

Worship at Home
Sunday, 12th May 2024
7th Sunday of Easter

Epistle Reading: Acts 1.15-17, 21-end

Gospel Reading: John 17.6-19

Proclamation:

Alleluia, Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Greeting:

Grace mercy and peace from God our Father and
the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

Let us rejoice and sing God's praise for ever.

Song:

For the beauty of the earth

(Click link)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zy7t2Uasqe8>

Opening Prayer:

Almighty God,
your Son has opened for us
a new and living way into your presence.
Give us new hearts and constant wills
to worship you in spirit and truth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Psalm 1:

The Two Ways

¹ Happy are those

who do not follow the advice of the wicked,
or take the path that sinners tread,
or sit in the seat of scoffers;

² but their delight is in the law of the LORD,
and on his law they meditate day and night.

³ They are like trees

planted by streams of water,
which yield their fruit in its season,
and their leaves do not wither.

In all that they do, they prosper.

⁴ The wicked are not so,

but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

⁵ Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgement,
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

⁶ for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.

Invitation to Confession:

Jesus says, 'Repent for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'
So let us turn away from sin and turn to the Lord,
confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Confession:

Let us admit to God the sin which always confronts us:

Lord God, we have sinned against you;
we have done evil in your sight.
We are sorry and repent.
Have mercy on us according to your love.
Wash away our wrongdoing
and cleanse us from our sin.
Renew a right spirit within us
and restore us to the joy of your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Absolution:

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessed be the Lord
for he has heard the voice of our prayer;
Therefore shall our hearts dance for joy
and in our song will we praise our God.

Song: At the name of Jesus
(Click link) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kPP9q9CGQyM>

Epistle Reading: Acts 1.15-17, 21-end

Jesus Prays for His Disciples

¹⁵ In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred and twenty people) and said, ¹⁶ 'Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus - ¹⁷ for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.'

²¹ So one of the men who have accompanied us throughout the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²² beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us - one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.' ²³ So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴ Then they prayed and said, 'Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵ to

take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.' ²⁶ And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel: John 17. 6-19

⁶ '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. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸ 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. ⁹ 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. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹ 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. ¹² While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³ But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. ¹⁴ I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵ I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶ They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁷ Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸ As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon: Rev'd Ken Dunstan
(Click link) <https://youtu.be/y2qT-0Xwg70>

Song: Take my life and let it be
(Click link) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Of4l5bTdZ8M>

The Creed

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:

Let us pray for the church, for the world and thank God for His goodness.

We pray that we do not deny the calling of the Holy Spirit upon our lives, help us to use the gifts we are blessed with to grow your Kingdom on earth as in heaven.

May we believe everyone is gifted, some to welcome, others to listen, some in pastoral care, others with administration, some with gardening, others with technical skills, some with the art of communication, others to serve in practical ways, some with cleaning and organising, others in flower arranging, some with hospitality, others in writing, some in prayer and other with music. Lord, there are so many ways for us to serve that give us opportunities to share your love and to give you praise and thanks. May everyone play a part in building the body of Christ in our church. Lord, in your mercy;

hear our prayer.

We pray and give thanks for all who open God's word to us in this Benefice.

We pray for our clergy, licensed lay ministers and pastoral coordinator each called to preach and minister here. We ask that the Holy Spirit encourages and sustains them in their faith. We give thanks for those who contribute to our worship with all the roles that are fulfilled and the work that goes on behind the scenes to serve us.

We also pray and give thanks for our new PCC, for all who give their time to serve on different committees and for everyone who shares your love within our villages and in this Deanery through work, day-to-day life and leisure activities.

Lord, in your mercy;

hear our prayer.

We pray for the world. We ask to be forgiven for how we neglect and damage the earth for how we ravage the world of its resources. We ask that we improve how we care for all that has been created for us to enjoy, for us to prioritise changing our behaviours that contribute to damaging our environment and global warming.

We pray for countries at war and ask that they stop fighting and leaders talk about how to reconcile their differences. We pray against those people who desire to be powerful over the weak, where there is hatred, where greed and neglect are apparent, for the homeless, the poor, the hungry and those exploited and where abuse is hidden and often overlooked.

Lord, show us how we are to change our ways and make us more compassionate so we make a difference in this world.

Lord, in your mercy;

hear our prayer.

We pray for and give thanks for those we love and those who support us.

We think of family, friends, and people we know who may be struggling, those with financial worries, families that are divided, people who are ill, those coping with pain, and people waiting for medical appointments.

We pray for those who are coping with arguments and disputes that are causing hurt or other situations known to us. We ask you to comfort those who grieve and mourn and give thanks for the lives of those who have died in the last few weeks.

We pause and think of the people and situations that have come to mind and give each person and circumstance to God.

Lord, in your mercy;

hear our prayer.

We pray for ourselves. We thank you that you love us, know what we are coping with and love each of us as your special children.

Lord, you know our needs and provide for us when we ask.

We pray for the burdens we carry, for times when we are weary, feel anxious, sad, depressed, helpless, poorly, rejected, when belief is lacking and we struggle to pray.

We ask, Lord, enlarge our faith and trust in your sustaining and redeeming power.

Help us to perceive the blessings in our life and thank you for each of them.

Help us with the decisions we are to make today and, in the weeks ahead.

Be present for us as we discern your call on our lives.

May your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Lord, in your mercy;

hear our prayer.

Merciful Father,

accept these prayers

for the sake of your only son

our saviour, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

The Collect:

Risen, ascended Lord,

as we rejoice at your triumph,

fill your Church on earth with power and compassion,

that all who are estranged by sin

may find forgiveness and know your peace,

to the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

The 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.

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.

We pause for a moment to bring ourselves and all that we offer to God and give thanks.

Song: Forever God is Faithful
(Click link) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7gbkja7CciA>

Blessing:

May Christ, who out of defeat brings
new hope and a new future,
fill you with his new life;
and the blessing of God almighty;
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you,
and those whom you love,
now and forever.
Amen.

Go in the light and peace of Christ.
Alleluia, alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.