Reading 1 ACTS 1:1-11

In the first book, Theophilus, I dealt with all that Jesus did and taught until the day he was taken up, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. He presented himself alive to them by many proofs after he had suffered, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While meeting with the them, he enjoined them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for “the promise of the Father about which you have heard me speak; for John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

When they had gathered together they asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?” He answered them, “It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” When he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight. While they were looking intently at the sky as he was going, suddenly two men dressed in white garments stood beside them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky? This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven.”

Reading 2 EPH 1:17-23

Brothers and sisters: May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a Spirit of wisdom and revelation resulting in knowledge of him. May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened, that you may know what is the hope that belongs to his call, what are the riches of glory in his inheritance among the holy ones, and what is the surpassing greatness of his power for us who believe, in accord with the exercise of his great might, which he worked in Christ, raising him from the dead and seating him at his right hand in the heavens, far above every principality, authority, power, and dominion, and every name that is named not only in this age but also in the one to come. And he put all things beneath his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, he fullness of the one who fills all things in every way.

Gospel MT 28:16-20

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them. When they saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted. Then Jesus approached and said to them, “All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.”
Opening – A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

1. A hymn of glory let us sing!
   New hymns throughout the world shall ring
   Alleluia! Alleluia!
   Christ, by a road before untrod.
   Ascends unto the throne of God.
   Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

2. The holy apostolic band
   Upon the Mount of Olives stand.
   Alleluia! Alleluia!
   And with his faithful foll'wers see
   Their Lord ascend in majesty.
   Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Text: Hymnum canamus gloria; Venerable Bede, 673-735; tr. © 1978, Lutheran Book of Worship

Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 47

*Ostinato Refrain

*May be sung in canon and underneath verses.

Text: Psalm 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9; Marty Haugen, © 1983, GIA Publications, Inc.

Gospel Acclamation

Refrain


Offertory – Jesus, the Lord

R: Jesus.

Jesus.

Let all creation bend the knee
to the Lord.


Closing – Go to the World

1. Go to the world! Go into all the earth.
   Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth,
   baptizing as the sign of our rebirth.
   Alleluia! Alleluia!

2. Go to the world! Go into ev'ry place.
   Go live the Word of God's redeeming grace.
   Go seek God's presence in each time and space.
   Alleluia! Alleluia!

3. Go to the world! Go struggle, bless and pray.
   The nights of tears give way to joyous day.
   As servant Church, you follow Christ's own way.
   Alleluia! Alleluia!

4. Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,
   For I am with you till the age shall end,
   When all the hosts of glory cry “Amen!”
   Alleluia! Alleluia!


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