Parish Church of St George, Tyldesley

Ascension Day

Thursday, 21 May 2020

Prayers of Intercession 

Astley, Tyldesley and Mosley Common Team Ministry

“Together in worship, love and service”

 Risen Lord, we pray in the glorious light of Christ, who leads his people in all their worship and adoration. Lord, as we continue our Easter journey make us mindful of our potential for good and for growth, despite the restrictions we are having to adjust to. Help us all to be responsible in the things that we do in our lives, in our new daily realities, and to adapt the unchanging Gospel message to today’s needs.

*Shout to the Lord with a cry of joy*

 ***We will rejoice in your glory.***



Risen, ascended, glorified Lord, we kneel before you in humble adoration and awe.

Rule in our hearts and be at the centre of your Church – your church as it adapts to the new reality of closed buildings and changing ministry – your church as we welcome Jonathan and Asnath to their new home in Mosley Common and a developing ministry in our team – your church unchanging and everchanging.

Fulfil in your Church your work of redemption.

*Shout to the Lord with a cry of joy*

 ***We will rejoice in your glory.***



Exalted Lord, at your ascension your disciples still didn’t understood the nature of your Kingdome.

Expand the vision of all in leadership and government, to be subject to your just and gentle rule. Help central government, local councils and other support networks capitalise on a renewed growth in volunteering, neighbourhood provision, community concern and appreciation of the caring vocations.

Enfold in your love all humanity as citizens of your Kingdom

*Shout to the Lord with a cry of joy*

 ***We will rejoice in your glory.***

Lord Jesus Christ, your name is above every name.

Open our minds to understand your purpose through the words of scripture, persist with us when we find it difficult to find explanation and meaning

Give us hearts to long for you, grace to discern you, and courage to proclaim you, Mould us to be witnesses of your hope and grace,

*Shout to the Lord with a cry of joy*

 ***We will rejoice in your glory.***

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Lord of hope and consolation, look with compassion on the anguish of a troubled world.

Be our strength and comfort in times of adversity; particularly as we wrestle with this pandemic its effects on our physical and mental health and our sense of wellbeing.

Bless us with your holiness and lift our eyes to behold your glory.

*Shout to the Lord with a cry of joy*

 ***We will rejoice in your glory.***

Jesus, risen, ascended and glorified for our salvation, we lay our lives before you in faith and trust.

Raise with you all who have died known to us and from whatever cause.

Bring us to sig your praises through all the earth.

 *Shout to the Lord with a cry of joy*

 ***We will rejoice in your glory.***

Holy Wisdom, Mother God, you hold my time in your hands. Your providence guides the stars and my cells. Your compassion opens my heart to healing in the midst of pain. Help me rest in you, trusting the future in your care and giving comfort to those who mourn, hurt, and face personal challenge. In Christ’s name. Amen.

Merciful father:

**accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.  Amen**

**THE COLLECT**

GRANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that like as we do believe thy only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens; so we may also in heart and mind thither ascend, and with him continually dwell, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.

**THE EPISTLE**

**Acts 1.1-11:**

**The Promise of the Holy Spirit**

**1**In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning **2**until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. **3**After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over the course of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. **4**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; **5**for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.’

**The Ascension of Jesus**

**6**So when they had come together, they asked him, ‘Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?’ **7**He replied, ‘It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. **8**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.’ **9**When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. **10**While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. **11**They said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards 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.’

**THE GOSPEL**

**Luke 24.44-53**

**44**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.’ **45**Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, **46**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, **47**and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. **48**You are witnesses of these things. **49**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.’

**The Ascension of Jesus**

**50**Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. **51**While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. **52**And they worshipped him, andreturned to Jerusalem with great joy; **53**and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

**Other readings:** Psalm 47 *or* Psalm 93, Ephesians 1.15-23

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Anyone who has walked past church recently, should have seen the tremendous improvements being made as Frank and Carl plant bushes and shrubs in the churchyard garden. If any parishioners can donate cuttings or plants please contact me !!

text 07976 314012 and I’ll arrange for them to be collected.



**On Thursday 28 May,**

all church porches in Leigh Deanery will be open for donations of food to Atherton and Leigh Food Bank.

**St Georges will be open from 10.00am- 12.00noon.**

**Thank You**

***“Rooted in God’s love,***

 ***Growing together with Jesus,***

***Ministering in the power of the***

***Holy Spirit.”***

