



Sunday 17 May, 2020
Sixth Sunday of Easter

Prayer and worship at home

If a household are praying together, one person may act as leader and the others as the congregation and they join in the words in bold type.

If alone, read all the words aloud.

You may want to light a candle before you begin, and have a Bible, cross or crucifix to look at.

You might prepare for this act of worship by listening to some music, or by being still.

Preparation

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

The Act of Penitence

*As we pray, we reflect on the week that has passed
and ask the Lord for his forgiveness and healing.*

Lord Jesus, you raise us to new life.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you forgive us our sins.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you have the message of eternal
life.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Words of forgiveness

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.**

The special prayer for this week

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.

The Word of the Lord

FIRST READING : Acts 17. 22-31

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, 'Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, "To an unknown god." What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him – though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For "In him we live and move and have our being"; as even some of your own poets have said, "For we too are his offspring." Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.'

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

THE GOSPEL : John 14. 15-21

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Glory to you, O Lord

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.'

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



Affirmation of faith

With our Christian brothers and sisters, we affirm our faith in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Christ died for our sins
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he was buried;
he was raised to life on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures;
afterwards he appeared to his followers,
and to all the apostles:
this we have received,
and this we believe.
Amen.**

Prayers of intercession

(Here you may wish to offer prayer in your own words, or be prompted by the words here)

We pray for national government and the cabinet; for civil servants working at a national level and those on the local frontline, that they would face the current pandemic with courage, make wise and compassionate decisions that protect the most vulnerable...

We pray for our world, especially at this time of anxiety and fear...

We pray for our nation and its well-being as we slowly journey out of lockdown...

We pray for neighbours, family and friends and we remember all those self-isolating at the moment...

We pray for all who are sick, worried or anxious, and for those who feel cut off from friends and family...

We pray for those who have died in recent days, and all whom we remember with love and affection....

The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in the presence of the Risen Christ, let us pray to the Father in faith and trust:

Our Father in heaven...

Or

Our Father, who art in heaven

The Grace

We conclude our prayers

**The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the fellowship of the
Holy Spirit, be with us all, evermore. Amen**

Alleluia. Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Readings for the coming week:

Monday	Psalm 65	John 15.26-16.4
Tuesday	Psalm 126	John 16.5-11
Wednesday	Psalm 132	John 16.12-15
Ascension Day	Psalm 47	Luke 22. 44-end
Friday	Psalm 88	John 16. 20-23
Saturday	Psalm 97.	John 6. 16.23-28

