

OOS 10th May 2026 - 6th Sunday of Easter HC

WELCOME

A CALL TO WORSHIP:

Let us see you this day, O God;

(All) Come to us as light.

Let us hear you this day, O God;

(All) Come to us as truth.

Let us sense your presence, O God;

(All) Come to us as love.

Come, let us worship, God.

(All) We have come to rejoice in God, our Saviour.

OPENING HYMN: #564 - Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of Creation

INVITATION TO CONFESSION – *please be seated*

God of all life,

you are never far from us,

yet we confess that we do not always seek you.

Lord, have mercy.

(All) Lord, have mercy.

You call us to love you and to keep your commandments,

yet we have often chosen our own way.

We have failed to love you with all our heart,

and to love our neighbours as ourselves.

Christ, have mercy.

(All) Christ, have mercy.

You promise your Spirit to be with us,

yet we have ignored your guidance

and resisted your truth.

Forgive us when we have lived as though we were alone.

Lord, have mercy.

(All) Lord, have mercy.

THE ABSOLUTION

May the God who made the world and everything in it,

who is never far from each one of us,

forgive us our sins,

heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,
and bring us to new life in Christ our Lord.

(All) Amen.

THE COLLECT 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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.

THE FIRST READING – ACTS 17.22–31 (NRSVUE)

²² Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. ²³ 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. ²⁴ 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, ²⁵ 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. ²⁶ From one ancestor^[a] he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ so that they would search for God^[b] and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ 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.’

²⁹ “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. ³⁰ While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ 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

(All) Thanks be to God

THE GOSPEL READING –*Please stand if you are able*

Alleluia, alleluia.

Jesus said, ‘I am the resurrection and the life.

Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.' (John 11.25,26)

(All) Alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 14.15–21

(All) Glory to you, O Lord.

The Promise of the Holy Spirit

¹⁵ "If you love me, you will keep^[a] my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate,^[b] to be with you forever. ¹⁷ 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^[c] in^[d] you.

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

(All) Praise to you, O Christ.

THE HOMILY – *Please be seated*

Paul Devos

ADMISSION OF CHURCHWARDENS

I invite David and Maggie, chosen to serve as churchwardens of Christ Church, to come forward.

Dear friends in Christ,
you have been chosen by this community to serve in the office of churchwarden.
Will you faithfully and diligently carry out your duties,
supporting the worship and witness of this Church,
caring for this community and place,
and working with those who minister here for the building up of Christ's body?

Churchwardens

I will, with the help of God.

In the presence of God and of this congregation,
I admit you to the office of churchwardens.

May God give you grace to fulfil your ministry faithfully,
with wisdom, patience, and love.

Let us pray.

Loving God,
we thank you for David and Maggie,
called to serve as churchwardens in this Christ Church community.
Grant them wisdom and discernment,
patience and humility,
and a deep love for your people.
Strengthen them by your Holy Spirit,
that they may serve faithfully,
support this community in its worship and witness,
and help us to grow together in faith and unity;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

(All) Amen.

THE NICENE CREED – *Please stand if you are able*

**All We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

INTERCESSORY PRAYER – *Please be seated.*

Let us pray for the Church and for the world, and let us thank God for his goodness.

God our Father,
you are not far from each one of us.
We pray for your Church throughout the world:
for faithfulness in proclaiming your word,
for courage in living your commandments of love,
and for openness to the guiding of your Spirit.

We pray especially for this Aumônerie,
giving thanks for this first celebration of Holy Communion here.
May our community continue to grow in unity, joy, and service.

Lord, in your mercy,
(All) hear our prayer.

We pray for the nations of the world,
for all in authority and positions of responsibility.
Grant them wisdom, integrity, and compassion,
that they may seek the common good
and work for justice and peace among all people.

We remember places of conflict and suffering,
and all who live in fear or uncertainty.

Lord, in your mercy,
(All) hear our prayer.

We pray for our local community,
for our families, friends, and neighbours.
Help us to love not only in words but in action,
that we may reflect Christ's presence in our daily lives.

We give thanks for all that enriches our common life,
and for those who serve others with generosity and care.

Lord, in your mercy,
(All) hear our prayer.

We pray for those who are in need:
the sick, the lonely, the anxious, and the bereaved.
We remember in a moment of silence those known to us...

(pause)

May they know your healing, your comfort,
and the presence of your Holy Spirit with them.

Lord, in your mercy,
(All) hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died,
remembering with thanksgiving those whose faith is known to you alone.
Bring us with them into the fullness of your eternal life.

Lord, in your mercy,
(All) hear our prayer.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the all the saints,
we commend ourselves, and the whole creation,
to your unfailing love.

Merciful Father,
**(All) accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Peace - *Please stand if you are able*

Alleluia! Christ is Risen

(All) He is risen indeed, alleluia!

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.'
Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia. (*John 20.19,20*)

Peace to you from God who is our Father
Peace from Jesus Christ who is our peace
Peace from the Holy Spirit who gives us life
The peace of the Triune God be always with you

(All) and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All who are baptised Christians are welcome to receive the sacrament.

*If you are not baptised you are welcome to receive a blessing, keeping your hands to your sides
or crossed across your chest.*

Gluten free wafers are available, please raise your hand if this is your preference

OFFERTORY HYMN: #458 - Man of Sorrows

THE PRAYER OF PREPARATION – *Please remain standing if you are able*

Generous and gracious God,
receive and bless these gifts for your holy work;
and bless everyone who offers them to you.

(All) Amen

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you

(All) and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

(All) We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

(All) It is right to give thanks and praise.

Father we give you thanks and praise
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word,
through whom you have created all things;
who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh;
as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin,
he lived on earth and went about among us;
he opened wide his arms for us on the cross;
he put an end to death by dying for us;
and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life;
so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you
because you raised him gloriously from the dead.
For he is the true paschal lamb who was offered for us,
and has taken away the sin of the world.
By his death he has destroyed death,
and by his rising to life again he has restored to us everlasting life.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and saying:

**(All) Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,**

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Please be seated

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

All Dying you destroyed our death,

rising you restored our life:

Lord Jesus, come in glory.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy

to stand in your presence and serve you.
Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

(All) Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**(All) 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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

**(All) Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

THE AGNUS DEI

**(All) Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace.**

GIVING OF COMMUNION

God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.

**(All) Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

All who are baptised Christians are welcome to receive the sacrament. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please come forward and keep your hands to your sides or crossed across your chest.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Silence is kept.

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.

THE DISMISSAL *(Blessing)*

The God who made the world and everything in it,
who is never far from each one of us,
bless you and keep you.
The Son who calls you to love and to keep his commandments
fill you with his peace.
The Holy Spirit who abides with you
strengthen you to live and serve in the world.
And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
(All) Amen.

NOTICES

CLOSING HYMN: The Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Let us go in Peace to love and serve the Lord

(All) In the name of Christ. Amen.