THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

17 May 2020

WELCOME

ORGAN PRELUDE

"Toccata avanti la Messa degli Apostoli" Girolamo Frescobaldi, 1583 - 1643

We meet in the name of the living God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. And also with you.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

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. **HYMN 532**

1 All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing Alleluia, alleluia! Thou burning sun with golden beam, thou silver moon with softer gleam,

Refrain:

cf 2 John 1:3

O praise him, O praise him, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2 Thou rushing wind that art so strong, ye clouds that sail in heav'n along,
O praise him, alleluia!
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,
ye lights of evening, find a voice,

Refrain

Tune: Lasst uns erfreuen

3 Thou flowing water, pure and clear, make music for thy Lord to hear, Alleluia, alleluia!

Thou fire, so masterful and bright, that givest man both warmth and light, Refrain

4 Let all things their Creator bless, and worship him in humbleness;
O praise him, alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit, Three in One, Refrain

PRAYER OF PENITENCE

Christ died to sin once for all, and now he lives to God.

Let us renew our resolve to have done with all that is contrary to
God's will and confess our sins in penitence and faith. cf Romans 6.10

Most merciful God. Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be: that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

cf Micah 6.8

ABSOLUTION

May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. 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 your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A READING FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

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.'

Acts 17.22-31

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

PSALM 66.7-18

7 Bless our God, O you peoples; ♦ make the voice of his praise to be heard, 8 Who holds our souls in life ♦ and suffers not our feet to slip.

9 For you, O God, have proved us; ♦ you have tried us 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 liberty.

12 I will come into your house with burnt offerings and will pay you my vows, ♦ which my lips uttered and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.

13 I will offer you fat burnt sacrifices with the smoke of rams; ♦
I will sacrifice oxen and goats.

14 Come and listen, all you who fear God, ♦ and I will tell you what he has done for my soul.

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

16 If I had nursed evil in my heart, ♦ the Lord would not have heard me,

17 But in truth God has heard me; ♦ he has heeded the voice of my prayer.

18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, ◆ nor withheld his loving mercy from me.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

HYMN 569 Tune: *Paderborn*

The kingdom of God is justice and joy; for Jesus restores what sin would destroy; God's power and glory in Jesus we know, and here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.

- 2 The kingdom of God is mercy and grace; the captives are freed, the sinners find place, the outcast are welcomed God's banquet to share; and hope is awakened in place of despair.
- 3 The kingdom of God is challenge and choice: believe the good news, repent and rejoice! His love for us sinners brought Christ to his cross: our crisis of judgement for gain or for loss.
- 4 God's kingdom is come, the gift and the goal; in Jesus begun, in heaven made whole; the heirs of the kingdom shall answer his call and all things cry 'Glory!' to God all in all.

Alleluia, alleluia. cf John 6.35

Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life.

Whoever comes to me will never be hungry,
and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'

Alleluias are sung before and after the Gospel.

HEAR THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO JOHN Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: '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.'

John 14.15-21

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

THE SERMON



ORGAN INTERLUDE

"Toccata per l'elevatione" Girolamo Frescobaldi, 1583 - 1643

THE 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,

Through him all things were made.

of one Being with the Father.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and 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.

With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.

He 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

THE PEACE

Jesus says: 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.
If you love me, rejoice because I am going to the Father'. Alleluia.

John 14.27, 28

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BLESSING

May Christ,
who out of defeat brings new hope and a new future,
fill you with his new life;
and the blessing of God Almighty
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
be among and remain with you always.

Amen.



HYMN 583

Tune:

Wareham

Rejoice, O land, in God thy might; his will obey, him serve aright; for thee the saints uplift their voice: fear not, O land, in God rejoice.

2 Glad shalt thou be, with blessing crowned, with joy and peace thou shalt abound; yea, love with thee shall make his home until thou see God's kingdom come.

3 He shall forgive thy sins untold: remember thou his love of old; walk in his way, his word adore, and keep his truth for evermore.

NOTICES

DISMISSAL

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. He has given us new life and hope by raising Jesus from the dead.

God has claimed us as his own. He has brought us out of darkness. He has made us light to the world.

Alleluia. Christ is risen. **He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**