

# Readings May 17, 2026

## 7th Sunday of Easter-Ascension Sunday

### First Reading: Acts 1:1-11

(The Ascension of Our Lord)

[Luke writes:] <sup>1</sup> In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and teach <sup>2</sup> until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup> After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. <sup>4</sup> While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; <sup>5</sup> for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

<sup>6</sup> So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" <sup>7</sup> He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." <sup>9</sup> When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup> While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup> They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 47

("Highly exalted")

<sup>1</sup> Clap your hands, all you peoples;  
shout to God with a joyful sound.

<sup>2</sup> **For the LORD Most High is to be feared:  
a great king over all the earth,**

<sup>3</sup> who subdues the peoples under us,  
and the nations under our feet;

<sup>4</sup> **who chooses our inheritance for us,  
the pride of Jacob, whom God loves.**

<sup>5</sup> God has gone up with a shout,  
the LORD with the sound of the ram's horn.

<sup>6</sup> **Sing praises to God, sing praises;  
sing praises to our king, sing praises.**

<sup>7</sup> For God is king of all the earth;  
sing praises with a song.

<sup>8</sup> **God reigns over the nations;  
God is enthroned on high.**

<sup>9</sup> The nobles of the peoples have gathered as the people of the God of Abraham.  
The rulers of the earth belong to God, who is highly exalted.

**Second Reading: Hebrews 1:1-3**  
(Sat down at the right hand of God)

<sup>1</sup> Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, <sup>2</sup> but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. <sup>3</sup> He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**