

# Morning Worship Sunday 14th May 2023

## Sixth Sunday of Easter

Reading 1: Genesis 8: 20 – 9: 7

Reading 2: Acts 17: 22 - 31

Gospel: John 14: 15 - 21

**Proclamation:** Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, alleluia!

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!  
By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope  
Through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. *1 Peter 1: 3*

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

**Prayer:** We praise and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus  
for your resurrection is a revelation to the whole world  
As you revealed yourself so powerfully to so many,  
reveal yourself to us now as the hope to the world.  
To you, Lord Jesus, be honour and blessing and glory and power,  
now and forever. Amen

**Song:** (click link) Love Divine <https://youtu.be/3h1GUkpkP2A>

**Invitation to** *In baptism we died with Christ, so that as Christ was raised from the dead,  
we might walk in newness of life.*

**Confession:** *Let us receive new life in Him  
as we confess our sins in penitence and faith.* *cf. Romans 6: 4*

**Confession:** Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
We have sinned against you,  
Through our own fault,  
In thought, and word, and deed,  
And in what we have left undone.  
We are heartily sorry  
And repent of all our sins.  
For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,  
Forgive us all that is past;  
And grant that we may serve you in newness of life  
To the glory of your name. Amen.

**Absolution:** May the Father of all mercies cleanse us from our sins,  
and restore us in His image

to the praise and glory of His name,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Reading 1: Genesis 8: 20 – 9: 7**

Then Noah built an altar to the Lord, and took of every clean animal and of every clean bird, and offered burnt-offerings on the altar. 21 And when the Lord smelt the pleasing odour, the Lord said in his heart, 'I will never again curse the ground because of humankind, for the inclination of the human heart is evil from youth; nor will I ever again destroy every living creature as I have done.

22 As long as the earth endures,  
seedtime and harvest, cold and heat,  
summer and winter, day and night,  
shall not cease.'

God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth. 2 The fear and dread of you shall rest on every animal of the earth, and on every bird of the air, on everything that creeps on the ground, and on all the fish of the sea; into your hand they are delivered. 3 Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you; and just as I gave you the green plants, I give you everything. 4 Only, you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood. 5 For your own lifeblood I will surely require a reckoning: from every animal I will require it and from human beings, each one for the blood of another, I will require a reckoning for human life.

6 Whoever sheds the blood of a human,  
by a human shall that person's blood be shed;  
for in his own image  
God made humankind.

7 And you, be fruitful and multiply, abound on the earth and multiply in it.'

This is the Word of the Lord      Thanks be to God

**Reading2: Acts 17: 22 – 31**

Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: 'People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. <sup>23</sup>For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship – and this is what I am going to proclaim to you.

'The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human

hands. <sup>25</sup>And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. <sup>26</sup>From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. <sup>27</sup>God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. <sup>28</sup>"For in him we live and move and have our being." As some of your own poets have said, "We are his offspring."

'Therefore since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone – an image made by human design and skill. <sup>30</sup>In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. <sup>31</sup>For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.'

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

## **Gospel:**

### **John 14: 15 – 21**

#### **Jesus promises the Holy Spirit**

'If you love me, keep my commands. <sup>16</sup>And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you for ever – <sup>17</sup>the Spirit of truth.

The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. <sup>18</sup>I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. <sup>19</sup>Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup>On that day you will realise that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. <sup>21</sup>Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them.

This is the gospel of the lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

## **Talk:**

(click link) <https://youtu.be/UG2VoZ8HHDM>

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

**The Creed**

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 a 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 of Intercession:**

*(Please add in names and circumstances known to you in the appropriate place)*

Heavenly Father, we want to thank you for the world that you have created. Help us to be aware of our responsibility to look after that which you have made.

Lord in your mercy; hear our prayer.

As we pray for our world, so we pray for those that make decisions on our behalf; we pray for the world leaders to make right choices as we move on from coronavirus; help them to make joint decisions for the wellbeing of all people.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

In our own country we pray for our King and for his government, we ask, Lord, for your wisdom to reign in the hearts of our sovereign and politicians, that they may heed advice to work together in unity and seek the common good.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

The church is looking forward to a time of meeting together in new and refreshing ways, so we pray for all church leaders, priests, ministers, curates; our Archbishops and Bishops, as they meet to discuss the ways that churches can work together for God's kingdom. Give them, our church leaders and all church leaders, discernment gifts to bring the church together to worship you. Unite us Lord in praise of who you are.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for our local area; all those churches on the Dengie peninsula. Draw people we pray, to worship you our living God, we ask that your Holy Spirit moves the hearts of the residents of this deanery and that we will see many lives changed for your glory.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We bring before you today, those who are on our hearts for prayer, and those that we do not know, yet you know. Bring your healing, both physically and spiritually, that they may know the goodness of our God.

We pray especially for .....

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

And we pray for each other, that we will grow in knowledge and love of you, our heavenly father. .

Merciful Father,  
accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen.

**Collect:** Risen Christ, by the lakeside you renewed your call to your disciples: help your Church to obey your command and draw the nations to the fire of your love, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

**Lord's Prayer:** 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  
and 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 forever.        Amen.

**Song:** *(click link)*        All Hail the Power of Jesus <https://youtu.be/oMywo32hGII>

**Blessing:**        The peace of God  
which passes all understanding,  
keep our hearts and minds  
in the knowledge and love of God  
and of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord.  
And the blessing of God almighty  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit  
be with us and all and those whom we love,  
this day and always.        Amen

He is risen! He is risen indeed, hallelujah.

*As we come to the end of this service we can fellowship with each other in Spirit, with tea, coffee and biscuits, and continuing to pray for each other.  
Post something on the Facebook page to bless others.*