Ascension Sunday

The Collect

O GOD, the King of glory, who hast exalted thine only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph unto thy kingdom in heaven; We beseech thee, leave us not comfortless; but send to us thine Holy Ghost to comfort us, and exalt us unto the same place whither our Saviour Christ is gone before, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.

First Lesson

Acts 1:12-14

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away; and when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. All these with one accord devoted themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

The Word of the Lord Thanks be to God

Psalm 27

- 1: The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
- 2: When evildoers assail me, uttering slanders against me, my adversaries and foes, they shall stumble and fall.
- 3: Though a host encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.
- 4: One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.
- 5: For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent, he will set me high upon a rock.
- 6: And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies round about me; and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the LORD.
- 7: Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!
- 8: Thou hast said, "Seek ye my face." My heart says to thee, "Thy face, LORD, do I seek."
- 9: Hide not thy face from me. Turn not thy servant away in anger, thou who hast been my help. Cast me not off, forsake me not, O God of my salvation!
- 10: For my father and my mother have forsaken me, but the LORD will take me up.
- 11: Teach me thy way, O LORD; and lead me on a level path because of my enemies.
- 12: Give me not up to the will of my adversaries; for false witnesses have risen against me, and they breathe out violence.

13: I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living!

14: Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; yea, wait for the LORD!

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Epistle

1 Peter 4:7-11

The end of all things is at hand; therefore keep sane and sober for your prayers. Above all hold unfailing your love for one another, since love covers a multitude of sins. Practice hospitality ungrudgingly to one another. As each has received a gift, employ it for one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who utters oracles of God; whoever renders service, as one who renders it by the strength which God supplies; in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord *Thanks be to God*

The Holy Gospel Glory be to thee, O Lord

John 15:26-16:4a

But when the Counselor comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness to me; and you also are witnesses, because you have been with me from the beginning. "I have said all this to you to keep you from falling away. They will put you out of the synagogues; indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God. And they will do this because they have not known the Father, nor me. But I have said these things to you, that when their hour comes you may remember that I told you of them.

The Gospel of the Lord *Praise be to thee, O Christ*