

Sunday, May 9, 2021

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

*"This is my commandment,
that you love one another as I
have loved you. No one has
greater love than this, to lay
down one's life for one's
friends." John 15:12-13*

Jesus, You Fill Our Hearts MV 101

***Jesus, you fill our hearts with your love,
our minds with your peace, and our lives with your joy.***

O Lord, open our lips and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.
In your resurrection, O Christ, let heaven and earth rejoice. Alleluia.

We Are Called Gather 718

***Come! live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called to be light for the kingdom, to live in the freedom of the city of God!
We are called to act with justice. We are called to love tenderly.
We are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.***

***Come! Open your heart! Show your mercy to all those in fear!
We are called to be hope for the hopeless, so all hatred and blindness will be no more!
We are called to act with justice. We are called to love tenderly.
We are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.***

***Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be one!
 God will reign and we'll walk with each other as sisters and brothers united in love!
 We are called to act with justice. We are called to love tenderly.
 We are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.***

Blessed are you, God of our salvation, to you be praise and glory forever.

As once you ransomed your people from Egypt and led them to freedom in the promised land, so now you have delivered us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the loving reign of the risen Christ.

May we, the first fruits of your new creation, rejoice in this new day you have made and praise you for your mighty acts.

Blessed be God: Source of all being, eternal Word and Holy Spirit. Blessed be God for ever.

Psalms 98

D 1. *f* G D G D G D
 CANON Sing to the Ho - ly One! Sing a new song!
 2. Repeat for canon accompaniment

Sing a new song to the Lord,
 who has done marvellous things,
whose mighty hand and holy arm have won the victory.
 O Lord, you have made known the victory;
**you have openly shown your righteousness
 in the sight of the nations.**
 You remember your mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel,
and all the ends of the earth have seen your victory, O God.
 Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice and sing.
 Sing to the Lord with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song. R

With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before our sovereign, the Lord.
 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it,
the lands and those who dwell therein.

Let the rivers clap their hands,
**and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,
who is coming to judge the earth.**
In righteousness shall God judge the world
and the peoples with equity. RR

Acts 10:44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 'Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?' So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Listen for God's Word. **Our hearts are open.**

Death is swallowed up in victory. **Where, O death, is your sting?**
Christ is risen from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Death is swallowed up in victory.

The trumpet will sound and the dead shall be raised. **Where, O death, is your sting?**
We shall not all sleep, but we shall be changed.

Death is swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your sting?

1 John 5:1-6

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Listen for God's Word. **Our hearts are open.**

What a Friend We Have in Jesus CP 532

***What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer.
O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.***

*Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged, take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we friend a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness, take it to the Lord in prayer.*

*Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Saviour, still our refuge, take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do our friends despise, forsake us? Are we tempted to despair?
Jesus' strength will shield our weakness, and we'll find new courage there.*

John 15:9-17

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. 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. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. 'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

'Listen for God's Word. **Our hearts are open.**

Sermon

'I am the Lord, your Holy One, **the Creator of Israel, your Sovereign.**'

Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, **a path in the mighty waters,**

'Remember not the former things, **nor consider the things of old.**

Behold, I am doing a new thing; **now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?**

I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert, **to give drink to my chosen people,** the people whom I formed for myself, **that they might declare my praise.'**

Glory to God, Source of all being, eternal Word and Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.

Please join me in reciting the Apostles' Creed.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 again 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.

Draw the Circle Wide CP 418

*Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still.
Let this be our song, no one stands alone,
Standing side by side, draw the circle wide.*

*God the still-point of the circle, 'round whom all creation turns;
Nothing lost, but held forever, in God's gracious arms.
Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still.
Let this be our song, no one stands alone,
Standing side by side, draw the circle wide.*

*Let our hearts touch far horizons, so encompass great and small;
Let our loving know no borders, faithful to God's call.
Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still.
Let this be our song, no one stands alone,
Standing side by side, draw the circle wide.*

*Let the dreams we dream be larger, than we've ever dreamed before;
Let the dream of Christ be in us, open every door.
Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still.
Let this be our song, no one stands alone,
Standing side by side, draw the circle wide.*

Stewardship Moment

Let us offer our intercessions, petitions and thanksgivings, saying, 'Redeemer of Israel, hear our prayer.'

May we live as those who believe in the triumph of the cross.

Redeemer of Israel, hear our prayer.

May all people receive the good news of Christ's victory.

Redeemer of Israel, hear our prayer.

May those born to new life in the waters of baptism know the power of Christ's resurrection.

Redeemer of Israel, hear our prayer.

May those who suffer pain and anguish find healing and peace in the compassion of Christ.

Redeemer of Israel, hear our prayer.

May we be united in Christ's undying love with all who have passed through the gates of death.

Redeemer of Israel, hear our prayer.

Additional intercessions, petitions and thanksgivings may be offered in silence or aloud. Among these concerns it is appropriate to remember

- *the people of God that they might proclaim the risen Lord;*
- *God's creation that the peoples of the earth may meet their responsibility to care;*
- *those in despair and darkness that they may find the hope and light of Christ;*
- *those in fear of death that they may find faith through the resurrection and*
- *prisoners and captives.*

Let us pray: God of abiding love, you dare to call us friends. Take our fragmented hearts, command them to love, and make whole our joy, which is our life, reborn in Jesus Christ, who laid down his life for us. **Amen.**

Rejoicing in God's new creation and gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us,

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. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Glorious in Majesty CP 618

Glorious in majesty, holy in his praises, Jesus, our Saviour and our King, born a man, yet God of Old, let us all adore him. Filled with his Spirit, let us sing.

Living is to love him, serving him to know his freedom.

***Come along with us to join the praise of Jesus,
Come to Jesus now; go to live his word rejoicing.***

Victory he won for us, freeing us from darkness, dying and rising from the dead.

Living with the Father now, yet he is among us. We are the body, he the head.

Living is to love him, serving him to know his freedom.

***Come along with us to join the praise of Jesus,
Come to Jesus now; go to live his word rejoicing.***

One in love, as family, living with each other, gladly we share each other's pain.

Yet he will not leave us so, soon he is returning, taking us back with him to reign.

*Living is to love him, serving him to know his freedom.
Come along with us to join the praise of Jesus,
Come to Jesus now; go to live his word rejoicing.*

Blessing

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**
May the risen Christ grant us the joys of eternal life. **Amen.**

Readings for next Sunday – May 16, 2021

7th Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1

1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19