

A Liturgy of the Word - Sixth Sunday of Easter

14 May 2023

The video of the service or the sermon can be viewed on the website, YouTube or Facebook

Hymn

O praise ye the Lord! Praise him in the height;
rejoice in his word, ye angels of light;
ye heavens adore him by whom ye were made,
and worship before him, in brightness arrayed.

O praise ye the Lord! Praise him upon earth,
in tuneful accord, ye sons of new birth;
praise him who hath brought you his grace from above,
praise him who hath taught you to sing of his love.

O praise ye the Lord, all things that give sound;
each jubilant chord re-echo around;
loud organs, his glory forth tell in deep tone,
and, sweet harp, the story of what he hath done.

O praise ye the Lord! Thanksgiving and song
to him be outpoured all ages along:
for love in creation, for heaven restored,
for grace of salvation, O praise ye the Lord!



Author: Henry William Baker (1848-1918)

Call to Worship

Alleluia! Christ is risen
He is risen indeed. Alleluia

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

We are gathered together to worship the God who has called us to love.
And the God who has asked us to follow God's direction.

We are invited to worship God in the Spirit of truth.
We do so because we know the Spirit and the Spirit knows us.

We are reminded that we are not alone.
Because the Holy Spirit is among us, Jesus is with God, and God is present.

St Michael's Anglican Church, Bryanston



Let us rejoice that because he lives, we, too, live!

Loving God, in whom we live and move and have our being, in these last days of Easter, we gather to recall the love that brought Your son Jesus into this world and into our lives: as saviour, friend and brother. On this Mother's Day, we thank you for all our mothers and for those who have been like mothers to us. As we worship You this morning. Open our eyes to Your presence, open our ears to Your Word. Receive the worship of our hearts and minds and bodies and may it be pleasing to You. **Amen**

Collect for Purity

**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.
Amen**



The Penitence

Jesus said, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets.
Let us confess our sins.

**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.**

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

O God, you reveal yourself in love:
pour into our hearts such love towards you,
that we, loving you in all things and above all things,
may obtain your promises,
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Word of God

Acts 17:22-31
Psalm 66:7-19
1 Peter 3:13-22

Gospel Reading

John 14:15-21

The Sermon

The Revd Matthew Wright

Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in God in the words of the Apostle's Creed:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the Holy Spirit
And born of the Virgin Mary.
He 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
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
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 of the body
and the life everlasting. Amen**

Prayers of Intercession

Christ commands us to show our love for him and for the Father by loving one another. By our love the power of Christ's resurrection is made known to the world. Let us now turn to the Father with our prayers for the Church and for the world.

Loving Lord, we pray your Church throughout the world. We ask you to fill us with your love: love in our thinking, love in our speaking and love in our doing. Bless and protect Your people in a world where many false gods, known and unknown, are worshipped. Give Your saints a clear and bold proclamation of Jesus Christ and embolden your church, as your followers, to reveal your love to everyone in our speaking and in our living.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Guiding God, we pray for public officials, politicians and all who serve the public day by day. Guide each leader to uphold standards of good service above personal gain. Give them wisdom to make faithful decisions and courage when those decisions are unpopular. Create a spirit of co-operation and understanding among our leaders, especially those used to emphasizing differences and opposing each other, so that our country and communities can flourish again.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Father in heaven, you have given us a mirror of Your love in the vocation of mothers who nurture, guide and raise their children in all things good. Bless them in their calling. Sustain them through weary and difficult times. Remember in compassion all who are barren, and bring them comfort through the children of Your Church.

Lord, in Your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Lord, You promised not to abandon us in our need nor leave us as orphans. Send forth Your Spirit and work through us, Your people, that the lonely, the poor, the homeless may rejoice in Your presence and the power of Your love.

Lord, in Your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Healing God, we pray for those who are suffering from illness or chronic conditions, for those in grief or loneliness, and for any who feel frustrated or overwhelmed by what they face. 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. Move in each and every life with your healing grace and show signs of your presence and compassion in life-giving ways to all who suffer.

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**

God, our Father, we thank you for the love which you have shown us through the sacrifice of your Son, Jesus, and pray that we be ever blessed with the gift of Christ's abiding presence in our lives. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. **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 in heaven
hallowed be your Name
your kingdom come
your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
And deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen**



Final Blessing

Now leave this time of worship,
refreshed and hopeful and let love be true and freely given.
And may you be encouraged and blessed by the Advocate
whose love warms and surrounds you like the sun,
believing that God is with us always as close as our beating hearts.
And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son,
and the Holy Spirit, be among you this Easter and always.
Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia
In the name of Christ. Amen. Alleluia, Alleluia

Hymn

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won;
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.
*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.*

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**Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting:**

*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.*

**No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of Life;
life is naught without thee: aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above:**

*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.*

Author: Edmond Budry (1854-1932)

Credits

Liturgy

An Anglican Prayer Book 1989 Provincial Trustees of the Anglican Church of Southern Africa.

United Church of God. – <https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/online-worship-easter-6-year>-
Homiletics Online: <https://www.homileticonline.com/members/search>

Music in the online video

O Praise Ye the Lord, Praise Him in the Height
Written by Sir Henry Williams Baker in 1875.

Tune is Laudate Dominum, written by Sir Charles Hubert Hastings Parry in 1894.

Performed here by the London Regency Choir.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PM1LlryFXCw>

Thine Be The Glory

Sung by St Michael's Singers

Album - The Hymn Makers: There Is a Green Hill Far Away (A Selection of Easter Hymns)

© 2001 Integrity Music. Released on: 2007-07-30

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3GnxpDt0yZU>

Giving

Thank you for your continued financial contribution to the church at this time so as to enable St Michael's to meet its obligations in mission and ministry.

E.F.T

St Michael's Church Bank
Standard Bank (051001)
Account Number: 000 176 397
Account Name: Bryanston St Michael

SNAP SCAN



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