

Feast of the Ascension - عيد الصعود

For forty days after Pascha, the risen Lord had appeared to the disciples, eating and drinking with them, telling them many things, giving them their Great Commission: “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, reaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age” (Mt 18:19-20). Ultimately, he returned to His Father in heaven, as was seated at God’s right hand. “The Ascension of Christ shows the last stage in God’s plan for mankind: total union with Himself upon one’s departure from the world. According to V. Rev. George Florovsky, ‘In the Ascension resides the meaning and the fullness of Christ’s Resurrection....and with Christ, man’s nature ascends also.’” <https://orthodoxwiki.org/Ascension>

**Prior week’s donations: \$656** (including all cash, checks, and electronic deposits). Our weekly expenses run about **\$1700**. If we get 30 people (i.e., all the men, women, and children, combined), that amounts to about **\$57 per person**. We appreciate your generosity. St Jacob’s couldn’t survive without your support!

**How can you join in the mission and vision of St Jacob’s, the only Melkite community in San Diego County?** First, by participating in the life of our community and attending our worship services. Second, if you cannot attend regularly, please pray for the well-being of our Melkite mission. Third, your financial support is crucial for the longevity of St Jacob’s. Please give generously to Sunday collections, mail your donations to PO Box 231328, San Diego, CA 92193, or visit our online giving web page: <https://stjacobmelkite.org/giving> for electronic options. **St Jacob’s can’t exist without your stewardship!** May the Lord bless your generosity.

**Remember in your prayers:** All who are sick, suffering or recovering from illness, especially Samir Khbais, Juliette Linholm, Dcn. Edward Bagdasar, Najib Bagdasar, Eduardo Rame, Alfonso Hababa, Suad Maria, Matthew Medina, Samir Shamieh, Micheline Haggar, Alice Boghos, Emil Shami and Nassim and Soumaya Nasser. All those affected by the violence in Ukraine, Gaza and Lebanon. We remember the Christians being persecuted in Syria and throughout the Middle East. We remember also all who have fallen asleep in the hope of new life.

Antiphons of the Ascension: Second Antiphon

- 1) Great is the Lord and wholly to be praised in the city of our God, on His holy mountain.  
**O Son of God Who ascended in glory to heaven, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.**  
2) Mount Sion, the recesses of the North, is the City of the Great King.  
3) God is with her castles: renowned is He as a stronghold.

**Entrance hymn:** God ascended amid shouts of joy, the Lord amid trumpet blasts. **O Son of God, Who ascended in glory to heaven, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!**

Troparion of the Ascension: (4<sup>th</sup> Tone) – 3x

You ascended in glory, O Christ our God, and gladdened Your disciples by the promise of the Holy Spirit. Through Your blessing they were confirmed in their belief that You are the Son of God, the Redeemer of the world.

Kondakion of the Ascension:

After fulfilling for us Your plan of redemption and joining the things of earth with those of heaven, You gloriously ascended O Christ our God without abandoning us, but remained with us forever and proclaimed to those who love You: “Behold, I am with you: no one has power against you.”

Epistle: Acts of the Apostles: 1:1-12, p. 64

ASCENSION THURSDAY:

PROKIMENON: (Tone 7) Psalm 56:6,8

Be exalted above the heavens, O God; above all the earth be Your glory!

**Stichon:** My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast! I will sing and chant praise.

READING from the Acts of the Apostles:

In the preceding book, Theophilus, I was concerned with everything Jesus did and taught from the beginning, until the day He was taken up, after giving commandments through the Holy Spirit to the apostles He had chosen. To them also He showed himself alive after His passion by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about God’s kingdom. And while eating with them, He told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for the Father’s promise, “of which you have heard,” He said, “by My mouth. For while John baptized with water, you shall be baptized in the Holy Spirit within a few days.” Now, those gathered there questioned Him, asking, “Lord, is it now that You will restore the kingdom to Israel?” But He answered them, “It is not for you to know the times or the proper

الأنديفون الثانية: (للصعود)

- عظيم الرب ومسيح جداً، في مدينة إلها، في جبل المقدس  
خلصنا يا ابن الله يا من صعد عنا بمجد الى السماوات، نحن  
المرنمين لك هلوليا.  
- جبال صهيون، جهات الشمال، مدينة الملك العظيم  
- الله في أبراجها يعرف، عندما يتصرها.

