

Sunday 22nd May 2022

6th Sunday after Easter

Reading 1: Acts 16: 9 -15

Gospel: John 5: 1 - 9

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
The love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with you.
And also with you.

This is the day that the Lord has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Psalm: 67

May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us,
² that your way may be known upon earth,
your saving power among all nations.
³ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
⁴ Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth.
⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
⁶ The earth has yielded its increase;
God, our God, has blessed us.
⁷ May God continue to bless us;
let all the ends of the earth revere him.

Song: (*click link*) Light of the World <https://youtu.be/CBKzCpkXJR4>

Invitation to Confession:

Christ our Passover lamb has been sacrificed for us.
Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil
and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.

Confession:

Most merciful God,

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy, forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

Absolution:

May the God of love and power
forgive us and free us from our sins,
heal and strengthen us by His Spirit,
and raise us to new life in 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.

Reading 1: Acts 16: 9 -15

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.' ¹⁰When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

The Conversion of Lydia

¹¹We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹²and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴A certain woman named Lydia, a worshipper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, 'If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.' And she prevailed upon us.

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gospel: John 5: 1 - 9

After this there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

² Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. ³ In these lay many invalids—blind, lame, and paralysed. ⁵ One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. ⁶ When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, ‘Do you want to be made well?’ ⁷ The sick man answered him, ‘Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; and while I am making my way, someone else steps down ahead of me.’ ⁸ Jesus said to him, ‘Stand up, take your mat and walk.’ ⁹ At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk.

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ.

Talk: (click link) <https://youtu.be/ArS3lQZkRbs>

Song: Blessed be your Name <https://youtu.be/PnWKehsOXu8>

Let us declare our faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

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

We ask the God of creation to send blessing upon us.

Father, send a blessing on the earth.
Let our lands be fertile
and its resources respected,
May we strive to safeguard the integrity of creation.

We ask in faith:

**We ask you to hear us,
Lord, hear us.**

Father, send a blessing on human labour.
Prosper the things that we work on and
free those who are exploited and oppressed.
May we be satisfied and rewarded in our labours.

We ask in faith:

**We ask you to hear us,
Lord, hear us.**

Father, send a blessing upon our produce.
Guid us into a sustainable future,
to use our resources wisely.
May we be willing to share the fruits of our labours.

We ask in faith:

**We ask you to hear us,
Lord, hear us.**

Father, send a blessing upon the seas and waters.
Teach us to cherish the waters throughout the world,
and to conserve the seas, lakes and rivers.
May we be better stewards of all that impacts upon ecosystem.

We ask in faith:

**We ask you to hear us,
Lord, hear us.**

Father, send a blessing on aid agencies and all who support them.
Provide us with the resources to respond:
where the earth is parched and wells have run dry;
where war brings famine,
where the troubled need help or to seek justice.
May we care and be generous to others.

We ask in faith:

**We ask you to hear us,
Lord, hear us.**

Father, send a blessing on us.
Save us from all that holds us captive,
restore us and fill our homes with laughter
and our tongues with songs of joy.
May we be a comfort to those who are sick and mourn.

We ask in faith:

**We ask you to hear us,
Lord, hear us.**

**Merciful Father,
Accept these prayers,**

**for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

Silence is kept.

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.

*Let us pause for a moment to bring ourselves
and all that we offer to God
and give Him thanks.*

Song: *(click link)* *Bless the Lord*

https://youtu.be/DXDGE_IRI0E

Blessing:

The love of the Lord Jesus
draw you to Himself,
the power of the Lord Jesus
strengthen you in His service,
the joy of the Lord Jesus
fill your hearts.....

.....and the blessing of God almighty;
Father Son and Holy Spirit,
be with us, and remain with us
and all those whom we love,
now and forever.
Amen.

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.