

# Sixth Sunday of Easter ~ May 9, 2021, 10:30a

## WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CHOIR

VIDEO Mom Personal Assistant

### AS WE GATHER

All our life is in God's amazingly loving sight as He watches over all His creation and especially over people. Out of love for Christ and one another, we will choose to see others as God sees them.

### INVOCATION

#### OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 146:1-2, 5, 10*

Praise the LORD!

**Praise the LORD, O my soul!**

I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

**I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,

**whose hope is in the LORD his God.**

The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations.

**Praise the LORD!**

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Let us now confess our sin to God, our merciful Father.

**Gracious God, in heartfelt repentance we admit and confess our sins. We have not seen people the way that You see them. We have not always been ready to care or quick to help. We do indeed deserve Your punishment in this life and for eternity.**

**Trusting in Your mercy, we come to You for forgiveness. Have mercy on us, O God. Grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and by the power of the Holy Spirit at work within our hearts and lives, lead us into ways that reflect Your goodness and love.**

God loves us and God is merciful. He sees us with loving eyes and graciously hears our prayers. By the command of our Lord and as His called and ordained servant, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the

✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Risen and ascended Lord, while we were still in our sins, You chose us, laid down Your life for us, and called us friends. By Your great love for us, help us to love one another and to go out into the world to bear fruit according to Your promise; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### FIRST READING *Acts 10:34-48* (People from every nation are accepted by God.)

<sup>34</sup>So Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), <sup>37</sup>you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: <sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup>And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, <sup>41</sup>not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup>And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup>To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

<sup>44</sup>While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. <sup>45</sup>And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles. <sup>46</sup>For they were hearing them speaking in tongues and extolling God.



Then Peter declared, <sup>47</sup>“Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” <sup>48</sup> And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE** *1 John 5:1–8* (The victory of Christ overcomes the world.)

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him. <sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. <sup>3</sup>For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. <sup>4</sup>For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

<sup>6</sup>This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. <sup>7</sup>For there are three that testify: <sup>8</sup>the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**HOLY GOSPEL** *John 15:9–17* (Obeying Christ's commands and remaining in His love)

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>9</sup>As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup>These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

<sup>12</sup>“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you.

<sup>15</sup>No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. <sup>17</sup>These things I command you, so that you will love one another.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

**SONG** ‘Glorify Thy Name’

Father we love You, We worship and adore You, Glorify Thy name in all the earth  
Glorify Thy name, Glorify Thy name, Glorify Thy name in all the earth

Jesus we love You, We worship and adore You, Glorify Thy name in all the earth  
Glorify Thy name, Glorify Thy name, Glorify Thy name in all the earth

Spirit we love You, We worship and adore You, Glorify Thy name in all the earth  
Glorify Thy name, Glorify Thy name, Glorify Thy name in all the earth

Glorify Thy name, Glorify Thy name, Glorify Thy name in all the earth

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**MESSAGE**

**SONG** ‘By Our Love’

Brothers let us come together, Walking in the Spirit, There's much to be done  
We will come reaching, Out from our comforts, And they will know us by our love

Sisters we were made for kindness, We can pierce the darkness, As He shines through us  
We will come reaching, With a song of healing, And they will know us by our love

The time is now, Come church arise, Love with His hands, See with His eyes  
Bind it around you, Let it never leave you, And they will know us by our love

Children you are hope for justice, Stand firm in the Truth now, Set your hearts above  
You will be reaching, Long after we're gone, And they will know you by your love

The time is now, Come church arise, Love with His hands, See with His eyes  
Bind it around you, Let it never leave you, And they will know us by our love

The time is now, Come church arise, Love with His hands, See with His eyes  
Bind it around you, Let it never leave you, And they will know us by our love

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## APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH / LORD'S PRAYER

### CLOSING SONG 'Hold Us Together'

It don't have a job, It don't pay your bills, Won't buy you a home in Beverly Hills  
Won't fix your life, In five easy steps, Ain't the law of the land or the government  
But it's all you need

And love will hold us together, Make us a shelter to weather the storm  
And I'll be my brother's keeper, So the whole world will know that we're not alone

It's waiting for you, Knocking at your door  
In the moment of truth, When your heart hits the floor  
And you're on your knees

And love will hold us together, Make us a shelter to weather the storm  
And I'll be my brother's keeper, So the whole world will know that we're not alone

This is the first day of the rest of your life, This is the first day of the rest of your life  
'Cause even in the dark you can still see the light, It's gonna be alright it's gonna be alright

And love will hold us together, Make us a shelter to weather the storm  
And I'll be my brother's keeper, So the whole world will know that we're not alone

And love will hold us together, Make us a shelter to weather the storm  
And I'll be my brother's keeper, So the whole world will know that we're not alone

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## BENEDICTION

## OFFERING

