

# A Service of the Word • Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2026

## The Seventh Sunday of Easter – Sunday after Ascension Day

### Introduction, Greeting

Christ has gone up on high.  
God raised Christ from the dead  
God put all things in subjection beneath his feet  
We died, and our life lies hidden with Christ in God.  
When Christ, who is our life, is revealed,  
Christ has gone up on high.  
We have come together as the family of God ...

**All: Alleluia.**  
**All: and enthroned him at his right hand in the heavenly realms.**  
**All: and gave him as head over all things to the Church.**  
**All: We set our minds on things above.**  
**All: we too will be revealed with him in glory.**  
**All: Alleluia.** *cf Ephesians 1. 20,23; Colossians 3. 1-4*

### Collect for Purity

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### Hymn 223

1. All hail the power of Jesu's name;  
let angels prostrate fall;  
bring forth the royal diadem  
to crown him, crown him, crown him,  
crown him Lord of all.
2. Crown him, ye morning stars of light,  
who fixed this floating ball;  
now hail the Strength of Israel's might,  
to crown him, crown him, crown him,  
and crown him Lord of all.
3. Crown him, ye martyrs of your God,  
who from his altar call;  
praise him whose way of pain ye trod,  
to crown him, crown him, crown him,  
and crown him Lord of all.
4. Ye seed of Israel's chosen race,  
ye ransomed of the fall,  
hail him who saves you by his grace,  
to crown him, crown him, crown him,  
and crown him Lord of all.
5. Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget  
the wormwood and the gall,  
go spread your trophies at his feet,  
to crown him, crown him, crown him,  
and crown him Lord of all.
6. Let every tribe and every tongue  
to him their hearts enthral,  
lift high the universal song  
to crown him, crown him, crown him,  
and crown him Lord of all.

### Confession

Lord, have mercy  
Christ, have mercy  
Lord, have mercy

**All: Lord, have mercy**  
**All: Christ, have mercy**  
**All: Lord, have mercy.**

### Absolution

#### Gloria (*said*)

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

### Collect for The Seventh Sunday of Easter

#### A reading from the acts of the apostles

This is the word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

*Acts 1. 6-14*

#### Psalm 68. 1-10

**Refrain: Sing to God, sing praises to his name.**

#### A reading from the first letter of Peter

This is the word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

*1 Peter 4. 12-14, 5. 6-11*

### Hymn 227

1. Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;  
hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own!  
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.
2. Crown him the Virgin's Son, the God incarnate born,  
whose arm those crimson trophies won which now his brow adorn:  
Fruit of the mystic Rose, as of that Rose the Stem;  
the Root whence mercy ever flows, the Babe of Bethlehem.
3. Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,  
those wounds yet visible above in beauty glorified:  
no angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,  
but downward bends his burning eye at mysteries so bright.
4. Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a sceptre sways  
from pole to pole, that wars may cease, and all be prayer and praise:  
his reign shall know no end, and round his piercèd feet  
fair flowers of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.
5. Crown him the Lord of years, the Potentate of time,  
creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime:  
all hail, Redeemer, hail! for thou hast died for me;  
thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.

**Gospel Reading** *please stand*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John  
*After ... This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

**All: Glory to you, O Lord.  
 All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Music for meditation** *For the beauty of the earth (Rutter)***Lay Leader of Worship Reflections** *Margaret Fox***Affirmation of faith**

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;**

**Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**Prayers using the response:**

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

**Prayerful Hymn 232**

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| <p>1. The head that once was crowned with thorns<br/>         is crowned with glory now:<br/>         a royal diadem adorns<br/>         the mighty Victor's brow.</p> <p>2. The highest place that heaven affords<br/>         is his, is his by right,<br/>         the King of kings, and Lord of lords,<br/>         and heaven's eternal Light;</p> <p>3. The joy of all who dwell above,<br/>         the joy of all below,<br/>         to whom he manifests his love,<br/>         and grants his name to know.</p> | <p>4. To them the cross, with all its shame,<br/>         with all its grace, is given:<br/>         their name, an everlasting name,<br/>         their joy, the joy of heaven.</p> <p>5. They suffer with their Lord below,<br/>         they reign with him above;<br/>         their profit and their joy to know<br/>         the mystery of his love.</p> <p>6. The cross he bore is life and health,<br/>         though shame and death to him;<br/>         his people's hope, his people's wealth,<br/>         their everlasting theme.</p> |
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**The Lord's Prayer****Notices and Banns of Marriage****Peace****Hymn 228**

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| <p>1. Hail the day that sees him rise, <i>Alleluia</i>,<br/>         to his throne above the skies; <i>Alleluia</i>,<br/>         Christ, the Lamb for sinners given, <i>Alleluia</i>,<br/>         enters now the highest heaven. <i>Alleluia!</i></p> <p>2. There for him high triumph waits;<br/>         lift your heads, eternal gates.<br/>         He hath conquered death and sin;<br/>         take the King of Glory in.</p> <p>3. Lo, the heaven its Lord receives,<br/>         yet he loves the earth he leaves;<br/>         though returning to his throne,<br/>         still he calls mankind his own.</p> | <p>4. See, he lifts his hands above;<br/>         see, he shews the prints of love;<br/>         hark, his gracious lips bestow<br/>         blessings on his church below.</p> <p>5. Still for us he intercedes,<br/>         his prevailing death he pleads;<br/>         near himself prepares our place,<br/>         he the first-fruits of our race.</p> <p>6. Lord, though parted from our sight,<br/>         far above the starry height,<br/>         grant our hearts may thither rise,<br/>         seeking thee above the skies.</p> |
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**Blessing****Dismissal**

Let us go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia!!

**All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!!**

**Closing Music**

*No Collection is taken, please donate by Text or leave a gift (in a completed gift aid envelope if you are able to do so) in the Offertory Plates or by contactless card giving as you leave. Thank you. We are encouraging supporters of the church to give by Bank Transfer to support our work. Details are on our website at [www.saintmichaelweb.org.uk](http://www.saintmichaelweb.org.uk) or contact the Parish Office at*

*[church@saintmichaelweb.org.uk](mailto:church@saintmichaelweb.org.uk)*

*Thank you for joining this service, whether by Zoom or in person.*