

ST PETER'S & ALL SAINTS' CHURCHES, NOTTINGHAM

Sunday 17th May 2020
The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Officiant: The Reverend Christopher Harrison
Preacher: The Reverend Dr Richard Davey

INTRODUCTION

Grace, mercy and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The service is introduced

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 of sin and asking for God's forgiveness

Christ our passover lamb has been sacrificed for us. Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may serve you in newness of life, to the glory of your name. Amen.

May the God of love and power forgive us and free us from our sins, heal and strengthen us by his Spirit, and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GLORIA

recorded by individual members of the church choir in online collaboration

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest.

**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.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest.

**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.
*Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest.***

THE COLLECT

A special prayer for 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 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.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Listening to and reflecting on Scripture

NEW TESTAMENT READING

St Paul tells the people of Athens about the resurrection of Jesus from the dead

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.

GOSPEL READING

Alleluia! Alleluia!

I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one;
I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore!

Alleluia!

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus, at the Last Supper, promises to send the Holy Spirit to the 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.

HOMILY

ANTHEM

Sung by St Peter's Church Choir at Wells Cathedral in September 2017

O Lord give thy Holy Spirit into our hearts, and lighten our understanding,
that we may dwell in the fear of thy Name, all the days of our life:
that we may know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent.

Music: Thomas Tallis (c.1505-1585)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Keith Mountford

THE PEACE

Since we cannot currently share the Peace face to face, I encourage you now to think of particular people in our churches and pray that's God's peace will be upon them. Let us also pray that God's peace will be upon the whole world at this difficult time for us all.

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, ‘Peace be with you.’

Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

GIVING THANKS FOR THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF CHRIST

Almighty and eternal God, in this Easter season we give you thanks with worshippers around the world for raising your Son our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead.

For by the mystery of his passion Jesus Christ, your risen Son, has conquered the powers of death and hell and restored in men and women the image of your glory. He has placed them once more in paradise and opened to them the gate of life eternal.

And so, in the joy of this Passover, earth and heaven resound with gladness, while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation sing for ever the hymn of your glory.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of thy glo - ry: Glo - ry be to thee, O Lord most High.
Bles - sed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord: Hosan - na in the high - est.

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, as we recall that through his body, broken for us, and by his blood, shed for us, we enjoy new life in Him. For in the same night that he was betrayed, he took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: 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, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and we look for the coming of your kingdom.

Great is the mystery of faith:

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

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise; and as we remember his death and resurrection, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in his body, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power be your for ever and ever. Amen.

Silence is kept.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

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.



O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: have mercy upon us.



O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: have mercy upon us.



O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: grant us thy peace.

God our Father, whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life: may we thirst for you, the spring of life and source of goodness, through him who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

HYMN

**1. Father, Lord of all Creation,
Ground of Being, Life and Love;
height and depth beyond description
only life in you can prove:
you are mortal life's dependence:
thought, speech, sight are ours by grace;
yours is every hour's existence,
sovereign Lord of time and space.**

**2. Jesus Christ, the Man for Others,
we, your people, make our prayer:
give us grace to love as brothers
all whose burdens we can share.
Where your name binds us together
you, Lord Christ, will surely be;
where no selfishness can sever
there your love may all men see.**

3. Holy Spirit, rushing, burning
wind and flame of Pentecost,
fire our hearts afresh with yearning
to regain what we have lost.
May your love unite our action,
nevermore to speak alone:
God, in us abolish faction,
God, through us your love make known.

THE BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the eternal covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

Amen.

Let us go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Deo Gratias

Arthur Wills (b. 1926)

played by Michael Leuty at Ely Cathedral in January 2015