## Yr 2 Ascension of Our Lord Lesson, Luke 24:36-53

**Opening Prayer:** Sing the joyful song – <u>Alleluia!</u> – Click here to hear it and sing along.

**Gospel:** Luke <u>24:36-53</u> – Click to read the Gospel. Read the Epistle <u>Acts 1:1-12</u> which also tells the story of the Ascension. The children can <u>watch it here</u> or you may want to read this simplified version to them:

After Jesus rose from the dead, he stayed on earth for forty days. During this time, he showed himself to many people. Some of the people that saw him were Mary Magdalene, the two men on the road to Emmaus, and one time there were over five hundred people that came out to see him and listen to him talk! He also appeared to the disciples lots of other times. One day Jesus said he had to leave them and go to heaven to be with His Father, but he would not leave them alone. Jesus told his disciples that he would send the Holy Spirit to be with them and be a helper to them tell the whole world about Him. So, the disciples were not sad that Jesus left. They were very joyful to know that He would be back one day and that the Holy Spirit would be with them while He was gone!

## Lesson: Jesus will come again

Show the icon of the Ascension. Point out different things in the icon. See the explanation page for some help with this.

How many people saw Jesus after He rose from the dead? Lots and lots! Imagine how wonderful that must have been! Then Jesus told them that he had to do something. What did He tell them? He had to leave them to be with His Father.

How would you feel if someone you loved so much told you that they had to leave? Discuss – sad, scared ...discuss.

So then why were the friends of Jesus joyful at the end of the Gospel story today? He was sending them a helper, the Holy Spirit (<u>Para 716-722 Christ Our Pascha</u>) and he promised them that he would come again!!! Discuss the things that the <u>Holy Spirit</u> gives us.

We are all still waiting for Jesus to come again. This gives us joy and hope. We need to be ready for that time. This means that we do all the things that Jesus asked us to do when he was living on earth. What were some of those things? Pray, love each other, help others, take care of the earth...discuss.

Craft: Jesus will come again mobile

In Church: Look for the icon of the Ascension on the iconostas.

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