

Morning Prayer: The Sixth Sunday of Easter - 2020

Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
*The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!*

Christ has entered, not into a sanctuary made with hands, a  
copy of the true one, but into heaven itself, now to appear in  
the presence of God on our behalf.    *Hebrews 9:24*

You shall receive power when the Holy Ghost has come upon  
you; and you shall be my witness in Jerusalem, and in all  
Judea, and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.    *Acts 1::8*

Confession of Sin

*The Officiant says to the people*

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of  
Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to  
hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf  
of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our  
salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and  
mind to worship him, let us kneel in silence, and with  
penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may  
obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Officiant and People together, all kneeling*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
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 delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*The Priest alone stands and says*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins  
through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all  
goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in  
eternal life. *Amen.*

The Invitatory and Psalter

*All stand*

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| *Officiant* | Lord, open our lips. |
| *People* | And our mouth shall proclaim your praise. |

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*Officiant and People*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as  
it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

*Except in Lent, add*    Alleluia.

Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed: Come let us adore him.  
Alleluia.

Venite     *Psalm 95:1-7*

Come, let us sing to the Lord; \*  
    let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.  
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*  
    and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, \*  
    and a great King above all gods.  
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*  
    and the heights of the hills are his also.  
The sea is his, for he made it, \*  
    and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*  
    and kneel before the Lord our Maker.  
For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. \*  
    Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

The Psalm or Psalms Appointed

Psalm 66:7-18

*Jubilate Deo*

7 Bless our God, you peoples; \*  
make the voice of his praise to be heard;

8 Who holds our souls in life, \*  
and will not allow our feet to slip.

9 For you, O God, have proved us; \*  
you have tried us just as silver is tried.

10 You brought us into the snare; \*  
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.

11 You let enemies ride over our heads;  
we went through fire and water; \*  
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

12 I will enter your house with burnt-offerings  
and will pay you my vows, \*  
which I promised with my lips  
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

13 I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts  
with the smoke of rams; \*  
I will give you oxen and goats.

14 Come and listen, all you who fear God, \*  
and I will tell you what he has done for me.

15 I called out to him with my mouth, \*  
and his praise was on my tongue.

16 If I had found evil in my heart, \*  
the Lord would not have heard me;

17 But in truth God has heard me; \*  
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.

18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, \*  
nor withheld his love from me.

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
    as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The Lessons

Acts 17:22-31

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.”

11    The Third Song of Isaiah    *Surge, illuminare*  
          *Isaiah 60:1-3, 11a, 14c, 18-19*

Arise, shine, for your light has come, \*  
    and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.  
For behold, darkness covers the land; \*  
    deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.  
But over you the Lord will rise, \*  
    and his glory will appear upon you.  
Nations will stream to your light, \*  
    and kings to the brightness of your dawning.  
Your gates will always be open; \*  
    by day or night they will never be shut.  
They will call you, The City of the Lord, \*  
    The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.  
Violence will no more be heard in your land, \*  
    ruin or destruction within your borders.  
You will call your walls, Salvation, \*  
    and all your portals, Praise.  
The sun will no more be your light by day; \*  
    by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.

The Lord will be your everlasting light, \*  
    and your God will be your glory.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
    as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

**1 Peter 3:13-22**

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

**A Song to the Lamb**    *Dignus es*  
          *Revelation 4:11, 5:9-10, 13*

Splendor and honor and kingly power \*  
    are yours by right, O Lord our God,  
For you created everything that is, \*  
    and by your will they were created and have their being;

And yours by right, O Lamb that was slain, \*  
    for with your blood you have redeemed for God,  
From every family, language, people, and nation, \*  
    a kingdom of priests to serve our God.

And so, to him who sits upon the throne, \*  
    and to Christ the Lamb,  
Be worship and praise, dominion and splendor, \*  
    for ever and for evermore.

Hymn 516 “Come Down O Love Divine” Down Ampney

1 Come down, O Love divine,   
seek thou this soul of mine,   
and visit it with thine own ardor glowing;   
O Comforter, draw near,   
within my heart appear,   
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

2 O let it freely burn,   
till earthly passions turn   
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;   
and let thy glorious light   
shine ever on my sight,   
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

3 And so the yearning strong,   
with which the soul will long,   
shall far outpass the power of human telling;   
for none can guess its grace,   
till Love create a place   
wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

**John 14:15-21**

Jesus said, ”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 forever. 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.”

