



*“... who after His resurrection appeared openly to all His disciples and in their sight was taken up into heaven that He might make us partakers of His divine life.”*  
(Proper Preface, Feast of the Ascension)

When our Lord ascended into heaven, he did so as fully man and fully God, eternally enfleshed, and still bearing His wounds from the cross. As ones baptized into Him, we are seated with Him, in body and soul, at the right hand of the Father. We receive His Word in our ears, and His very Body and Blood on our lips and tongues. We return our sacrifices of prayer, praise and thanksgiving from our hearts, with our mouths and our hands, confident that our heavenly Father sees and hears us. When we fall asleep in Him, we do so confident that He has not abandoned us and will bodily raise us again to eternal life in His presence.

Knowing all that Christ has done for us and who we are in Him, no matter what we face in this vale of tears, we do so with certain hope in the truth of His promises to us. And we share the reason for this hope with our neighbors, knowing that God desires all to spend eternity in Him. All human life truly matters to Him. Thanks be to God!

Joyous and blessed High Feast of the Ascension from the English District Lifeline Team.