



# A Liturgy of the Word Sixth Sunday of Easter

9 May 2021



Ven. Moses Thabethe



Rev. Matthew Wright



Rev. Margaret Place



Rev. Alison Thabethe

**The full service or the sermon can be viewed on the website.**

## Processional Hymn

**1** Love divine, all loves excelling,  
joy of heav'n, to earth come down,  
fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion,  
pure, unbounded love thou art.  
Visit us with thy salvation;  
enter ev'ry trembling heart.

**2** Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit  
into ev'ry troubled breast.  
Let us all in thee inherit,  
let us find the promised rest.  
Take away the love of sinning;  
Alpha and Omega be.  
End of faith, as its beginning,  
set our hearts at liberty.

**3** Come, Almighty, to deliver,  
let us all thy life receive.  
Suddenly return, and never,  
nevermore they temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
Serve thee as thy hosts above,,  
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,  
glory in thy perfect love.

**4** Finish, then, thy new creation;  
true and spotless let us be.  
Let us see thy great salvation  
perfectly restored in thee.  
Changed from glory into glory,  
till in heav'n we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee,  
Lost in wonder, love and praise



Words: Charles Wesley

## Call to Worship

We meet in the presence of God  
**Who knows our needs, hears our cries,  
feels our pain, and heals our wounds.**

Lord, speak to us  
**That we may hear your word.**

Move among us  
**That we may behold your glory.**

Receive our prayers  
**That we may learn to trust you.**

**Heavenly Father, we rejoice with thanks  
for all those who have mothered us in our lives.  
In a world that is broken and in need of your motherly love,**



please use us to aid others as you do to us  
in providing comfort, nurture, protection and support.  
We ask that you grow us as carers to those who need us,  
so that we might celebrate your goodness together  
even through our own brokenness.  
In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

*Introductory Rite*

Alleluia! Christ is risen  
**He is risen indeed, Alleluia**

The Lord be with you  
**And also with you**

Praise the Lord:  
**Praise God, you servants of the Lord.**

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:  
**Blessed be God's Name, now and forever.**

*The Gloria*

*Sung by Ven Moses Thabethe*

- |                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| C: Udum' alube          | A: KuNkulunkulu         |
| C: Udum' alube          | A: Kweziphezulu         |
| C: Udum' alube          | A: KuNkulunkulu         |
| C: Udum' alube          | A: Kweziphezulu         |
| C: Kube nokuthula       | A: Emhlabeni            |
| C: Kube nokuthula       | A: Ebantwini bonke      |
| C: Nkosi Nkulunkulu     | A: Nkosi yasezulwini    |
| C: Nkulunkulu Baba      | A: Baba Somandla        |
| C: Siyakubabaza         | A: Siyakwazisa          |
| C: Siyakuguqela         | A: Siyakudumisa         |
| C: Siyakubonga          | A: Ngenxa yobukhosi     |
| C: Yobukhosi            | A: Bakh' obukhulu       |
| C: Nkosi Jesu Kristu    | A: Ndodan' ezelwe yodwa |
| C: Nkosi Nkulunkulu     | A: Mvana kaNkulunkulu   |
| C: Ndodan' kaNkulunkulu | A: kaNkulunkul' uYise   |
| C: Wena osusa           | A: Izono zomhlaba       |
| C: Sihawukele           | A: Sihawukele           |
| C: Sihawukele           | A: Sihawukele           |
| C: Sihawukele           | A: Sihawukele           |
| C: Sihawukele           | A: Sihawukele           |
| C: Amen, A-a-a          | A: A-a-a-a-amen         |
| C: Amen, A-a-a          | A: A-a-a-a-a-amen       |
| C: Amen, A-a-a          | A: A-a-a-a-amen         |
| C: Amen, A-a-a          | A: A-a-a-a-a-amen       |





## Collect for Purity

*Let us pray.*

**Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hid:  
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.**

## The Kyrie

1. 'Look around you, can you see?  
Times are troubled, people grieve  
See the violence, feel the hardness;  
All my people, weep with me.

*Refrain*

*Kyrie eleison,  
Christe eleison,  
Kyrie eleison,*

2. Walk among them, I'll go with you.  
Reach out to them with my hands  
Suffer with me, and together  
We will serve them, help them stand.

3. Forgive us, Father; hear our prayer  
We would walk with you anywhere,  
Through your suff'ring, with forgiveness,  
Take your life into the world.

