



A Celebration for the Sixth Sunday of Easter

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

Sentence

'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you,' says the Lord. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. *(John 14.27)*

Opening Prayer or Collect (Year C)

Great and loving God, your will for us in your Son Jesus is the peace which the world cannot give your abiding gift, the Advocate he promised.

Calm all troubled hearts, dispel every fear, and keep us steadfast in love and faithful to your word. Grant this through Jesus Christ, the firstborn from the dead, who lives with you now and always in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Readings for the Sixth Sunday of Easter (C)

Old Testament: Acts 16:9-15

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles, Chapter 16 beginning at verse 9

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.' When 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.

We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and 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. On 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. A 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. When 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.

Hear the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm 67 APBA p 287

- 1 Let God be gracious to us and bless us:
and make his face shine upon us,
- 2 That your ways may be known on earth:
your liberating 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 you judge the peoples with integrity,
and govern the nations upon earth.
- 5 Let the peoples praise you, O God:
let all the peoples praise you.
- 6 Then the earth will yield its fruitfulness:
and God, our God, will bless us.
- 7 God shall bless us:
and all the ends of the earth will fear him.

New Testament: Revelation 21:10-14, 22-22.5

A Reading from the Revelation to John, Chapter 21 beginning at verse 10

And in the spirit he carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. It has the glory of God and a radiance like a very rare jewel, like jasper, clear as crystal. It has a great, high wall with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates are inscribed the names of the twelve tribes of the Israelites; on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. And the wall of the city has twelve foundations, and on them are the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honour of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practises abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign for ever and ever.

Hear the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel: John 14:23-29

*A Reading from the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John,
Chapter 14, beginning at verse 23*

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Jesus answered him, ‘Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

‘I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.

For the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

or

Gospel: John 5:1-9

*A Reading from the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John,
Chapter 5, beginning at verse 1*

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

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

Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. In these lay many invalids—blind, lame, and paralysed. One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. 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?’ 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.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Stand up, take your mat and walk.’ At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk.

Now that day was a sabbath.

For the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