



Worship for Sunday 17th May 2020

Welcome

Good Morning and welcome to the 6th Sunday of Easter, it is lovely to have you with us this morning as we gather to worship and pray together. As the Easter season, within the life of the church, comes to an end, we hear today of Jesus promise to send the advocate, called the Spirit, to be at our side always. So, we are once again reminded that we are not alone, because God is always with us. But we are also reminded in the words in our reading from John's gospel of the call to love one another as Jesus has loved us, to show others the practical active love of Jesus. So, let us take a moment to be still in the presence of God as we get ready for worship this morning.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

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

A gathering prayer

Spirit of truth come close to us. Unite us into the body of Christ. Enable us to worship God in Spirit and in truth. Help us to support and encourage each other. Help us to love as we are loved. Spirit of truth, come and abide in us. **Amen**

Hymn: At the name of Jesus

Gracious God, we come before you, drawn by the power of your welcoming love. We come with our sorrows and joys. We come with our expectations and apprehensions. We come with what we have done. We come as who we are. In your love we find peace and hope. Amen.

Prayers of Penitence (taken from our Eastertide service sheet)

I have made a video of the confession.

Jesus Christ, risen Master and triumphant Lord, we come to you in sorrow for our sins, and confess to you our weakness and unbelief. *Silence is kept*

Like Mary at the empty tomb, we fail to grasp the wonder of your presence, Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Like the disciples behind locked doors, we are afraid to be seen as your followers. Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Like Thomas in the upper room, we are slow to believe. Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect for the 6th Sunday of Easter

Risen Christ, by the lakeside you renewed your call to your disciples: help your Church to obey your command and draw the nations to the fire of your love, to the glory of God the Father. Amen

Read: Acts 17: 22-31

Hymn: Oh Jesus I have promised

Read: John 14: 15-21

Talk

I have made a recording of the talk.

Declaring Our Faith

**We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and earth is named.
We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith and fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high.
We believe in one God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen**

Hymn: I the Lord of sea and Sky

An active way into prayer

Draw a heart on a piece of paper and imagine that it is the heart of God. Write or draw in the heart the people or situations they you would like to place in God's heart, pause after each one for a moment of prayer. Conclude by saying: **May our hearts be as your heart, O God, filled with kindness and with love. Strength, support and fill with peace all those for whom we pray. Amen**

(Why not use this way into prayer as part of your prayer life this week.)

Prayers

I have made a video of the prayers.

In peace, let us pray to Jesus our Lord, who ever lives to make intercession for us.

Saviour of the world be present in all places of suffering, violence, and pain, and bring hope even in the darkest night. We pray for the leaders of the nations and all those shaping national policies and ask that you grant them wisdom, grace, and integrity in their leadership. We pray for all those involved in scientific research into coronavirus, bring them insight, wisdom, and deeper understanding. Inspire us to continue your work of reconciliation today as we work to make the world a better place. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord of the Church, empower by your spirit all Christian people and the work of your church in every land. We pray for our Archbishops Justin and John, our Bishops Rachel and Robert and all church leaders. Guide and strengthen your church as we seek to follow your command to love one another as you have loved us. Open our hearts and minds to listen to your will and give us the courage and strength to follow where you lead. Give us grace to proclaim the gospel joyfully in word and deed. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Shepherd and Guardian of our souls, guide and enable all who lead and serve this community and those on whom we depend for our daily needs. We pray for our local schools, for the staff, governors, parents, and children and for all those tasked with looking after and protecting children and young people. We thank you for all the wonderful acts of kindness, compassion and generosity that are being shown to others at this difficult time and pray that they will continue to shape our communities moving forward. We give thanks for the hard work and dedication of all our key workers and ask that you bless them with the resources they need to stay safe and look after their wellbeing as they help and care for others. Grant that we may seek the peace and welfare of this place. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Loving Father, we bring before you the anxious, the lonely, the fearful, those in unsafe home situations, the unemployed, those who have lost their way, those who are struggling with their mental health and wellbeing, and ask that you bring to them your light, guidance and love. Lord, stretch out your hand to bring comfort, wholeness, and peace to all who suffer in body, mind, and spirit. In a moment of silence, we name before you any known to us. *Silence*. Fill us with compassion, that we may be channels of your healing love. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Conqueror of death remember for good those whom we love but see no longer. We give thanks for the lives of those who have recently died and in a moment of silence we name before you any known to us. *Silence*. We pray for those who are grieving, particularly those who are struggling with their grief, those unable to connect with the support they need at this time and those who have not been able to attend funerals. May they find comfort and hope in your unfailing love and presence. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

In a moment of silence, we offer our own prayers to God. *Silence*.

Let us commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, to the mercy and protection of God.
Merciful Father **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

The Lord's prayer

Peace (Taken from our Eastertide service sheet)

The risen Christ came and stood amongst his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then they were glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia! the peace of the risen Christ be always with you. **And also, with you. Alleluia.**

Let us offer one another a sign of God's peace.

I know that we are not together physically today and not able to share the peace in our normal way. However, this does not mean that we are not able to share the peace. Bring to mind members of our church family and as you do wish them God's peace. "..... (the name of a member of our church family) God's peace be with you.

Hymn: Shine Jesus Shine

We go out (Taken from our Eastertide service sheet)

Go in peace to live in love, to show God's love, to receive God's love -everywhere, and at all times. **Amen**

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, strengthen us to walk with him in his risen life; And the blessing of God almighty the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us always. **Amen.**

With the risen life of Christ within you, go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

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