May 01, 2022

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter

Luke 24: 32

#### **Scripture Readings:**

Acts 9: 1-6, (7-20) Psalm 30

Revelations 5: 11-14

John 21: 1-19

None of us are beyond the miracle of God's Holy Spirit working within us as it worked for Saul, or the healing hand of God upon us, which causes us to sing His praises with honor and glory. Therefore, in turn we reach out with the deep love of Jesus in our hearts to do His work, and share that love to those who listen and are in need of His saving grace. Jesus also told Peter to feed His sheep. Shouldn't we do likewise in thanksgiving to God for the new life we have been given through the resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ?

**Collect:** O God, your Son made Himself known to His Disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see Him in His redeeming work, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Those who know Jesus and recognize that He is the anointed Saviour are commissioned to go out as His witnesses to proclaim the good news. Let us gather with our prayers before the God who knows each of us by name.

Father, we thank you that your church is made up of real people, that are a school of sinners, and that you can work with us and through us right away.

Here I am, Lord: send me!

Father, we pray for the newly baptized, those to be confirmed and those who have recently returned to you. Help us, as your church, to support them well and delight in them as members together of the Body of Christ.

Here I am, Lord: send me!

Father, we pray for your strength and protection against all hypocrisy and double standards in our society. We pray for a spirit of genuine service among all who lead and in all areas where we have authority.

Here I am, Lord: send me!

Father, we pray you will make our homes and our relationships places where people know by the way we look at them and treat them that they are valued, cherished and respected for who they are.

Here I am, Lord: send me!

Father, as we call to mind all who have learned to regard themselves with contempt, draw near to them and whisper their true name, so that they discern the truth of your love and respect for them. Use our lives to affirm one another.

Here I am, Lord: send me!

We pray for the dying and those who have recently died, commending them to the joy and safe keeping of your love. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

The Grace

May 8, 2022

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

**Mother's Day** 

I am the good shepherd says the Lord: I know my own and my own know me.

John 10: 14

#### **Scripture Readings:**

Acts 9: 36-43 Psalm 23 Revelations 7: 9-17 John 10: 22-30

With the Lord our Shepherd, we have everything we need to lead a fulfilling life. He instills in us faith without fear. He restores, guides, anoints and comforts us. We belong to Him eternally. We are His sheep. We hear His voice and we follow. He gifts us with eternal life that no one can take from us. Be encouraged by His comforting words of truth to guide us day by day. When the Jews in Jerusalem asked Jesus if He were the Christ, He directs their question to look at His life in action and see for themselves. He affirms that He and the Father are one.

**Collect:** O God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make us perfect in every good work to do your will, and work in us that which is well-pleasing in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

As members together of the Body of Christ, let us pray to the true and living God.

We pray for the nurture of each member of the church; for the newly baptized and confirmed and for all in ordained and lay ministry, that our love for one another may show as we work for the coming of the Kingdom.

Direct our hearts, O Lord: to love you more and more.

We pray for the gift of discernment, so that we recognize God's presence and reverence His face in the faces of those we meet.

Direct our hearts, O Lord: to love you more and more.

We hold before you Elizabeth our Queen, all the Royal family and all those who govern our country and make its laws that we may act responsibly and with compassion, attentive to real needs and good values.

Direct our hearts, O Lord: to love you more and more.

We pray for our homes, especially those filled with suspicion and envy, and ask for healing of old hurts, together with hope and perseverance as people set out on paths of reconciliation.

Direct our hearts, O Lord: to love you more and more.

We pray for those whose capacity for trust and love has been damaged by other people's sin. We long for your healing so that all who are imprisoned by their past may walk freely into your future.

Direct our hearts, O Lord: to love you more and more.

We pray for those who have recently passed through death, that you will judge them with mercy, so that, made whole in your love, they may know the joy of your eternity.

Direct our hearts, O Lord: to love you more and more.

We give you thanks and praise for the salvation and restoration that is now possible for us through Christ's victory over death. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

#### The Lord's Prayer

#### The Grace



Mary said, "My heart praises the Lord; my soul is glad because of God my Savior, for He has remembered me, His lowly servant! From now on all people will call me blessed because of the great things the Mighty God has done for me. His name is Holy

Luke 1: 46-49

May 15, 2022

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another as I have loved you.

John 11: 34

#### **Scripture Readings:**

Acts 11: 1-18 Psalm 148 Revelations 21: 1-6 John 13: 31-35

Peter explains how the Holy Spirit moves in our lives, follow the spirit's lead and glorify God. Do not oppose or supress Him. All of us are called to repentance. We have a dwelling place with God. He is our beginning and our end. Jesus commands us to love one another as He loves us. By this everyone will know we are His disciples. May we always be open to receive the leading of the Spirit in our lives and to live as Jesus taught us.

