**Morning Prayer 17th May 2020 Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**Preparation:**

Grace, mercy and peace

from God our Father

and the Lord Jesus Christ

be with you

**and also with you.**

This is the day that the Lord has made.

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

We have come together in the name of Christ

to offer our praise and thanksgiving,

to hear and receive God’s holy word,

to pray for the needs of the world,

and to seek the forgiveness of our sins,

that by the power of the Holy Spirit

we may give ourselves to the service of God.

Come, let us return to the Lord and say:

**Lord our God,**

**in our sin we have avoided your call.**

**Our love for you is like a morning cloud,**

**like the dew that goes away early.**

**Have mercy on us;**

**deliver us from judgement;**

**bind up our wounds and revive us;**

**in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent

have mercy upon you;

pardon and deliver you from all your sins;

confirm and strengthen you in all goodness;

and keep you in life eternal,

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Blessed is the Lord,

**for he has heard the voice of our prayer;**

therefore shall our hearts dance for joy

**and in our song will we praise our God.**

Blessed are you, Lord our God,

creator and redeemer of all;

to you be glory and praise for ever.

From the waters of chaos you drew forth the world

and in your great love fashioned us in your image.

Now, through the deep waters of death,

you have brought your people to new birth

by raising your Son to life in triumph.

May Christ your light ever dawn in our hearts

as we offer you our sacrifice of thanks and praise.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

**Blessed be God for ever.**

**The Word of God:**

**Psalm:** *Psalm 66:7-end*

Bless our God, O you peoples;

make the voice of his praise to be heard,

**Who holds our souls in life**

**and suffers not our feet to slip.**

For you, O God, have proved us;

you have tried us as silver is tried.

**You brought us into the snare;**

**you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

You let enemies ride over our heads;

we went through fire and water;

but you brought us out into a place of liberty.

**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.**

I will offer you fat burnt sacrifices

 with the smoke of rams;

I will sacrifice oxen and goats.

**Come and listen, all you who fear God,**

**and I will tell you what he has done for my soul.**

I called out to him with my mouth

and his praise was on my tongue.

**If I had nursed evil in my heart,**

**the Lord would not have heard me,**

But in truth God has heard me:

He has heeded the voice of my prayer

**Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,**

**nor withheld his loving mercy from me.**

**Glory to the Father and the Son and to the Holy Spirit**

**As it was in the beginning is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.**

**Epistle:** *Acts 17:16-34*

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.’

**Responsory:**

*from Colossians 3*

Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead.

**And Christ shall give you light.**

You have died and your life is hid with Christ in God.

**Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead.**

Set your minds on things that are above,

not on things that are on the earth.

**And Christ shall give you light.**

When Christ our life appears

you will appear with him in glory.

**Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead,**

**and Christ shall give you light.**

**Gospel:** *John 14:15-21*

‘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.’

**Sermon:** *Rt. Rev. Philip Mounstephen, Bishop of Truro*

**Affirmation of Faith:**

*cf Philippians 2.6-11*

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

**Though he was divine,**

**he did not cling to equality with God,**

**but made himself nothing.**

**Taking the form of a slave,**

**he was born in human likeness.**

**He humbled himself**

**and was obedient to death,**

**even the death of the cross.**

**Therefore God has raised him on high,**

**and given him the name above every name:**

**that at the name of Jesus**

**every knee should bow,**

**and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,**

**to the glory of God the Father.**

**Amen.**

**Prayers:**

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace that comes from God alone,

for the unity of all peoples,

and for our salvation,

let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the Church of Christ, here in Cornwall and across the world

and for the whole people of God,

let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the nations of the world,

struggling to know how best to cope with this pandemic and its aftermath

for Elizabeth our Queen and for all in authority,

let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this Duchy of Cornwall,

for our neighbours and our friends,

and for all who support and serve us

let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the good earth which God has given us,

and for the wisdom and will to conserve it,

let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the aged and infirm,

for the widowed and orphans,

for the sick and suffering,

for those we name in silence now…

and for all in any need,

let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor and the oppressed,

for the unemployed and the destitute,

for those suffering violence and abuse,

for prisoners and captives,

and for all who remember and care for them,

let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the dying, for those who mourn,

for the faithful whom we entrust to the Lord in hope,

as we look forward to the day when we share

the fullness of the resurrection,

let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Rejoicing in the communion of St. Piran, St. Petroc, St. Michael and of all the saints,

let us commend ourselves, and one another,

and all our life, to our God…

For yours is the majesty,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;

yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory,

now and for ever. **Amen**

**Hymn:**

At the name of Jesus ev'ry knee shall bow,

ev'ry tongue confess him King of glory now.

'Tis the Father's pleasure we should call him Lord,

who from the beginning was the mighty Word.

At his voice creation sprang at once to sight,

all the angel faces, all the hosts of light,

thrones and dominations, stars upon their way,

all the heav'nly orders in their great array.

Humbled for a season to receive a name

from the lips of sinners unto whom he came,

faithfully he bore it spotless to the last,

brought it back victorious, when from death he passed.

In your hearts enthrone him; there let him subdue

all that is not holy, all that is not true;

crown him as your Captain in temptation's hour:

let his will enfold you in its light and pow'r.

Brothers, this Lord Jesus shall return again,

with his Father's glory, with his angel train;

for all wreaths of empire meet upon his brow,

and our hearts confess him King of glory now.

*Caroline M. Noel (1870)*

**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.

Gathering our prayers and praises into one,

let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**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 Conclusion**

**The Blessing:**

The Spirit of truth lead you into all truth,

give you grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,

and strengthen you to proclaim the word and works of God;

and the blessing of God Almighty,

the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,

be amongst you and remain with you both now and evermore. Amen

**The Grace:**

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ**

**And the love of God**

**And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit**

**Be with us all evermore.**

**Amen**