosperity, but the rebellious dwell in a parched land.
- 7 O God, when you went out before your people,*
when you marched through the wilderness, Selah
- 8 the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain, before God, the One of Sinai,*
before God, the God of Israel.
- 9 Rain in abundance, O God, you shed abroad;*
you restored your inheritance as it languished;
- 10 your flock found a dwelling in it;*
in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.

We sing together:

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. World without end. Amen. Amen.

Second Lesson: 1 John 5:6-15

This is he who came by water and blood — Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. For there are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree.

If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that he has borne concerning his Son. Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son.

And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life. And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: Glory to You, Lord Christ.

The Gospel: John 17:11b-19

Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one.

While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.

But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.

I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