**ترنيمة الدخول:** صعد الله بتهلل. الرب بصوت البوق.  
خلصنا يا ابن الله، يا من صعد عنا بمجد الى السماوات، نحن  
المرنمين لك هلوليا.

نشيد الصعود: (بالحن الرابع) (ثلاثاً)

لقد صعدت بمجد أيها المسيح إلها، مفرحاً تلاميذك بموعد الروح  
القدس. وقد تيقنوا بالبركة، أنك أنت ابن الله المنقذ العالم.

قنداق الصعود: (بالحن السادس)

لما أكملت التدبير الذي من أجلنا، ووحدت ما على الارض  
بالسماويات، صعدت بمجد أيها المسيح إلها، دون أن تترك مكاناً،  
بل لا بشئ غير منفصلٍ وهاتفاً بمحببك: أنا معكم، وليس أحد عليكم.

رسالة خميس الصعود

مقدمة الرسالة:

اللَّهُمَّ ارفع على السَّمَاوَاتِ، وعلى كُلِّ الأَرْضِ مجدك  
مُسْتَعِدُّ قلبي يا الله، مُسْتَعِدُّ قلبي، أَشِيدُ وأرْنم في مَجْدِي

الرسالة: (أعمال الرسل 1: 1-12)

قد أنشأت الكلام الأول يا ثاوفيلس، في جميع الأمور التي ابتدأ يسوع  
يعملها ويُعلم بها، الى اليوم الذي صعد فيه، من بعد أن أوصى بالروح  
القدس الرسل الذين اصطفاهم، الذين أراهم أيضاً نفسه حياً بعد تألمه  
ببراهين كثيرة، وهو يتراءى لهم مدة أربعين يوماً، ويكلمهم عما  
يخص ملكوت الله. وفيما هو يأكل معهم أوصاهم أن لا تتركوا من  
أورشليم، بل انتظروا موعد الأب الذي سمعتموه مني. فإن يوحنا إنما  
عمد بالماء وأما أنتم فستعمدون بالروح القدس بعد هذه الأيام بقليل.  
فسأله المجتمعون قائلين: يا رب، أفي هذا الزمان ترُدُّ الملك الى  
إسرائيل؟ فقال لهم: ليس لكم أن تعرفوا الأوقات والأزمينة التي جعلها  
الأب في سلطانه الخاص. لكنكم ستنالون قوة بحلول الروح القدس

moments the Father has set by His own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in Judea and Samaria, and even to the very ends of the earth." And when He had said this, while they were looking on, He rose up, and a cloud hid Him from their eyes. And as they kept looking at the sky while He went, behold, two men stood by them in white garments and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up at the sky? This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will come in the same way as you have seen Him going up to heaven." Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mountain called Olive Grove which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey.

**ALLELUIA:** (Tone 2) Psalm 46:2, 6:

All you peoples, clap your hands! Shout to God with cries of gladness!