## The Penitence

*Let us ask pardon from the Lord for all the times when our shortcomings  
kept us from letting the light of Christ shine.*

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father  
in penitence we confess that we have sinned against you  
through our own fault  
in thought, word, and deed,  
and in what we have left undone.  
For the sake of your Son, Christ our Lord  
forgive us all that is past  
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life  
to the glory of your Name.**



*Sung by David Powell*



*Absolution*

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on you: pardon your sins and set you free from them; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The Collect*

Risen Lord, you first chose us and now call us your friends: set our hearts on fire with love for you and one another that we may live your justice and sing your praise for you live and reign in the unity of the Blessed Trinity, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

*The Word of God*

Acts 10:44-48  
Psalm 98  
1 John 5:1-6

*Gospel Acclamation*

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

Lord your words are Spirit and life

**Alleluia, Alleluia**

You have the words of lasting life

**Alleluia! Alleluia**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

*Gospel Reading*

John 15:9-17

*The Sermon*

by Rev. Alison Thabethe

*Affirmation of Faith*

*Let us declare our faith in God.*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**





born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

### *Prayers of Intercession*

Loving God, who is full of kindness and love, hear our prayers for the world, for one another, and for ourselves: We give thanks for the Church, our mother, who brought us to birth in the family of Christ, through the waters of baptism. We pray that all Christians will hear again God's call to mother those in need, and bring them home to God. Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all those in authority in our nation and in our world. May they learn from the example of Jesus Christ that true power is the power to feed the poor and the hungry, to make a home for the homeless and to offer hospitality to the broken-hearted. Hear our lament at the failure of our society, particularly our men, to care for the girl-child and women who suffer the cruelty of gender-based violence.

Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

We pray for our own community. May we see each other as brothers and sisters, called to sit at God's family table together. Let us work together for that great day when God comes again to restore heaven and earth. Giver of Life, fill our Church Community of St Michael's with love. Open our ears to hear each other's stories so that we can be a community of hope, nurturing each and every person with tenderness and compassion, each one a treasured member of the family of God.

Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who suffer today, in mind, body or spirit. In particular, we pray for those who have lost a motherly presence, and for those who have never known a mother's love. May they find consolation in God, the one in whom every family on earth finds its home. We pray for communities trying to sort out how to recover from the pandemic and for all those worried about their personal future. Encourage us with your love.

Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

God of forgiveness and renewal:

Today we pray for those whose relationships are in need of repair and for all who work for peace and reconciliation in the face of deep divisions. We pray for families, churches, communities and countries facing conflict, and ask that your Spirit open hearts and minds to deeper understanding. Reconcile us through your love.

Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**



We give thanks for your faithful servants who have gone before us and pray for their families and all whose life is saddened by the death of loved ones. Be with them in their loneliness that they may know that Jesus Christ is the light of the world - a light which no darkness can quench. Loving God, be their comfort and source of strength as their hearts ache in bereavement and loss.

Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayers**

Loving God, lead us into the coming week,  
Son of God, help us to believe that you are close to us,  
Spirit of God, enable your Church to be a sign of hope, comfort and love to all. In the name of Christ. **Amen**

*Prayer for Offering*

God of love and provision, in deep gratitude for life and for all the blessings that come from you, we offer back to you some measure of what we have been given. Accept our offerings and use them and use us for the building up of your kingdom in this world. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

*The Lord's Prayer*

**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 them that 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.**

*Prayer of Thanksgiving*

God of our lives and our loving,  
We thank you for the signs of resurrection that are all around us,  
showing that life is stronger than death.  
Give us the grace to recognize and embrace the gifts of new life  
that your love makes possible for us all,  
as we pray for your resurrecting power to renew the world amid all its challenges.  
God of home and family,  
today we thank you for our families,  
especially for our mothers and grandmothers.  
We are grateful for their love and attention, their hard work  
and the deep hope they have cherished for each one of us.  
We honour before you each mother,  
grandmother and great grandmother who has died;  
and we pray for all those who have felt isolated from their families  
in these many months of the pandemic.  
We give you thanks you for our friends and relations,  
for the neighbours and fellow citizens who help to make our lives complete. **Amen.**





### Final Blessing

The Lord be with you

**And also with you.**

May the Lord who brought us all to birth,  
strengthen us for daily life.

May the Lord who provides for all our needs sustain us day by day.

May the Lord whose steadfast love is for all, send us out to live and work for others.

And the blessing of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be with 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**

### Recessional Hymn

1 In Christ there is no East or West,  
In Him no South or North;  
But one great fellowship of love  
Throughout the whole wide earth.

2 In Him shall true hearts everywhere  
Their high communion find;  
His service is the golden cord,  
Close binding humankind.

3 Join hands, then, members of the faith,  
Whatever your race may be!  
Who serves my Father as His child  
Is surely kin to me.

4 In Christ now meet both East and West,  
In Him meet North and South;  
All Christly souls are one in Him  
Throughout the whole wide earth.

*John Oxenham (1908)*



### Giving

Thank you for your continued financial contribution

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