

FIRST READING

Acts 1:8-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Jesus told his disciples:

“The Holy Spirit will come upon you and give you power.
Then you will tell everyone about me in Jerusalem,
in all Judea, in Samaria, and everywhere in the world.”

After Jesus had said this and while they were watching,
he was taken up into a cloud.

They could not see him, but as he went up,
they kept looking up into the sky.

Suddenly two men dressed in white clothes
were standing there beside them.

They said, “Why are you men from Galilee
standing here and looking up into the sky?

Jesus has been taken to heaven.

But he will come back in the same way
that you have seen him go.”

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

*Psalm 47:1-2,
5-6, 7-8*

*All: God mounts the throne
to shouts of joy.*

or

All: Alleluia.

*All of you nations,
clap your hands and shout
joyful praises to God.
The LORD Most High is fearsome,
the ruler of all the earth.*

*All: God mounts the throne
to shouts of joy.*

or

All: Alleluia.

*God goes up to his throne,
as people shout
and trumpets blast.
Sing praises to God our King.*

*All: God mounts the throne
to shouts of joy.*

or

All: Alleluia.

*God is ruler of all the earth!
Praise God with songs.
God rules the nations
from his sacred throne.*

*All: God mounts the throne
to shouts of joy.*

or

All: Alleluia.

May 20, 2012
Ascension of the Lord (B)

SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:17-21

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians

Brothers and sisters:

I ask the glorious Father and God of our Lord Jesus Christ
to give you his Spirit.

The Spirit will make you wise and let you understand
what it means to know God.

My prayer is that light will flood your hearts
and that you will understand the hope
that was given to you when God chose you.

Then you will discover the glorious blessings
that will be yours together with all of God's people.

I want you to know about the great and mighty power
that God has for us followers.

It is the same wonderful power he used
when he raised Christ from death
and let him sit at his right side in heaven.

There Christ rules
over all forces, authorities, powers, and rulers.

He rules over all beings in this world
and will rule in the future world as well.

The word of the Lord.

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GOSPEL

Mark 16:15-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus told his disciples:

“Go and preach the good news to everyone in the world.
Anyone who believes me and is baptized will be saved.
But anyone who refuses to believe me will be condemned.

“Everyone who believes me
will be able to do wonderful things.
By using my name they will force out demons,
and they will speak new languages.
They will handle snakes and will drink poison
and not be hurt.
They will also heal sick people
by placing their hands on them.”

After the Lord Jesus had said these things to the disciples,
he was taken back up to heaven
where he sat down at the right side of God.
Then the disciples left and preached everywhere.
The Lord was with them,
and the miracles they worked proved
that their message was true.

The Gospel of the Lord.