

Vespers for the 6th Sunday of Eastertime

Call to prayer:

Light and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia!

Gathering Prayer:

Your love for us O Lord, is revealed most fully
in the gift of Jesus your Son
who laid down his life for us,
and who bestows on us the joy
of making us his friends.
Baptised into this great love, we pray,
that through the witness we bear,
you will indeed bring forth fruit that will last,
and teach how to love one another with a love
sincere and true. Amen.

Opening Verse:

O God, come to our aid. O Lord make haste to help us.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy
Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall
be, world without end Amen. Alleluia.

Hymn:

Jerusalem the golden, with milk and honey blest,
Beneath thy contemplation
Sink heart and voice oppressed:
I know not, O I know not,
what joys await us there!
What radiance of glory,
What bliss beyond compare!

They stand, those halls of Sion,
all jubilant with song,
and bright with many an angel
and all the martyr throng;
the Prince is ever in them,
the daylight is serene,
the pastures of the blessed
are decked in glorious sheen.

There is the throne of David
and there, from care released,
the shout of them that triumph
the song of them that feast.
And they, who with their Leader,
have conquered in the fight,
for ever and for ever, are clad in robes of white.

O sweet and blessed country,
the home of God's elect.
O sweet and blessed country,
that eager hearts expect.
Jesus, in mercy bring us, to that dear land of rest,
who art with God the Father, and Spirit, ever blest.

The Psalms of Evening Prayer

Antiphon One:

He raised Christ from the dead and placed him at
his own right hand in heaven, alleluia.

The Messiah is king and priest Psalm 109

*He must be king so that he will put all his enemies under
his feet (1 Corinthians 15:25)*

The Lord's revelation to my Master;
"Sit on my right.
Your foes I will put beneath your feet".

The Lord will wield from Zion
your sceptre of power:
rule in the midst of all your foes.

A prince from the day of your birth,
on the holy mountains;
from the womb before the dawn I begot you.

The Lord has sworn an oath he will not change;
you are a priest for ever,
a priest like Melchizadek of old.

The master standing at your right hand,
will shatter kings in the day of his wrath;

He shall drink from the stream by the wayside
and therefore he shall lift up his head.

Praise the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit,
both now and for ever. Amen.

Antiphon One:

He raised Christ from the dead and placed him at
his own right hand in heaven, alleluia.

Antiphon two: You have been converted from
idolatry to the living God, alleluia.

Not to us Lord, not to us,
but to your name give the glory;
for the sake of your love and truth,
lest the heathens say, "Where is their God?"

But our God is in the heavens:
he does whatever he wills
Their idols are silver and gold
the work of human hands.

They have mouths but they cannot speak,
they have eyes but they cannot see,
they have ears but they cannot hear,
they have nostrils but they cannot smell.

With their hands they cannot feel;
with their feet they cannot walk,
Their makers will come to be like them,
and so will all who trust in them.

Sons of Israel, trust in the Lord,
he is their help and their shield.
Sons of Aaron, trust in the Lord,
he is their help and their shield.

You who fear him, trust in the Lord,
he is their help and their shield.
He remembers us, and he will bless us,
he will bless the sons of Israel.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is now
and ever shall be world without end. Amen.

Antiphon two: You have been converted from
idolatry to the living God, alleluia.

Antiphon three:

Alleluia! Victory and glory and power belong to
our God, alleluia.

Alleluia!
Salvation and glory and power belong to our God.
His judgements are true and just. Alleluia.

Alleluia! Praise our God all you his servants,
you who fear him small and great. Alleluia.

Alleluia! The Lord our God, the Almighty reigns.
Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory.
Alleluia!

Alleluia! The marriage of the Lamb has come
and his bride has made herself ready. Alleluia!

Alleluia. Praise the Father, the Son and the Holy
Spirit, both now and for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

Antiphon three: Alleluia! Victory and glory and
power belong to our God, alleluia.

A Reading from the letter to the Hebrews:

Christ has offered one single sacrifice for sins, and
then taken his place for ever at the right hand of
God, where he is now waiting until his enemies
are made into a footstool for him. By virtue of that
one single offering, he has achieved the eternal
perfection of all whom he is sanctifying.
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Canticle of Mary

Magnificat Antiphon: If anyone loves me, he
will keep my word, and my Father will love him,
and we shall come to him and make our home
with him, alleluia.

My soul glorifies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour.
He looks on his servant in her lowliness;
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

The almighty works marvels for me,
holy his name! His mercy is from age to age
on those who fear him.

He puts forth his arm in strength
and scatters the proud hearted,
he casts the mighty from their thrones
and raises the lowly,

he fills the starving with good things,
sends the rich away empty.

He protects Israel his servant, remembering his mercy,
the mercy promised to our fathers,
to Abraham and his sons for ever.

Praise the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit,
both now and for ever, world without end

Magnificat Antiphon: I am the door, says the
Lord. Anyone who enters through me will be safe
and he will find a place of pasture, alleluia.

Intercessions

Let us pray to God the Father, who raised Jesus to
life and exalted him at his own right hand. **Lord,
protect your people through the glory of
Christ.**

Father, through the victory of the cross, you have
lifted up Jesus from the earth; - may he draw all
people to himself.

Through the exaltation of Christ, send your Spirit
into the church; - make her the sign of unity for
the whole human family.

We have become your children through water and
the Holy Spirit; - keep us faithful to our Baptism
until we enter eternal life.

Through the exaltation of your Son, raise up the
sorrowful, set prisoners free, heal the sick; may
the whole world rejoice in your wonderful gifts.

You nourished the faithful departed with Christ's
body and blood; - let them share in his glory on
the day of resurrection.

Our Father....

Concluding Prayer

Almighty God, give us the grace of an attentive
love, to venerate these days of joy, devoted to the
honour of the Risen Lord. Teach us to hold fast in
our actions to the mystery we recall in worship.
We make our prayer through the same Christ our
Lord. Amen.

The Church's Easter praise of Our Lady:

Regina caeli, laetare, alleluia!
Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia.
Resurrexit, sicut dixit, alleluia.
Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia.