

Suggestions for Ascension Sunday

Passages from Scripture

Acts 1:1-14

or Acts 1:1-26

Psalms 24

Luke 24:36-53

Teachings of the New Church

Because the Lord's Human was glorified, that is, made Divine, He therefore rose again on the third day after death with His entire body, which does not happen to anyone else, for a person's spirit arises again, but not the body. To enable people to know, and none be in doubt, that the Lord arose again with His entire body He not only declared this through the angels who were in the tomb but also revealed Himself in His human body to the disciples, and said to them when they thought they were seeing a spirit,

See My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself; handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see Me to have. And when He had said this He showed them His hands and feet. Luke 24:39,40; John 20:20.

And in addition to this,

Jesus said to Thomas, Put your finger here, and see My hands, and put out your hand and put it into My side; and do not be unbelieving but believing. Then Thomas said, My Lord and my God. John 20:27,28.

To provide further proof that He was not a spirit but a Man the Lord said to the disciples,

Do you have any food at all here? They gave Him part of a broiled fish and some honeycomb, which He took and ate in their presence. Luke 24:41-43.

Since His body now consisted not of matter but of Divine substance He therefore came to the disciples when the door was shut, John 20:19,26; and after He had been recognized vanished from sight, Luke 24:31. This being what the Lord was now like He was carried up and sat down at the right hand of God, for it says in Luke,

It happened that while He was blessing them He parted from them and was carried up into heaven. 24:51.

And in Mark,

After He had spoken to them He was carried up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. 16:19.

Sitting at the right hand of God means the Almighty Power of God.

For the above, and more, see the quite long paragraph 35 of

Teaching concerning the Lord pub 2019 tr John Elliott

Hymns

343 Rejoice, the Lord is King *tune* Gopsal 6 6 6 6 8 8

211 Jesus shall reign *tune* Truro or Warrington LM

Prayers

Christ is the King
to whom all authority has been given
in heaven and on earth.

We own him as our Lord.

We yield him our obedience.

We dedicate our lives to his service.

Come, Lord Jesus, and reign in us,
and make us the agents of your kingdom in the world,
to the honour of your name.

Frank Colquhoun

Dear Lord, at this happy and holy season help us to see that
the real footprints of your ascension are to be found not upon
a mountain-top near Jerusalem, but in the marks and tokens of
the witness of your disciples here and now, living and serving
in the presence of their ascended Lord.

Alan Warren

The King of Glory

Most adorable Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the glorification of Thy Humanity, didst ascend far above all heavens, blessed and for ever blessed be Thy Holy Name. Now is the light of the moon become as the light of the sun, and the light of the sun sevenfold, as the light of seven days; for Thou, O Lord, hast bound up the breach of Thy people, and healed the stroke of their wound. Thou hast ascended on high, Thou hast led captivity captive. Thou hast received gifts for men; yea, for the rebellious also, that Thou mightest dwell among them. Ever would we honour and adore in Thee the undivided majesty of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and acknowledge that Thou alone reignest, King of kings, and Lord of lords. We join in the triumphant song, and say, Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lifted up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty; the LORD mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O ye gates, even lift them up ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory. Amen.

A eulogy for Ascension Sunday included in **Liturgy for the New Church**
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