



Sixth Sunday of Easter

♪ Hymn (422) ♪

Alleluia, sing to Jesus!
His the sceptre, His the throne;
alleluia! His the triumph,
His the victory alone:
hark! the songs of peaceful Sion
thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus out of every nation
hath redeemed us by His blood.

Alleluia! not as orphans
are we left in sorrow now;
alleluia! He is near us,
faith believes, nor questions how:
though the cloud from sight received
Him,
when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget His promise,
'I am with you evermore'?

Alleluia! bread of angels,
Thou on earth our food, our stay;
alleluia! here the sinful
flee to Thee from day to day:
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,
earth's Redeemer, plead for me,
where the songs of all the sinless
sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluia! King eternal,
Thee the Lord of lords we own;
alleluia! born of Mary,
earth Thy footstool, heaven Thy throne:
Thou within the veil hast entered,
robed in flesh our great High Priest;
Thou on earth both Priest and Victim
in the eucharistic feast.

William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898)

♪ Hymn (238) ♪

Come down, O love divine,
seek Thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with Thine own ardour
glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, Thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let Thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path
illuminating.

Let holy charity
mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become mine inner
clothing;
true lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part,
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps
with loathing.

And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human
telling;
for none can guess its grace,
till he become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes His
dwelling.

*Bianco da Siena (d. 1434); trans. Richard F. Littledale
(1833-1890)*

♪ Hymn (CAHON 66) ♪

Be still and know that I am God,
be still and know that I am God,
be still and know that I am God.

I am the Lord that healeth thee,
I am the Lord that healeth thee,
I am the Lord that healeth thee.

In thee, O Lord, I put my trust,
In thee, O Lord, I put my trust,
In thee, O Lord, I put my trust.

Anonymous

♪ Chant (CAHON 943) ♪

O - Surrexit Christus, Alleluia!
O - Cantate Domino, Alleluia!
Christ arose, Alleluia!
Sing to the Lord, Alleluia!

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♪ Hymn ♪

Here and now we're bound together:
held in one divine embrace.
Help us see, in one another,
difference as a gift of grace.
As each passing generation
worships you in fresh new ways,
join our songs with all creation,
lift our voice to sing your praise.

Lord, affirm our shared vocation:
may we bring your plans to birth,
build your church on sure foundations,
fit to serve a troubled earth.
Growing, praying, sharing, learning,
deep in wisdom, broad in scope,
love-revealing, truth-discerning,
living out the gospel hope.

In your work of transformation
you are making all things new.
Stir our hearts' imagination,
call us now to work with you.
Send us out to share your mission;
show us each our part to play.
as we live the Great Commission,
joyful in your world today.

Tune: Hyfrydol (Alternative tunes: Blaenwern, Abbot's Leigh)
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♪ Hymn (Tune: Londonderry Air) ♪

I. Be in our midst, and gather us
together,
and let your loving-kindness be our
guide;
help us discern your image in each
other,
and walk with humble footsteps by your
side.
Send us to work, O Lord, Almighty
Giver,
till all who thirst and hunger now are
filled;
let justice thunder like a mighty river,
that every storm of strife and conflict
may be stilled.

When all the world's great sorrows
overtake us,
and we are crushed by centuries of pain,
grant us your strength, and lovingly
remake us
that by your grace we may be whole
again.
And when the sins of passing
generations
make all the wounds of history still feel
raw,
send out your healing power among the
nations,
and fill this broken earth with heaven's
peace once more.

Grant us that peace beyond the mind's discerning;
help us to live the truth that sets us free.
And may the Spirit's fire within us burning
help us become who we are called to be.
In eager longing for your new creation,
a world reshaped by love and hope and grace,
with Christ the Prince of Peace as our foundation,
we'll build your kingdom now, in this and every place.

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First Reading

Acts 17.22–31

22 Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, 'Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. 23For 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. 24The 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, 25nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. 26From 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, 27so 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. 28For "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."
29Since 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. 30While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, 31because 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.'

Second Reading

1 Peter 3.13–end

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? 14But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, 15but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defence to anyone who demands from you an account of the hope that is in you; 16yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. 17For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. 18For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, 19in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison,

20who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight people, were saved through water. 21And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, 22who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Gospel

John 14.15–21

‘If you love me, you will keep my commandments. 16And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever.

17This 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.

18 ‘I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. 19In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. 20On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. 21They 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.’”

Collect

God our redeemer,
you have delivered us from the power
of darkness
and brought us into the kingdom of
your Son:
grant, that as by his death he has
recalled us to life,
so by his continual presence in us he
may raise us
to eternal joy;
through Jesus Christ your Son our
Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Post Communion Prayer

Lord God our Father,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ
you have assured your children of
eternal life
and in baptism have made us one with
him:
deliver us from the death of sin
and raise us to new life in your love,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.