

# **WORSHIP for the Sixth Sunday of EASTER** — 25th May 2025

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**He has given us new life and hope.**

**He has raised Jesus from the dead.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

## **Prayer of Confession**

O Jesus Christ, risen and triumphant Lord, we come to you in sorrow for our sins, and confess to you our weakness and unbelief.

Like Mary at the empty tomb,  
we fail to grasp the wonder of your presence.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Like the disciples behind locked doors,  
we are afraid to be seen as your followers.

Christ have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Like the two travellers on the road to Emmaus,  
we are slow to believe.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

## **The Absolution**

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.**

## **Prayer**

As we gather in church and in our homes, we continue to be your church celebrating your life, your death, your resurrection and your unfailing love for us; so we pray,

We praise you and we bless you,  
our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory,  
for in you our God reveals the awesome power of love  
that is stronger even than death.

As in your dying you destroyed death,  
so in your rising may we be raised above  
the trials and torments of this world's woe.

To you, Lord Jesus,  
the fullness of your life revealed in an empty tomb,  
be honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **Psalm 67**

- 1 God be gracious to us and bless us ♦  
and make his face to shine upon us,
- 2 That your way may be known upon earth, ♦  
your saving power among all nations.
- 3 Let the peoples praise you, O God; ♦  
let all the peoples praise you.
- 4 O let the nations rejoice and be glad, ♦  
for you will judge the peoples righteously  
and govern the nations upon earth.
- 5 Let the peoples praise you, O God; ♦  
let all the peoples praise you.
- 6 Then shall the earth bring forth her increase, ♦  
and God, our own God, will bless us.
- 7 God will bless us, ♦  
and all the ends of the earth shall fear him.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

## **The Bible readings for the Sixth Sunday of EASTER**

- Acts 16:9-15 *Paul & his companions are directed by the Holy Spirit to Philippi, where Lydia responds to Paul's message & is baptised along with her household.*
- Revelation 21:10,20 – 22:5 *John shares his vision of the Holy City, the new Jerusalem – a place without a temple or moon or sun, or night or day or evil.*
- John 14:23-29 *Following his supreme sacrificial example, Jesus calls his disciples to keep his commandments, and to love another as he has loved them.*

*A few moments of quiet for thought, thanksgiving & reflection.*

Let us declare our faith in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Jesus 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,  
to the glory of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

## Prayers

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory,  
for as you were sent by the Father, so you send us.

Guide and direct your Church at this time and we pray for...

Equip your Church with the gifts to fulfil our calling  
that we may love as you loved, serve as you served,  
and willingly follow wherever you lead.

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory,  
for your resurrection overturns our expectations of life  
and even your closest friends could not see truth before them.

As the angel helped them to grasp your triumph and overcome their fear,  
so help us to see your hand at work through the events that overtake us...

To you, Lord Jesus, whose ways astonish beyond our imagining, so renew and  
refresh your turbulent world in this time of pain, suffering and fear.

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory,  
for you are with us, even when our eyes are closed to your companionship.  
Walk this day alongside the disconsolate, the despairing, and those without hope,  
And we pray for all those suffering, whom we are concerned for...  
open their eyes to your gentle illumination,  
and may they know your healing love and power at work within them.

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory,  
for your resurrection is a revelation to the whole world.  
Draw close to all those who mourn the loss of loved ones...  
Risen Lord Jesus, may the eternal hope of your resurrection  
bring comfort, peace and faith to those who bear the pain of grief.

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory,  
for your single-minded commitment to your Father's will.  
May we be free from distractions of envy or self,  
that we might walk the way of the cross and know the power of your risen life.

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory,  
for your resurrection is a revelation to the whole world.  
As you revealed yourself powerfully to so many,  
reveal yourself now as the hope for our world.  
To you, Lord Jesus,  
going beyond the limits of our understanding,  
be honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **The Collect for the Sixth Sunday of EASTER**

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. **Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**    *(or traditional form , if you prefer)*

**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.  
Lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

## **Final Prayer**

God our Father,  
whose Son Jesus Christ  
gives the water of eternal life:  
may we thirst for you,  
the spring of life and source of goodness,  
through him who is alive and reigns,  
now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **Blessing**

God the Father,  
by whose glory Jesus Christ was raised from the dead,  
strengthen us to walk with him in his risen life;  
and the peace of God, which passes all understanding,  
keep our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God  
and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, now and always. **Amen.**

We are raised to new life with Christ.  
Go in his peace. Alleluia, alleluia.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**