**Collect:** Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another and walk in the way of His commandments, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

It is God's love that has drawn us here together. Let us pray to Him now.

Father, wherever Christians are fussing and arguing, living outside your will or without the responsible love you teach, bring about deep cleansing, healing and renewing, so can be your body in our world.

Lord, you show us what loving really means.

Father, whatever injustice stifles human growth and selfish ambition distorts leadership, bring about right and good government throughout the world, born of your wisdom and humility. Lord, you show us: what loving really means.

Father, as we watch our children growing, remind us of our calling to grow more loving in the ways we deal with conflict, approach difficulties and address the need of those we meet.

Lord, you show us: what loving really means.

Father, in the places of long term pain and sudden shock, of weariness, disappointment and fear, bring about the peace which only you can give and the comfort which speaks of hope. Lord, you show us: what loving really means.

Father, may the physical death of those we now recall be nothing less than the gateway to a new and lasting life in your love and protection.

Lord, you show us: what loving really means.

So, heavenly Father, we offer you our hearts with all the love you find inside, and thank you for putting it there. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

The Grace

May 22, 2022

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

If you love me, you will keep my word, and my Father will love you, and we will come to you.

John 14: 23

#### **Scripture Readings:**

Acts 16: 9-15 Psalm 67 Revelations 21:10, 23

Revelations 21:10, 22-22:5

John 5: 1-9

With love and obedience we experience fellowship with God. The Holy Spirit (the Helper) whom God promised and sent to us dwells in us, guides and directs us. We must keep our hearts and minds open to the Lord's leading each day in prayer and reading His word for instruction. Jesus left His peace with us, so we need not fear anything, but trust in His great love for us.

**Collect:** Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you riches beyond imagination. Pour into our hearts such love toward you, that we, loving you above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

The continuing presence of God, as Holy Spirit, leads us as Jesus promised. Drawn by the Holy Spirit, we have arrived at this moment. Let us pray together for the Church and the world.

Lord God, as members of your church in this generation, we ask for your guidance and blessing for all deacons, priests and bishops, and all training for lay and ordained ministry. As the people of God we ask for the gifts we need for the work you need us to do.

You are with us: every step of the way.

Lord God, this fragile, vulnerable planet is so beautiful and in such need of your guidance. We pray for a deeper valuing of our universe and of one another; for your Kingdom to come on earth as in heaven.

You are with us: every step of the way.

Lord God, may our homes be centres of love, acceptance and welcome. We pray that you will make your home among us in each room and each relationship.

You are with us: every step of the way.

Lord God, we pray for all who are weighed down with doubts, fears and misgivings, all who are haunted by the past or scared by the future. We ask for them awareness of your constant presence and courage to place their hand in yours.

You are with us: every step of the way.

Lord God, as we remember those whose earthly life has come to an end, we pray that they and we in our turn may recognize you in heaven and live in your light for ever.

You are with us: every step of the way.

Lord God, we give you thanks for all the blessings you shower on us along the way of life, and the painstaking guidance you provide. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

The Blessing

May 29, 2022 Ascension Sunday

Go and make disciples of all nations, says the Lord; I am with you always, to the close of the age.

Matthew 28:19-20

Scripture Readings:

Acts 16: 16-34 Psalm 97

Revelations 22: 12-14, 16-17, 20-21

John 17: 20-26

Paul and Silas were in prison for commanding an evil spirit to come out of a slave girl. As they were praying and singing hymns of praise to God their shackles were opened. God will bless everyone according to their work. The tree of life is available to all who are thirsty. Pray for all to know Christ and make them know that the Father and Jesus are one in the power of the Holy Spirit, working in each one of us. Thanks be to God. The Lord reigns. Rejoice and give thanks.

**Collect**: Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that He might rule over all things as Lord. Keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of His peace, and bring the whole creation to worship at His feet, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Jesus lives for all time in glory. We can live in the fullness of the resurrection life right away. Let us pray to the God who gives us so much and loves us so completely.

We pray for a fresh outpouring of your Spirit in all areas of the church till our lives are so charged for good that people notice and are drawn to seek you for themselves.

We are your people: and you are our God.

We pray for Godly leaders and advisers all over the world, and for the courage to speak out against injustice and evil.

We are your people: and you are our God.

We pray for those affected by our behaviour and our conversation that we may, in future, encourage one another by all we say and do.

We are your people: and you are our God.

We pray for those as yet unborn, that the good news will reach them, too. We pray for those who have rejected God because of the behaviour of His followers. We pray for all who have lost their way.

We are your people: and you are our God.

We pray for the dying, especially those who are unprepared or frightened. Welcome into your Kingdom those who have died in faith. May they live with you for ever.

We are your people: and you are our God.

Thank you, Lord, for the new life you have enabled us to live. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

The Grace