**Stichon:** God is gone up with a triumphant cry, the Lord, at the sound of the trumpet.

**Gospel of the Feast of Ascension: Luke 24:36-53, p.41**  
**THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST:**

At that time, after His resurrection, Jesus stood in the midst of His disciples and said to them, "Peace to you!" But they were startled and panic-stricken, and thought they were seeing a ghost. And He asked them, "Why are you disturbed, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? See My hands and feet, that it is I myself. Feel Me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have." And having said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. But as joy left them disbelieving, and they marveled, He said, "Have you anything here to eat?" And they offered Him a piece of broiled fish and a honeycomb. And taking it, He ate it before them. And He said to them, "These are the words I spoke to you while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled that are written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me." Then He opened their minds, that they might understand the Scriptures. And He said to them, "Thus it is written; and thus, the Christ should suffer, and should rise again from the dead on the third day; and repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. And you yourselves are witnesses to these things. And I send forth upon you the promise of My Father. But wait here in the city until you are clothed with power from on high." Now He led them out towards Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. And it came to pass as He blessed them, that He parted from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshipped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. And they were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.

**Hymn to the Theotokos:** Hirmos of the Ninth Ode

O you who have given birth in time to the One whom no limit of time can hold, you thus have become the Mother of God in a manner beyond understanding and beyond words: we the faithful magnify you in one mind.

**Kinonikon:** "God ascended amid shouts of joy, the Lord ascended amid blasts of trumpet. Alleluia!"

**Post-communion hymn:** Troparion of the Ascension.

عَلَيْكُمْ، فَتَكُونُونَ لِي شُهُودًا فِي أُورَشَلِيمَ، وَفِي جَمِيعِ الْيَهُودِيَّةِ وَالسَّامِرَةِ، وَإِلَى أَقْصَى الْأَرْضِ. وَلَمَّا قَالَ هَذَا ارْتَفَعَ وَهُمْ نَاضِرُونَ، وَأَخَذَتْهُ سَحَابَةٌ عَنْ عُيُونِهِمْ. وَبَيْنَمَا هُمْ شَاخِصُونَ نَحْوَ السَّمَاءِ وَهُوَ مُنْطَلِقٌ، إِذَا بَرَجَلَيْنِ وَقَفَا عِنْدَهُمْ بِلِبَاسٍ أبيض، وَقَالَا لَهُمْ: أَيُّهَا الرِّجَالُ الْجَلِيلِيُّونَ، مَا بِالْكُمْ وَاقِفِينَ تَنْتَظِرُونَ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ؟ إِنَّ يَسُوعَ هَذَا الَّذِي ارْتَفَعَ عَنْكُمْ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ، سَيَأْتِي هَكَذَا كَمَا عَايَنْتُمُوهُ مُنْطَلِقًا إِلَى السَّمَاءِ. حِينَئِذٍ رَجَعُوا إِلَى أُورَشَلِيمَ مِنَ الْجِبَلِ الْمَدْعُوعِ جَبَلِ الزَّيْتُونِ، الَّذِي هُوَ بَقَرِبِ أُورَشَلِيمَ عَلَى مَسَافَةِ سَفَرٍ سَبْتٍ.

**هَللُويا**

يَا جَمِيعَ الْأُمَمِ صَفِّقُوا بِالْأَيْدِي. هَلِّلُوا لِلَّهِ بِصَوْتِ الْابْتِهَاجِ

