

*Morning Prayer*  
*Sunday, 24 May 2020*  
*The Seventh Sunday of Easter*  
*(Sunday after Ascension Day)*

*All main text in **bold** to said by congregation.*

**Preparation**

O Lord, open our lips

**All and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us,

**All and clothe us with power from on high.**

*One or more of the following is said or sung:*

*this or another prayer of thanksgiving*

Blessed are you, creator God,  
to you be praise and glory forever.  
As your Spirit moved over the face of the waters  
bringing light and life to your creation,  
pour out your Spirit on us today  
that we may walk as children of light  
and by your grace reveal your presence.  
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
**All Blessed be God for ever.**

*a suitable hymn, or A Song of God's Righteousness*

<sup>1</sup>Bless the Lord, O my soul, ♦  
and all that is within me bless his holy name.

<sup>2</sup>Bless the Lord, O my soul, ♦  
and forget not all his benefits;

<sup>3</sup>Who forgives all your sins ♦  
and heals all your infirmities;

<sup>4</sup>Who redeems your life from the Pit ♦  
and crowns you with faithful love and compassion;

<sup>5</sup>Who satisfies you with good things, ♦  
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

<sup>6</sup>The Lord executes righteousness ♦  
and judgement for all who are oppressed.

<sup>7</sup>He made his ways known to Moses ♦  
and his works to the children of Israel.

<sup>8</sup>The Lord has established his throne in heaven, ♦  
and his kingdom has dominion over all.

<sup>9</sup>Bless the Lord, you angels of his, ♦  
you mighty ones who do his bidding  
and hearken to the voice of his word.

<sup>10</sup>Bless the Lord, all you his hosts, ♦  
you ministers of his who do his will.

<sup>11</sup>Bless the Lord, all you works of his,  
in all places of his dominion; ♦  
bless the Lord, O my soul.

*Psalm 103.1-7, 19-22*

**All Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

***This opening prayer may be said***

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;  
let us pray with one heart and mind.

***Silence is kept.***

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,  
so may the light of your presence, O God,  
set our hearts on fire with love for you;  
now and for ever.

**All Amen.**

## The Word of God

### *Psalmody*

#### ***The appointed psalmody is said.***

*Psalm 68 1-10, 32-end*

***Refrain:*** *I will sing to the Lord as long as I live.*

Let God rise up, let his enemies be scattered;  
let those who hate him flee before him.  
2 As smoke is driven away, so drive them away;  
as wax melts before the fire,  
let the wicked perish before God.  
3 But let the righteous be joyful;  
let them exult before God;  
let them be jubilant with joy.  
4 Sing to God, sing praises to his name;  
lift up a song to him who rides upon the clouds—  
his name is the Lord—  
be exultant before him.  
5 Father of orphans and protector of widows  
is God in his holy habitation.  
6 God gives the desolate a home to live in;  
he leads out the prisoners to prosperity,  
but the rebellious live in a parched land.  
7 O God, when you went out before your people,  
when you marched through the wilderness,      Selah  
8 the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain  
at the presence of God, the God of Sinai,  
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.  
9 Rain in abundance, O God, you showered abroad;  
you restored your heritage when it languished;  
10 your flock found a dwelling in it;  
in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.

***Refrain:*** *I will sing to the Lord as long as I live.*

*Creator God,  
send your Holy Spirit to renew this living world,*

*that the whole creation,  
in its groaning and striving,  
may know your loving purpose  
and come to reflect your glory;  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.*

***Each psalm or group of psalms may end with***

***All Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.***

***If there are two Scripture readings, the first may be read here, or both  
may be read after the canticle.***

*Acts 1. 6-14*

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" 7 He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

***Song of Ezekiel***

***Refrain:***

**All** The Spirit of God fills the whole world.

**1** I will take you from the nations, ♦  
and gather you from all the countries.

**2** I will sprinkle clean water upon you, ♦  
and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses.

**3** A new heart I will give you, ♦  
and put a new spirit within you,

**4** And I will remove from your body the heart of stone ♦  
and give you a heart of flesh.

**5** You shall be my people, ♦  
and I will be your God.

*Ezekiel 36.24-26, 28b*

**All** Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.

**All** The Spirit of God fills the whole world.

***Scripture Reading***

***One or more readings appointed for the day are read.***

*1 Peter, 4.12-14; 5. 6-11*

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God,

so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

*Gospel Reading John 17. 1-11*

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. "I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

*The reading(s) may be followed by a time of silence.*

*A suitable song or chant, or a responsory in this or another form, may follow*

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your people

**All and kindle in us the fire of your love.**

All who are led by the Spirit of God  
are children of God and fellow-heirs with Christ.

