

Douglas Union with Frankfield

7th Sunday of Easter

24 May 2020

A SHORT SERVICE TO BE USED AT HOME

Prepared by Archdeacon Adrian Wilkinson

*(Where two or more people are gathered for worship the sentences in **bold type** are read by all)*

The Greeting

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

O Lord, open our lips, **and our mouth will proclaim your praise.**

Let us worship the Lord. **All praise to his name.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of our salvation,
to you be praise and glory for ever.

As once you ransomed your people from Egypt
and led them to freedom in the promised land,
so now you have delivered us from the dominion of darkness
and brought us into the kingdom of your risen Son.

May we, the first fruits of your new creation,
rejoice in this new day you have made,
and praise you for your mighty acts.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God for ever.

Penitence

Lord God, you raised your Son from the dead.

Lord have mercy. **Lord have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, through you we are more than conquerors.

Christ have mercy. **Christ have mercy.**

Holy Spirit, you help us in our weakness.

Lord have mercy. **Lord have mercy.**

Your word is a lantern to my feet
and a light upon our path. *c.f. Psalm 119:105*

O Lord, your word is everlasting;
it stands firm for ever in the heavens. *c.f. Psalm 119:89*

Let us then receive the word of the Lord.

so may the light of your presence shine into our hearts.

Acts 1:6-14

⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But 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.” ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They 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.”

¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. ¹³When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

- 1 Let God arise and let his enemies be scattered;
let those that hate him flee before him.
- 2 As the smoke vanishes, so may they vanish away;
as wax melts at the fire,
so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.
- 3 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God;
let them make merry with gladness.
- 4 Sing to God, sing praises to his name;
exalt him who rides on the clouds.
The Lord is his name; rejoice before him.
- 5 Father of the fatherless, defender of widows,
God in his holy habitation!
- 6 God gives the solitary a home
and brings forth prisoners to songs of welcome,
but the rebellious inhabit a burning desert.
- 7 O God, when you went forth before your people,
when you marched through the wilderness,
- 8 The earth shook and the heavens dropped down rain,
at the presence of God, the Lord of Sinai,
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.
- 9 You sent down a gracious rain, O God;

you refreshed your inheritance when it was weary.

10 Your people came to dwell there;

in your goodness, O God, you provide for the poor.

32 Sing to God, you kingdoms of the earth;

make music in praise of the Lord;

33 He rides on the ancient heaven of heavens

and sends forth his voice, a mighty voice.

34 Ascribe power to God, whose splendour is over Israel,

whose power is above the clouds.

35 How terrible is God in his holy sanctuary,

the God of Israel, who gives power and strength to his people!

Blessed be God.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.

The Second Reading

John 17:1-11

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ² since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³ And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴ I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵ So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶ “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸ for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹ I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹ And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

A Canticle

The Easter Anthems

1 Christ our passover has been sacrificed for us:

so let us celebrate the feast,

2 not with the old leaven of corruption and wickedness:

but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

3 Christ once raised from the dead dies no more:

death has no more dominion over him.
4 In dying he died to sin once for all:
in living he lives to God.
5 See yourselves therefore as dead to sin:
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.
6 Christ has been raised from the dead:
the first fruits of those who sleep.
7 For as by man came death:
by man has come also the resurrection of the dead;
8 for as in Adam all die:
even so in Christ shall all be made alive
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

The Sermon

Reflection on the Gospel Passage – *See attached email video clip.*

The Response to God's Word

Affirmation of Faith

This affirmation of faith may be used instead of the Apostles' Creed.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
who made the world?

I believe and trust in him

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ,
who redeemed mankind?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit
who gives life to the people of God?

I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

**we believe and trust in One God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

The Prayers of the People *See video clip if you wish to listen to these prayers.*

Father in heaven, we give thanks that your Son was raised from the humiliation of the cross
to the glory of heaven. We offer our prayers through him who intercedes for us.

We pray for all who serve his Church, for Paul our Bishop, for all clergy and those in training
for ministry, for lay readers, organists, choirs and for all who share in worship. At this time
when we cannot meet in church buildings or in our Bible study and prayer groups, nourish all

your people through spiritual worship and teaching that we can access in our homes. We pray for those from this parish who look forward to baptism and confirmation, but must wait until worship resumes and these services can be held. Grant that they and we may grow in faith as we grow in years.

Lord in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

We pray for all who suffer persecution, hatred and violence, especially those persecuted for their faith. We pray for those injured or bereaved after the attack on an Afghan maternity hospital this past week, for those affected by this week's cyclone Amphan in India and Bangladesh and for refugees everywhere. Sustain their faith, and strengthen our fellowship with them through prayer and practical support.

Lord in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

We pray for our President and for all members of the Oireachtas as they continue to work towards forming a new government. We pray for the leaders of the nations, as they try to resolve the difficult issues confronting them at this time of pandemic. Guide them into policies that allocate resources where they are most needed.

Lord in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

We continue to pray for all victims of corona virus throughout the world, and for those who have lost loved ones in recent months. We pray for those who face distressing illness, increasing frailty or painful treatment, Bring healing through the care they receive from doctors, nurses and all carers. We pray for residents of nursing homes and those who live alone who cannot see their families or friends. We give thanks for the simple friendship of neighbours.

Lord in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

We remember those who have died ... Father raise us, with all who have died in faith, to eternal life in Christ. ***Amen.***

The Collect of the Day

O God the King of Glory,
you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:
Mercifully give us faith to know that, as he promised,
he abides with us on earth to the end of time:
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

**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.

Going Out as God's People

A Thanksgiving

Let us give thanks to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

For the love of God our Father, the maker of all, the giver of all good things,
let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

For Jesus Christ our Saviour, who lived and worked among us,
let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

For his suffering and death on the cross and his resurrection to new life,
let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

For his rule over all things and his presence in the world,
let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

For the Holy Spirit, the giver of life, who teaches us and guides us,
let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

For the grace of the Spirit in the work of the Church and the life of the world,
let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

The Dismissal

Let us say together:

**We go into the world
to walk in God's light,
to rejoice in God's love
and to reflect God's glory.**

The Easter Blessing: *In the recorded service the priest blesses the people.*

Where the service is being read privately at home, this prayer is said.

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless us and keep us. **Amen.**

We go in the peace of the Risen Christ, Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!