

**A Service of Holy Communion  
on the Sixth Sunday of Easter  
17th May 2020**

**Welcome & Greeting**

**Reader:** This is the day that the Lord has made.

**Response: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

**Reader:** Alleluia, Christ is risen.

**Response: He is risen indeed, Alleluia!**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify  
your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart  
and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the  
second is like it. You shall love your neighbour as yourself On these two commandments  
depend all the law and the prophets. Matthew 22: 37-39

Lord, have mercy on us, and write these your laws in our hearts.

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ, to save us from our sins, to  
intercede for us in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us then confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's  
commandments and to live in love and peace:

*Silence*

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned in thought and word and deed, and  
in what we have left undone. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us,  
that we may walk in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.**

*The presiding minister pronounces the Absolution:*

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on you, pardon and deliver you  
from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Lord God, heavenly  
King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for  
your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the  
sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

*The Collect for the Sixth Sunday of Easter*

God our redeemer,  
you have delivered us from the power of darkness  
and brought us into the kingdom of your Son:  
Grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life,  
so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle is written in the Acts of the Apostles, chapter 17. Reading from verse 22.

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, ‘Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, “To an unknown god.” What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor\* he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God\* and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For “In him we live and move and have our being”; as even some of your own poets have said, “For we too are his offspring.”

Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.’

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Hear the Gospel of Christ written in the Gospel according to John, the fourteenth chapter, beginning to read at the fifteenth verse.

**All : Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

‘If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

‘I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**All : Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

The Sermon : Canon Michael A. Parker

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures

he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*Intercessions*

*Let us pray*

Reader: Lord you abide in us

Response: May we abide in you

*We close our prayers as we say together:*

**Help us to share in Christ's ministry of love and service to one another; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who in the unity of the Holy Spirit is one with you for ever. Amen.**

*The Peace*

The risen Christ came and stood among His disciples and said, Peace be with you. Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. John 20 :19,20

The peace of the Lord be always with you,

**Congregation: and also with you.**

**The Celebration of the Sacrament**

Be present, be present, Lord Jesus Christ our risen high priest; make yourself known in the breaking of bread. **Amen.**

Wise and gracious God, you spread a table before us; nourish your people with the word of life, and the bread of heaven. **Amen.**

Christ our passover has been sacrificed for us therefore let us celebrate the feast.

The Lord is here. His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Father, Lord of all creation, we praise you for your goodness and your love. When we turned away you did not reject us. You came to meet us in your Son, welcomed us as your children and prepared a table where we might feast with you.

In Christ you shared our life that we might live in him and he in us.

He opened wide his arms upon the cross and, with love stronger than death, he made the perfect sacrifice for sin.

Lord Jesus Christ, our redeemer, on the night before you died you came to table with your friends.

Taking bread, you gave thanks, broke it and gave it to them saying,

Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

**Lord Jesus, we bless you: you are the bread of life.**

At the end of supper you took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you & for many for the forgiveness of sins; do this in remembrance of me.

**Lord Jesus, we bless you: you are the true vine.**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ: dying, you destroyed our death, rising, you restored our life;

Lord Jesus, come in glory. Holy Spirit, giver of life, come upon us now;

may this bread and wine be to us the body and blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

As we eat and drink these holy gifts make us, who know our need of grace,

one in Christ, our risen Lord. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Blessed Trinity:

with your whole Church throughout the world we offer you this sacrifice of thanks and praise and lift our voice to join the song of heaven, for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

Thanks be to you, our God, for your gift beyond words.

**Amen. Amen. Amen.**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, so we pray

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,**

**your kingdom come, your will be done,**

**on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.**

*The presiding minister breaks the consecrated bread in preparation for the Communion*

The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

We being many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Jesus Christ is the Lamb of God, who has taken away the sins of the world.

Happy are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

The body of Christ keep you in eternal life.

The blood of Christ keep you in eternal life.

*Post-Communion Prayer on the Sixth Sunday of Easter*

God our Father,

whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life:

May we also thirst for you,  
the spring of life and source of goodness,  
through him who is alive and reigns with you  
and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

### **The Blessing**

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, raise you up to walk with him in the newness of his risen life: And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always. Amen.

Rector: With the power that raised Christ from the dead at work within you, go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**In your prayers this week please remember those we know who are working in the NHS at this time, those who are sick and those who mourn.**

We pray for Sara and Emma, Kate, Stephanie, Catherine, Julie, Chris, Jackie, Rhiannon, Lydia, Fiona, David, Amanda, Anna, Maeve, Eleanor & Gail.

Lord, protect and guide them.  
Lord in your mercy - Hear our prayer

We pray for Hylton, Ben, Sandra, Ron, Jack, Rowena, Raymond, Ronnie, Mervyn, Irene, David, Billy & Rene.

Lord strengthen and heal them.  
Lord in your mercy - Hear our prayer

We pray for all who have lost loved ones.

We give thanks for all who have passed beyond death and rejoice in your kingdom,  
For all who have triumphed over sin and suffering and are now at peace.  
Comfort all who mourn and give them strength and peace each day.

Lord in your mercy - Hear our prayer

**In your action this week please remember...**

Storehouse and all that it does to feed and support families in our community. If you can leave something in the trolley at the door of the supermarket.

Remember Christian Aid and give to support them as they seek to support the poorest of our world as they confront Covid-19. You can give through their website  
[www.christianaid.ie](http://www.christianaid.ie)

Keep an eye out for the Down and Dromore 10 Days of Prayer - starting on this Thursday - Ascension Day. See Facebook, YouTube, Twitter and the church website for more information as it becomes available. [www.carnalea.down.anglican.org](http://www.carnalea.down.anglican.org)

Take time to contact a friend or relative that you haven't heard from recently. Reach out and keep building up a network of people around you.