

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

9TH May, 2021

Hymn Christ, our star, our map, our road

*Refrain: In faith and hope and love
with joyful trust we move
Towards our Father's home above.*

1. Christ our star, our map our road to the Fathers high abode.

Refrain:

2. Christ, our bread along the way; Christ our rescue when we stray.

Refrain:

3. Christ our shelter, Christ our friend, our beginning and our end.

Refrain

4. Christ, our hope and our reward; our redeemer and our Lord.

Refrain

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

Christ is risen. Alleluia.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Sentence

Jesus said, 'You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit.' (*John 15.16*)

Prayer of Preparation

**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.**

CONFESSION

Invitation to Confession

Christ our Passover Lamb has been offered for us, therefore we come to celebrate the festival.

Silence may be kept.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, with a sincere and a true heart.

**Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:
we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you
in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Absolution.

Almighty God,
who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith:
pardon you and set you free from all your sins,
strengthen you in all goodness
and keep you in eternal life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Kyrie eleison
Christe eleison
Kyrie eleison**

**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

Loving God,
your Son has chosen us
and called us to be his friends:
give us grace to keep his commandments,
to love one another,
and to bear fruit which will abide;
through him who is the true vine,
the source of all our life,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

A reading from the book of the Acts of the Apostles (10.44-48)
44 While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. 45 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, 46 for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 47 'Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?' 48 So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Hear the word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow each reading.

Responsorial Psalm 98

- ¹ O sing to the Lord a new song:
for he has done marvellous things;
- ² **His right hand and his holy arm:
they have got him the victory.**
- ³ The Lord has made known his salvation:
he has revealed his just deliverance
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 Shout with joy to the Lord, all the earth:
break into singing and make melody.
- ⁶ **Make melody to the Lord upon the harp:
upon the harp and with the sounds of praise.**
- ⁷ With trumpets and with horns:
cry out in triumph before the Lord, the king.
- ⁸ **Let the sea roar, and all that fills it:
the good earth and those who live upon it.**
- ⁹ Let the rivers clap their hands:
and let the mountains ring out together before the Lord;
- ¹⁰ **For he comes to judge the earth:
he shall judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.**

A Reading from Saint Paul's 1st letter to John (5.1-12)

¹ Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ² By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³ For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴ for

whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵ Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? ⁶ This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth. ⁷ There are three that testify: ⁸ the Spirit and the water and the blood, and these three agree. ⁹ If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. ¹⁰ Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. ¹¹ And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹² Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

Hear the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

Silence may follow each reading.

Gospel Reading

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (15.9-17)

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

⁹ As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. ¹² 'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³ No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ 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. ¹⁶ 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. ¹⁷ 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.

Sermon

Silence may follow.

THE CREED

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church

**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 of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
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.

Prayers of the People

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.
**Grant that what we have asked in faith
we may by your grace receive,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE GREETING OF PEACE

Christ has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.

We meet in his name and share his peace.

The priest says

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Offertory

Hymn ... Let all mortal flesh keep silence

1. Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
And with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly-minded,
For with blessing in his hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
Our full homage to demand.

2. King of kings, yet born of Mary,
As of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture,
In the body and the blood;
He will give to all the faithful
His own self for heavenly food.

3. At his feet the six-winged seraph,
Cherubim, with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence,
As with ceaseless voice they cry:
Alleluia, Alleluia,
Alleluia, Lord Most High!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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.

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,
mighty Creator, everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary
and lived as one of us.

By his death on the cross,
he offered the one true sacrifice for sin,

and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.
And now we give you thanks that you raised him to life
triumphant, and exalted him in glory.

By his victory over death, the reign of sin is ended,
a new day has dawned, a broken world is restored
and we are made whole once more.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
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.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Merciful God, we thank you
for these gifts of your creation,
this bread and wine,
and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit,
we who eat and drink them
may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.
On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread;
and when he had given you thanks
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Take, eat. This is my body given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup,
and again giving you thanks
he gave it to his disciples, saying,

'Drink from this, all of you.

This is my blood of the new covenant
shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Therefore, we do as our Saviour has commanded
proclaiming his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross,
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming again,
we celebrate, with this bread and this cup,
his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice
for the sins of the whole world.
Renew us by your Holy Spirit,
unite us in the body of your Son
and bring us with all your people
into the joy of your eternal kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
we worship you, Father,
in songs of never-ending praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and 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.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

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

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
grant us your peace.**

Invitation to Communion

The gifts of God for the people of God
Come let us take this holy sacrament of the body and blood of
Christ in remembrance that he died for us, and feed on him in
our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Administration of Communion

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Prayer after Communion

Most glorious Lord of life,
we thank you that you nourish us in these Easter mysteries. Fill
us with the Spirit of love and unite us in faith, that we may
witness to the resurrection and show your glory to all the world.

**Most loving God,
you send us into the world you love.
Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage
in the power of your Spirit.**

Blessing

Almighty God, who redeemed us through the resurrection of Christ, who raised us to newness of life through the waters of baptism, and has brought us out of slavery into everlasting freedom, give you joy and peace in faith and bring you to your eternal inheritance; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord: Alleluia, alleluia
In the name of Christ. Amen. Alleluia, alleluia

Hymn Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy
Lord of all hopefulness
Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
Whose trust, ever childlike, no cares can destroy,
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,
Be there at our labours, and give us, we pray,
Your strength in our hearts, Lord at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
Whose voice contentment, whose presence balm,
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.