

GARROWBY BENEFICE



The 6th 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 17 22-31

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, ‘Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. 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. 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, 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. From 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, so 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. 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.”

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

Hymn: Your grace still amazes me

The Gospel

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 14 15-21

All Glory to you O Lord

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

‘I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live.

On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. 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 be to you O Christ

Sermon

Hymn: What a friend we have in Jesus

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

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