SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

10:00 a.m. May 17, 2020

“Alleluia! Christ is Risen!”

THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF FORT WORTH

To all who are Joyful and Thankful, to all who Mourn and Need Comfort, to all who are Weary and Need Rest, to all who are Friendless and wish Friendship, to all who Pray and all who Do Not but Might, to all who Need a Savior, and to Whoever will, the Church opens wide the Door and in the Name of Christ, says “Welcome!”
May 17, 2020

The Liturgy of the Word - 10:00 a.m.

Processional Hymn  
*All Are Welcome*  
P. 9 worship leaflet

**Opening Acclamation**

*Officiant:  Alleluia. Christ is Risen.*  
The Rev. Kevin Johnson

*People:  The Lord is Risen indeed. Alleluia.*

*The Officiant may say*

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you 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.**

**Hymn of Praise**

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

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

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.  
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, Amen.

**The Collect of the Day**

*Officiant:  The Lord be with you.*  

*People:  And also with you.*  

*Officiant:  Let us pray.*

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; 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

The People sit for

The First Lesson: Acts 17:22-31
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.”

Lector The word of God for the people of God. People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 66:7-18 (The People remain seated and pray in unison)
7 Bless our God, you peoples; *
make the voice of his praise to be heard;

8 Who holds our souls in life, *
and will not allow our feet to slip.

9 For you, O God, have proved us; *
you have tried us just as silver is tried.

10 You brought us into the snare; *
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.

11 You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through fire and water; *
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

12 I will enter your house with burnt-offerings and will pay you my vows, *
which I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.
13 I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the smoke of rams; *  
I will give you oxen and goats.

14 Come and listen, all you who fear God, *  
and I will tell you what he has done for me.

15 I called out to him with my mouth, *  
and his praise was on my tongue.

16 If I had found evil in my heart, *  
the Lord would not have heard me;

17 But in truth God has heard me; *  
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.

18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, *  
nor withheld his love from me.

The Second Lesson: 1 Peter 3:13-22
Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Reader The word of God for the people of God. People Thanks be to God.

The People stand
The Gospel Procession One Bread, One Body P. 10 Worship Leaflet
Jesus said, "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 forever. 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."

The Homily

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from 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 worshiped 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.

The Prayers of the People
In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy"

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault  
at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.  
Lord, have mercy.

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; for Scott, our own Bishop; for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.  
Lord, have mercy.

For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Creator are one, we pray to you, O Lord.  
Lord, have mercy.

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.  
Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.  
Lord, have mercy.

For those in positions of public trust, especially Donald, our President; Greg, our Governor; and Betsy, our Mayor; that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.  
Lord, have mercy.

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.  
Lord, have mercy.
For this Diocese, for those who are present, and for those who are absent, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth your glory in all that we do, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have commended themselves to our prayers; for our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health; Lord, hear our prayers for those we now name _____________, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

To you, O Lord our God.

Silence

For yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and forever. Amen.

The Lord’s Prayer

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

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, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

The Peace

Presider

The Peace of Christ be always with you.

People

And also with you.

A Litany for New Graduates

Those graduating are invited to stand.

Officiant: This day we pause to remember and give thanks for those among us who are graduating.

a moment of silence is kept

Officiant: Graduates, you have arrived at a crossroads, completing a section of your life’s journey. Before you begin the new road take a moment to turn around and remember all those who have accompanied you thus far: the teachers, the friends, those who have loved you, those who have challenged you - both for growth and for struggle.
**People:** Give thanks for everyone who has been in your life, for they are part of who you are, part of what makes you wonderful.

**Officiant:** The road in front of you is full of dreams and hopes. As you step forward into this next part of your life’s journey may you discover the presence of the Creator in every moment. May you find hope in the midst of laughter and in tears, in victory and defeat, in love and in loss.

**People:** We give you our blessings for next steps made in moments of certainty and in moments of trepidation, we give you our companionship in moments of friendship and in moments of loneliness, we give you our love in moments of abundance and in moments of emptiness.

**Officiant:** The road in front of you is full of choices. Some will be clear, others murky. Some will rouse up honor and virtue, others injury and injustice. May you engage choice with a discerning heart.

**People:** Go forth courageously knowing that God is always with you, in moments of beneficial choosing and in moments of hurtful choosing. There is no place you can go where the love of God is not already waiting.

**Officiant:** The road in front of you is filled with opportunity. May you grasp the perseverance and bravery to seize the unknown.

**People:** Just as the Light of Christ shone forth along the Way of Jesus, may you strew the Light of Christ along your way.

**Officiant:** Blessed God, you are the beginning of all things, the sustainer of all, and the end of all; we give thanks for these new graduates, for the joy of accomplishment, for the struggle of failure, for the hope springing forth in their hearts; as they stand at this crossroads in life may they give thanks for the good things that have gone before, may they extend forgiveness for the injuries done to them, and may they accept forgiveness for the injuries they have done. What is done is done. Let it be.

May the Spirit of the Living God fill you, new graduate, with gifts and talents and empower you to use those for the betterment of Creation; may She guide you along paths that are smooth, but not necessarily without challenge; and may God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in this world so that you do what others claim cannot be done. 

**Amen.**

**The Blessing**
And the blessing of God Almighty, the Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier, be upon you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

**The Easter Dismissal**
**Presider** Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!
People

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude
All Are Welcome

1. Let us build a house where love can dwell And

all can safely live, A place where saints and

2. Let us build a house where prophets speak, And

words are strong and true, Where all God's children

3. Let us build a house where love is found In

water, wine and wheat: A banquet hall on

4. Let us build a house where hands will reach Be-
yond the wood and stone To heal and strengthen,
songs and visions heard And loved and treasured,

5. Let us build a house where all are named, Their

children tell How hearts learn to for-
dare to seek To dream God's reign a-
ho-ly ground, Where peace and justice
serve and teach, And live the Word they've
taught and claimed As words with-in the
give. Built of hopes and dreams and vi-
visions, new. Here the cross shall stand as wit-
ness meet. Here the love of God, through Je-
known. Here the out-cast and the stran-
ger Word. Built of tears and cries and laugh-
ter,

Rock of faith and vault of grace; Here the
And as sym-

bol of God's grace; Here as

Is re-

vealed in time and space; As we

Bear the im-

age of God's face; Let us

Prayers of faith and songs of grace, Let this

love of Christ shall end di-

visions:
one we claim the faith of Je-
sus: share in Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel-

come,
bring an end to fear and danger:

house pro-claim from floor to raft-
er:

all are wel-come, all are wel-come in this place.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Tune: TWO OAKS, 7 & 8 8 7 10 with refrains; Marty Haugen, b. 1950
© 1994, GIA Publications, Inc.
Music reprinted under OneLicense #A-723401
and CCLI License #11956446
One bread, one body,
one Lord of all, one cup of blessing which we bless.
And we, though many, throughout the earth, we are one body in this one Lord.

1. Gentle or Jew, servant or
gentle or Jew, servant of
2. Many the gifts, many the
galant and
3. Grain for the fields, scattered and

grown, gathered to one

1. free, woman or man,
free, woman or man,
2. works, one in the Lord
works, one in the Lord
3. grown, gathered to one
grown, gathered to one

no more.
no more.
of all.
of all.
for all.
for all.

One Lord.

Music reprinted under OneLicense #A-723401
and CCLI License #11355446