

# GARROWBY BENEFICE



**The Sixth Sunday of Easter**  
Service of the Word

## Welcome and Introduction

We join together today as one body from the many places where God gives us shelter. We give thanks for the glorious resurrection of Christ. We commit ourselves to worship Him in Spirit and in truth. We commit ourselves afresh to one another. We humble ourselves to serve the world through our prayer and action. We content ourselves with the inner freedom of the Spirit. In this last week of the Easter season, we proclaim:

Alleluia Christ is risen

**All He is risen indeed Alleluia**  
*(a candle is lit)*

We light this candle as a symbol of our faith and hope, remembering our future as a Benefice, and our future as your people. We trust in the alchemy of the Holy Spirit to bring dreams of life here amongst us. Gather your people O God that your dream for us may come true.

## Hymn: How deep the Father's love

### Confession and Absolution

When we have failed to recognise you as our saviour, when we have failed to acknowledge you as our risen Lord, when we have doubted you are with us:

**All Forgive us and fill our hearts with joy**

When we have not shared your good news, when we have been too concerned with ourselves, when we have not shared the joy of knowing you with others:

**All Forgive us and fill our hearts with joy**

When we have failed to bring hope to the hopeless, when we have failed to bring joy to the joyless, when we have failed to offer your grace to those who hurt us:

**All Forgive us and fill our hearts with joy**

May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by His Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.

**All Amen**

### 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 recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen**

## Ministry of the Word

### New Testament lesson Acts 16 9-15

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.' When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshipper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, 'If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.' And she prevailed upon us.

This is the word of the Lord

**All Thanks be to God**

***Hymn: Your grace still amazes me***

### The Gospel

**Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 5 1-15**

**All Glory to you O Lord**

LATER ON JESUS WENT UP to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish festivals. Some witnesses read: for the Jewish festival. Now at the Sheep-Pool in Jerusalem there is a place with five colonnades. Its name in the language of the Jews is Bethesda. In these colonnades there lay a crowd of sick people, blind, lame, and paralysed. Among them was a man who had been crippled for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and was aware that he had been ill a long time, he asked him, 'Do you want to recover?' 'Sir,' he replied, 'I have no one to put me in the pool when the water is disturbed, but while I am moving, someone else is in the pool before me.' Jesus answered, 'Rise to your feet, take up your bed and walk.' The man recovered instantly, took up his stretcher, and began to walk.

That day was a Sabbath. So the Jews said to the man who had been cured, 'It is the Sabbath. You are not allowed to carry your bed on the Sabbath.' He answered, 'The man who cured me said, "Take up your bed and walk."

They asked him, 'Who is the man who told you to take up your bed and walk?' But the cripple who had been cured did not know; for the place was crowded and Jesus had slipped away. A little later Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, 'Now that you are well again, leave your sinful ways, or you may suffer something worse.' The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had cured him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**All Praise be to you O Christ**

## **Sermon**

## **Creed**

**All We believe in God the Father from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named. We believe in God the Son who lives in our lives through faith and fills us with his love. We believe in God the Holy Spirit who strengthens us with power from on high. We believe in one God, father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

Amen

## ***Hymn: What a friend we have in Jesus***

## **Intercessions ending with The Lord's Prayer**

**All Our Father, which art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy Name.  
Thy Kingdom come.  
Thy will be done in earth,  
As it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
As we forgive them that trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
But deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
The power, and the glory,  
For ever and ever.  
Amen.**

## **Closing words**

The free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord

**All By His mercy we present our whole lives to God as a living sacrifice**

Though many, we form one body in Christ

**All We belong to one another**

By God's grace we all have different gifts

**All We will use them in faith**

Rejoice in hope, stand firm in trouble, be constant in prayer

**All Filled with his Spirit we will serve the Lord**

## **Blessing**

May the one who established the dance of creation, who transforms death into life and chaos into order lead us to transform our lives and the church to reflect God's glory in creation and the blessing of God almighty Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you today and in the days to come.

**All Amen**

***Hymn: Great is thy faithfulness***