صعد الله بتهليل، أَلرب بصوت البوق

**الانجيل لخميس الصعود:**

فِي ذَلِكَ الزَّمَانِ، إِذْ قَامَ يَسُوعُ مِنَ الْإِمَوَاتِ، وَقَفَتْ فِي وَسْطِ تَلَامِيذِهِ وَقَالَ لَهُمْ: السَّلَامُ لَكُمْ. فَاضْطَرَبُوا وَخَافُوا وَظَنُّوا أَنَّهُمْ يَرَوْنَ رُوحًا. فَقَالَ لَهُمْ: مَا بِالْكُمْ مُضْطَرِبِينَ، وَلِمَاذَا ثَارَتْ الْهَوَاجِسُ فِي قُلُوبِكُمْ؟ أَنْظُرُوا يَدَيَّ وَرِجْلَيَّ، فَإِنِّي أَنَا هُوَ، جُسُونِي وَانْظُرُوا فَإِنَّ الرُّوحَ لَا لَحْمَ لَهُ وَلَا عَظْمَ كَمَا تَرَوْنَ لِي. وَإِذْ قَالَ هَذَا، أَرَاهُمْ يَدَيْهِ وَرِجْلَيْهِ. وَإِذْ كَانُوا غَيْرَ مُصَدِّقِينَ بَعْدَ مِنَ الْفَرَحِ وَمَتَعَجِّبِينَ، قَالَ لَهُمْ: هَلْ عِنْدَكُمْ هَهُنَا طَعَامٌ؟ فَأَعْطَوْهُ قِطْعَةً مِنْ سَمَكٍ مَشْوِيٍّ، وَمِنْ شَهْذٍ عَسَلٍ. فَأَخَذَ وَأَكَلَ أَمَامَهُمْ. ثُمَّ قَالَ لَهُمْ: هَذَا هُوَ الْكَلَامُ الَّذِي كَلَّمْتُكُمْ بِهِ إِذْ كُنْتُ مَعَكُمْ، مِنْ أَنَّهُ يَنْبَغِي أَنْ يَتَّمَ كُلُّ مَا كُتِبَ عَنِّي فِي نَامُوسِ مُوسَى وَالْأَنْبِيَاءِ وَالْمَزَامِيرِ. حِينَئِذٍ فَتَحَ ذِهْنَهُمْ لِيَفْهَمُوا الْكُتُبَ. وَقَالَ لَهُمْ: هَكَذَا كُتِبَ، وَهَكَذَا كَانَ يَنْبَغِي لِلْمَسِيحِ أَنْ يَتَأَلَّمَ وَيَقُومَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْإِمَوَاتِ فِي الْيَوْمِ الثَّالِثِ، وَأَنْ يُكْرَزَ بِاسْمِهِ بِالْتَّوْبَةِ وَمَغْفِرَةِ الْخَطَايَا فِي جَمِيعِ الْأُمَمِ، ابْتِدَاءً مِنْ أُورَشَلِيمَ. وَأَنْتُمْ شُهُودٌ لَذَلِكَ. وَهَا أَنَا ذَا أَرْسَلُ إِلَيْكُمْ مَا وَعَدْتُ بِهِ أَبِي. فَامْكُثُوا أَنْتُمْ فِي مَدِينَةِ أُورَشَلِيمَ إِلَى أَنْ تَلْبَسُوا قُوَّةَ مِنَ الْعَلَاءِ. ثُمَّ خَرَجَ بِهِمْ حَتَّى بَيْتِ عَنِيَا، وَرَفَعَ يَدَيْهِ وَبَارَكَهُمْ. وَفِيمَا هُوَ يُبَارِكُهُمْ انْفَرَدَ عَنْهُمْ وَصَعَدَ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ. وَأَمَّا هُمْ فَسَجَدُوا لَهُ وَرَجَعُوا إِلَى أُورَشَلِيمَ بِفَرَحٍ عَظِيمٍ. وَكَانُوا كُلَّ حِينٍ فِي الْهَيْكَلِ يُسَبِّحُونَ اللَّهَ وَيُبَارِكُونَهُ، آمِينَ.

**النشيد لوالدة الاله: (باللحن الخامس)**

أَيَاكَ نَعْظُمُ نَحْنُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ بِعِزِّهِ مُتَفَقِّينَ، لِأَنَّكَ وَلَدْتَ فِي زَمَانِ الْكَلِمَةِ غَيْرَ الْمَحْدُودِ بِزَمَنِ، وَحَصَلْتَ أَمَّا لِلَّهِ بِحَالٍ تَفُوقُ كُلَّ عَقْلِ وَقَوْلٍ.

**ترنيمة المناولة:** صعد الله بتهليل، الرب بصوت البوق، هَللُويا.

**تبدل "اذ قد نظرنا ... بنشيد الصعود (لقد صعدت بمجد ....)**

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