

Ascension Service Kit

Christ enthroned — Psalm 24 calls to worship, an Acts 1 responsive reading, and inserts on the Great Commission and Christ's intercession.

When to use it: Ascension Day (forty days after Easter) and the Sunday following.

Order of service

1. Prelude / gathering music
2. Call to worship (Scripture below)
3. Opening hymn
4. Invocation
5. Prayer of confession and assurance of pardon
6. Responsive reading
7. Scripture reading
8. Sermon
9. Response — communion, offering, or prayer
10. Closing hymn
11. Benediction

Hymn suggestions (public domain)

- Crown Him with Many Crowns
- Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise
- Rejoice, the Lord Is King

Suggested preaching text

Acts 1:1-11 with Hebrews 7:23-28.

Calls to worship

Read one aloud to open the service. Short is better than long — the point is to turn the room toward God before anything else is said.

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

Psalm 24:7 (KJV)

And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

Acts 1:9 (KJV)

This is the day which the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Psalm 118:24 (KJV)

Invocation

Lord Jesus, thou art not absent but enthroned. Thou didst not leave us orphans; thou art seated at the right hand of the Father, and thou livest to make intercession for us. Lift our eyes this morning to where thou art. Amen.

Prayer of confession

Father, we confess that we live as though heaven were empty and earth were all there is. Forgive our small horizons and set our affection on things above. Amen.

Assurance of pardon

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Romans 8:1 (KJV)

Responsive reading

Taken Up in Glory

Leader reads the plain lines; the congregation reads the lines in bold. Print this page in the bulletin exactly as it appears here.

Leader: But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me.

Acts 1:8 (KJV)

People: **And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.**

Acts 1:9 (KJV)

Leader: This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

Acts 1:11 (KJV)

People: **He ever liveth to make intercession for them.**

Hebrews 7:25 (KJV)

All: **Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory.**

Psalms 24:10 (KJV)

Offering sentence

And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work.

2 Corinthians 9:8 (KJV)

Benediction

Speak the blessing over the congregation rather than praying it — the biblical pattern is a word given to the people, not a request made on their behalf.

Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will.

Hebrews 13:20-21 (KJV)

Bulletin inserts — cut along the dashed lines

Photocopy this page, cut on the dashed borders, and slip one into every bulletin or visitor pack. Free to reproduce for church use.

BULLETIN INSERT 1 · BIBLE SUNDAYS

Why the Ascension matters

And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

Acts 1:9 (KJV)

The Ascension is not Jesus leaving; it is Jesus taking the throne. A man with scars on his hands sits at the right hand of God and prays for you by name. That is the whole ground of Christian confidence.

BULLETIN INSERT 2 · BIBLE SUNDAYS

A verse for the week

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Acts 1:8 (KJV)

The disciples stood staring at the sky and the angels sent them back to work. Witness is what the waiting time is for. Name one person you will speak to about Christ before next Sunday.

Service planning notes

Fill this in on the Thursday before and hand a copy to the musicians, the reader, and the sound desk.

Preacher

Sermon title and text

Reader / liturgist

Hymns

Communion / ordinance

Announcements

Notes

More free KJV resources for Sunday at biblesundays.com/sunday — sermon series plans, printables, hymn texts, and free Bible widgets for your church website.