**All Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your people.**

Renew the face of your creation, Lord,  
pouring on us the gifts of your Spirit,  
**All and kindle in us the fire of your love.**

For the creation waits with eager longing  
for the glorious liberty of the children of God.

**All Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your people  
and kindle in us the fire of your love.**

*cf Romans 8*

*Gospel Canticle*

*The Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah) is normally said,  
or The Song of Christ's Glory (page 619) may be said*

**Refrain:**

**All Christ has gone up on high  
and has led captivity captive.**

<sup>1</sup>Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, ♦  
who has come to his people and set them free.

<sup>2</sup>He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, ♦  
born of the house of his servant David.

<sup>3</sup>Through his holy prophets God promised of old ♦  
to save us from our enemies,  
from the hands of all that hate us,

<sup>4</sup>To show mercy to our ancestors, ♦  
and to remember his holy covenant.

<sup>5</sup>This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: ♦  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

<sup>6</sup>Free to worship him without fear, ♦  
holy and righteous in his sight  
all the days of our life.

<sup>7</sup>And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, ♦  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

8To give his people knowledge of salvation ♦  
by the forgiveness of all their sins.

9In the tender compassion of our God ♦  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

10To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, ♦  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

*Luke 1.68-79*

**All Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

***Refrain:***

**All Christ has gone up on high  
and has led captivity captive.**

***The Sermon*** The Reverend Mother Yejide Peters

***The Nicene 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, 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 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, 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

### *Intercessions are offered*

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for Justin Archbishop of Canterbury, John Archbishop of York; Michael our Diocesan Bishop and Sara, our Area Bishop; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

### *Silence*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; we pray for our Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth, our Prime Minister Boris Johnson, all Ministers of Parliament, and all who govern and hold authority in this and every land.

Pray for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace.

### *Silence*

We give thanks for those newly born and their families, especially Baby Niamh Davies and her parents Rachel and Dennis.

Pray for infants, children, parents and guardians.

### *Silence*

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.

Pray for those in any need or trouble.

### *Silence*

We pray for those who working on the front lines of this disease throughout the world remembering especially Dr. Trevor Hunt, Dr. Susan Kelly, and Dr Sade Hendricks. all those working with the NHS, chaplains, other key workers and all carers in the community.

Pray for those who work to ensure our health, safety, and wellbeing.

### ***Silence***

We pray especially for those who have asked the prayers of this benefice: for Pat Rantisi, Chris Cheshire, Cathryn, Emma, Malcolm Booth, Jessica, Laverne, Maureen, Rachel, Jubilee, Lara, McKell, Baby Isabella, Casey, Deirdre Bean, Evan and Casey.

We pray for all those living in care homes.

### ***Silence***

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him.

### ***Silence***

I ask your prayers for those who have died. We pray for the departed especially May Meddins, Brion Wong, Jan Green (née Jenkins) and Mary Barker. For the families of those that have died: The Meddins family, the Wong family, the Jenkins family, the Barker family.

We also pray for those who have died from COVID-19. Pray for all who have died and for those they leave to mourn.

### ***Silence***

We also pray for those who are remembered especially this week for Judith Sutherland, Celia Simmonds, Greta Jones, Harold Bebbington, Dennis Spencer

### ***Silence***

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honoured. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

***Silence may be kept.***

***The Collect of the day is said***

O God the King of glory,  
you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ  
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:  
we beseech you, leave us not comfortless,  
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us  
and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**All Amen.**

***The Lord's Prayer is said***

Being made one by the power of the Spirit,  
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**All 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.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

***(or)***

Being made one by the power of the Spirit,  
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**All 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**

May the Spirit kindle in us the fire of God's love.  
**All Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.  
**All Thanks be to God.**

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