

The People stand or kneel. The Celebrant continues.

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: **“Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”**

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: **“Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”**

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

The Celebrant and People say

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant God of promise, you have prepared a banquet for us.
People Happy are those who are called to the Supper of the Lamb.

The Celebrant continues

The gifts of God for the People of God. (Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.)

The Lord’s Table is open to all. Baptized persons are welcome to receive communion. Unbaptized persons are invited to the altar to receive a blessing. To signify that you do not desire communion, please cross your arms over your chest, and a priest will administer a blessing. You are also invited to receive prayers and anointing with holy oil in one of our transept chapels (Ascension to the south, and Holy Communion to the north) where anointers wait to pray with you.

Music at Communion

Celebration Hymnal 460 **“Let Us Break Bread”**
Celebration Hymnal 681 **“In His Time”**

The Sending of Lay Eucharistic Visitors

Following communion, Eucharistic Visitors to our homebound members may be sent forth with the following prayer.

Celebrant **In the name of St. John’s Cathedral, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ’s Body and Blood.**

People We who are many are one body because we all share one bread, one cup.

Invitation to the Children

All children are invited to come up to the front of the church to process out with the choristers and be escorted to their Sunday School classes immediately following the service.

The Postcommunion Prayer

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

The Celebrant blesses the people

In Procession, Celebration Hymnal 33 **“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”**

The Dismissal

Alleluia, alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

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The flowers in Cummings Chapel and at the High Altar are given to the glory of God, in loving memory of Richard Bush, by Shirley Bush, in loving memory of LaTrelle Sheffield, by Karen Culler, in loving memory of Sara Jane Ashurst Ferris, and in thanksgiving for Captain William Dallas Bethea, Jr., by Sally Ferris.

The flowers in Holy Communion Chapel and Ascension Chapel are given to the glory of God, and in loving memory and thanksgiving for all mothers.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

ASCENSION SUNDAY

May 8, 2016 - 9 a.m.

A joyous and warm welcome to our visitors and guests. Please know how happy our Cathedral community is to have you worship with us. We’d love to know our guests, so please fill out a visitor card and drop it in the offering plate as it comes by.

Welcome

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Celebrant and People

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Children age four through fifth grade follow the Cross in procession to Children’s Chapel in Cummings Chapel. The children rejoin their families at the Peace.

In Procession, Celebration Hymnal 45 **“Crown Him with Many Crowns”**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant continues

Almighty God, whose blessed Son our Savior Jesus Christ ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things: Mercifully give us faith to perceive that, according to his promise, he abides with his Church on earth, even to the end of the ages; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

The People are seated.

The Lesson

Acts 1:1-11

Lector A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. 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. 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; 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."

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

A period of silence for reflection follows the reading.

