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*Thou hath ascended in glory, O Christ our
God, and gladdened thy Disciples with the
promise of the Holy Spirit, having become
confident of the blessing. Verily, thou art the
Son of God, and Deliverer of the world.*

Troparion



Ascension

40 Days After Pascha

As Jesus blessed them, He spoke these words: “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age” (Matthew 28:18-20).

In the icon, you see the disciples with the Theotokos lifting her arms to point to her son, Jesus Christ, enthroned as ruler of all. “Ruler of all” is Pantocrator in Greek and is the name of the icon we see in the center dome of many Orthodox churches. For us, the Feast of the Ascension is the assurance of Christ’s living presence with us, and his sitting at the right hand of the Father in glory, The feast calls us to recognize Him as Lord and Master of all that exists.



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