Sermon –

The Apostles' Creed

*Officiant and People together, all standing*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
    creator of heaven and earth;  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
    He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
        and born of the Virgin Mary.  
    He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
        was crucified, died, and was buried.  
    He descended to the dead.  
    On the third day he rose again.  
    He ascended into heaven,  
        and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
    He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
    the holy catholic Church,  
    the communion of saints,  
    the forgiveness of sins  
    the resurrection of the body,  
    and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

*The People stand or kneel*

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| *Officiant* | The Lord be with you. |
| *People* | And also with you. |
| *Officiant* | Let us pray. |

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*Officiant and People*

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| Our Father, who art in heaven,      hallowed be thy Name,      thy kingdom come,      thy will be done,          on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,      as we forgive those          who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation,      but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,      and the power, and the glory,      for ever and ever. Amen. |

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V.    Show us your mercy, O Lord;  
R.    And grant us your salvation.  
V.    Clothe your ministers with righteousness;  
R.    Let your people sing with joy.  
V.    Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
R.    For only in you can we live in safety.

V.    Lord, keep this nation under your care;  
R.    And guide us in the way of justice and truth.  
V.    Let your way be known upon earth;  
R.    Your saving health among all nations.  
V.    Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
R.    Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.  
V.    Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
R.    And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

*The Collect of the Day*

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

*A Collect for Sundays*

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of  
the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this  
day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week  
to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our  
Lord. *Amen.*

*A Collect for Mission*

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the  
earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those  
who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people  
everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the  
nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh;  
and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus  
Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

﻿*For Sick Persons*

O Father of mercies and God of all comfort, our only help in  
time of need: We humbly beseech thee to behold, visit, and  
relieve all they sick and ill servants, for whom our prayers are desired.  
Look upon them with the eyes of thy mercy; comfort them with  
a sense of thy goodness; preserve them from the temptations  
of the enemy; and give them patience under their affliction. In  
thy good time, restore them to health, and enable them to lead  
the residue of this life in thy fear, and to thy glory; and grant  
that finally they may dwell with thee in life everlasting; through  
Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*For Doctors and Nurses, Hospital Administrators, and Hospital Staff*

Sanctify, O Lord, those whom you have called to the study  
and practice of the arts of healing, and to the prevention of  
disease and pain. Strengthen them by your life-giving Spirit,  
that by their ministries the health of the community may be  
promoted and your creation glorified; through Jesus Christ  
our Lord. *Amen*.

*For Those Accepting Isolation On Behalf of the Community*

This is another day, O Lord. I know not what it will bring  
forth, but make me ready, Lord, for whatever it may be. If I  
am to stand up, help me to stand bravely. If I am to sit still,  
help me to sit quietly. If I am to lie low, help me to do it  
patiently. And if I am to do nothing, let me do it gallantly.  
Make these words more than words, and give me the Spirit  
of Jesus. *Amen.*

*We invite your own prayers of Intercession and Thanksgiving at this time.*

*Silence*

*A Collect for Guidance*

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our  
being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by  
your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our  
life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are  
ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
*Amen.*

Hymn 405 “All Things Bright and Beautiful” Royal Oak

Refrain:  
All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small,  
all things wise and wonderful,  
the Lord God made them all.

1 Each little flower that opens,  
each little bird that sings,  
he made their glowing colors,  
he made their tiny wings. (Refrain)

2 The purple-headed mountain,  
the river running by,  
the sunset, and the morning  
that brightens up the sky. (Refrain)

3 The cold wind in the winter,  
the pleasant summer sun,  
the ripe fruits in the garden,  
he made them every one. (Refrain)

4 He gave us eyes to see them,  
and lips that we might tell  
how great is God Almighty,  
who has made all things well. (Refrain)

*The General Thanksgiving*

*Officiant and People*

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

*Alleluia, alleluia!*  Let us bless the Lord.  
*Thanks be to God.  Alleluia, alleluia!*

*The Officiant may then conclude with one of the following*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and  
the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore.  
*Amen.*    *2 Corinthians 13:14*

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in  
believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*  
*Romans 15:13*

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely  
more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from  
generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus  
for ever and ever. *Amen.*    *Ephesians 3:20,21*