THE EUCHARIST The 6th Sunday of Easter (Rogation Sunday)



9th May 2021

The Gathering of God's People

THE GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.** The Lord be with you **and also with you.**

Sow for yourselves righteousness; reap steadfast love; break up your fallow ground; for it is time to seek the Lord, that he may come and rain righteousness upon us. (Hosea 10:12)

HYMN 665 Ag Críost an síol

PENITENCE

Let us ask God to have mercy on our tired land, and to prosper the work of our soiled hands. Let us ask God to forgive our delusion of self-sufficiency so that we any praise him for his provision and goodness.

Lord, you give us this good earth, yet we take your generous gifts for granted.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Lord, you give us this good earth, but we squander its rich resources.

Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

Lord, you give us this good earth, but we fail to share your bounty with all your children.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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**.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

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 OF THE DAY

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 out Lord. **Amen.**

Proclaiming and Receiving the Word

THE FIRST READING

Acts 10: 44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 'Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?' So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 98

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvellous things.
- 2 His own right hand and his holy arm have won for him the victory.
- 3 The Lord has made known his salvation; his deliverance has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He has remembered his mercy and faithfulness towards the house of Israel, and all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.
- 5 Sound praises to the Lord, all the earth; break into singing and make music.
- 6 Make music to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the voice of melody.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn sound praises before the Lord, the King.
- 8 Let the sea thunder and all that fills it, the world and all that dwell upon it.
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands

and let the hills ring out together before the Lord, for he comes to judge the earth.10 In righteousness shall he judge the world and the peoples with equity.

HYMN 515 A new commandment I give unto you

THE GOSPEL READING

Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ, according to John chapter 15 beginning at verse 9. **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

THE SERMON

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, creator of heaven and earth? I believe and trust in him.

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

INTERCESSIONS

Let us ask the God of creation to send a blessing upon us.

Upon the rich earth send a blessing, O Lord. Let the earth be fruitful and its resources be hallowed.

We ask in faith: we ask you to hear us, good Lord.

Upon human labour send a blessing, O Lord. Prosper the work of our hands; may all find dignity and just reward in their work; may those temporarily unable to work find purpose in their days; free the exploited and oppressed.

We ask in faith: we ask you to hear us, good Lord.

Upon the produce of the earth send a blessing, O Lord. Guide us into a sustainable future, and give us the will to share the fruits of the world.

We ask in faith: we ask you to hear us, good Lord.

Upon the seas and waters send a blessing, O Lord. Teach us to cherish the water of the earth, and to conserve the seas, lakes and rivers.

We ask in faith: we ask you to hear us, good Lord.

Upon aid agencies send a blessing, O Lord. Where the earth is parched and the well has run dry; where war brings want, and children go hungry; where the poor cry out for bread and for justice, give hands to care and heal and compel us to be generous.

We ask in faith: we ask you to hear us, good Lord.

Upon all who work to bring healing and health, send a blessing, O Lord. Guide all who are engaged in the distribution of vaccines and in medical research and all making decisions that affect the lives of others.

We ask in faith: we ask you to hear us, good Lord.

Upon your church, send a blessing, O Lord, That when she makes decisions, they may show faith in you who made us in your image and gave us the good earth.

We ask in faith: we ask you to hear us, good Lord.

We ask you to hear us, good Lord, for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The risen Christ came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then they were glad when they saw the Lord.

The peace of the Lord be always with you and also with you.

HYMN 350 For the beauty of the earth (verses 1-3)

Celebrating at the Lord's Table

AT THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this bread to set before you, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this wine to set before you, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us the cup of salvation.

Blessed by God for ever.

THE TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 and 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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say

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, the power, and the glory
for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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.

THE COMMUNION

The presiding minister says

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Going Out as God's People

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.

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.

HYMN 350 For the beauty of the earth (verses 4-6)

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Prayer in preparation for Reopening Church Buildings

Creator God,

not limited by time or space;

your Son worshipped in synagogue and Temple,

and your Spirit came in power on the disciples as they met in the Upper Room.

By that same Spirit,

guide us as we prepare to reopen the churches in this parish and diocese.

May they be places of safety,

where all feel your welcome, experience your love and are equipped in your service.

We pray for those who through age or vulnerability will continue to worship at home,

that together we may all rejoice in your goodness and know your blessing,

until we can offer unceasing praise in your heavenly kingdom,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

God the Father, who created the world, give us grace to be wise stewards of his creation. God the Son, who redeemed the world, inspire us to go out as labourers into his harvest. God the Holy Spirit, whose breath fills the whole of creation, help us to bear his fruits of love, joy and peace. And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Tend the earth, care for God's good creation, and bring forth the fruits of righteousness. Go in the peace of the Risen Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia! Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Copyright: Book of Common Prayer 2004, The Representative Body of the Church of Ireland. Times and Seasons, The Archbishops' Council 2006. The Word for all Seasons, David Graham 2002.

