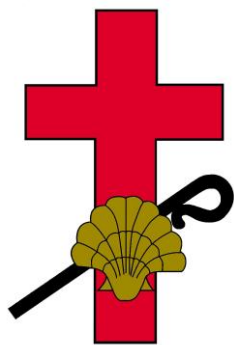


# St. James' Church, Briercliffe



## Prayer and worship at home

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2020  
Sunday after Ascension Day



*If a household are praying together, one person may act as leader and the others as the congregation and they join in the words in bold type.*

*If alone, read all the words aloud.*

*You may want to light a candle before you begin, and have a Bible, cross or crucifix to look at.*

*You might prepare for this act of worship by listening to some music, or by being still.*

## Preparation and Introduction

God has gone up with a shout,  
**the Lord with the sound of a trumpet!!**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Alleluia, Christ is risen!  
**He is risen indeed, Alleluia!**

For over forty days we have been celebrating with joyful hearts the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, his bursting from the tomb and his defeat of the power of sin and death. He appeared to his disciples many times and told them about the Kingdom of God.

Today we recall how he left this earth and returned to his Father, ascending into heaven to take his throne over all dominions and powers.

Trusting in his reign over all creation, and submitting to his kingly yet loving rule, let us hear the story of his parting

## The Word of the Lord

### THE ASCENSION READING Acts 1: 4-11

While staying with them, Jesus ordered the disciples not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." So, when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?"

He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. 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." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. 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."

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia**

### The Collect for this week

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that as we believe your only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens, so we in heart and mind may also ascend and with him continually dwell; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## THE GOSPEL Luke 24: 44-end

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.*

### Glory to you, O Lord

Then he 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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Affirmation of faith

Let us declare our faith  
in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Christ died for our sins  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he was buried;  
he was raised to life on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
afterwards he appeared to his followers,  
and to all the apostles:  
this we have received,  
and this we believe.  
Amen.**

## Prayers of Intercession

*(Here you may wish to offer prayer in your own words, or be prompted by the words here)*

*We pray for our world, especially at this time of anxiety and fear...*

*We pray for our nation and its well-being...*

*We pray for our government and all those who have the responsibility of making decisions affecting our future...*

*We pray for neighbours, family and friends and we remember all those self-isolating at the moment...*

*... We pray for families where there are growing tensions, for relationships under great strain and for those whose feelings of loneliness are exacerbated*

*We pray for all who are sick, worried or anxious, and for those who feel cut off from friends and family...*

*We pray for those who have died in recent days, and all whom we remember with love and affection....*

### And in our Parish, we pray for:

Christine, Craig, Dave, Francis, Graham, Janet, Jill, Lindsay, Maureen, Pete, Peter, Samantha, Sarah  
*and all who have care of them.*

*For the recently departed::*

Michael Coates, Carol Hayward  
*and all those who mourn them.*

*And on the anniversary of her death:*

Elinor Fletcher

*And in our cycle of prayer:*

Stirling Court, Hill End Lane, Sparrable Row,  
Banks Street, Lane Bottam

## The Lord's Prayer

Joining with Christians throughout the world,  
we pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, . . . . .**

## The Grace

*We conclude our prayers*

**The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God, and the fellowship of the  
Holy Spirit, be with us all, evermore. Amen**

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed, Alleluia!**

### Readings for the coming week:

|           |                                 |                 |
|-----------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Monday    | Psalm 68: 1-6                   | John 16: 29-end |
| Tuesday   | Psalm 68: 9-10, 18-19           | John 17: 1-11   |
| Wednesday | Psalm 68: 27-28, 32-35          | John 17: 11-19  |
| Thursday  | Psalm 16: 1, 5-end              | John 17: 20-end |
| Friday    | Psalm 103: 1-2, 11-12,<br>19-20 | John 16: 20-23  |
| Saturday  | Psalm 11: 4-end                 | John 16: 23-28  |