

**A Service of Morning Prayer  
for May 9, 2021  
Sixth Sunday of Easter**



If you love me, you will keep my word, and my Father will love you, and we will come to you. *See John 14.23*

**CP 255 Eternal God, Your Love's Tremendous Glory**

1 Eternal God, your love's tremendous glory cascades through life in overflowing grace, to tell creation's meaning in the story of love evolving love from time and space.

2 Eternal Son of God, uniquely precious, in you, deserted, scorned and crucified, God's love has fathomed sin and death's deep darkness, and flawed humanity is glorified.

3 Eternal Spirit, with us like a mother, embracing us in love serene and pure: you nurture strength to follow Christ our brother, as full-grown children, confident and sure.

4 Love's trinity, self-perfect, self-sustaining; love which commands, enables and obeys: you give yourself, in boundless joy, creating one vast increasing harmony of praise.

5 We ask you now, complete your image in us; this love of yours, our source and guide and goal. May love in us, seek love and serve love's purpose, till we ascend with Christ and find love whole.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

May his grace and peace be with you.  
**May he fill our hearts with joy.**

Almighty God,  
**to you all hearts are open,  
 all desires known,  
 and from you no secrets are hidden.  
 Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
 by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
 that we may perfectly love you,  
 and worthily magnify your holy name;  
 through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed: O come, let us worship.**

**Psalm 98**

*Refrain* The Lord has made known his salvation.

98:1 O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.

98:2 The LORD has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

98:3 He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

98:4 Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

98:5 Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.

98:6 With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.

98:7 Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.

98:8 Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy

98:9 at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

**A Reading from Acts 10:44-48**

10:44 While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word.

10:45 The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles,

10:46 for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said,

10:47 "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?"

10:48 So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**CCLI 4779872 Holy Spirit**

1. Holy Spirit living Breath of God  
 Breathe new life into my willing soul  
 Let the presence of the risen Lord  
 Come renew my heart and make me whole  
 Cause Your word to come alive in me  
 Give me faith for what I cannot see  
 Give me passion for Your purity  
 Holy Spirit breathe new life in me

2. Holy Spirit come abide within  
 May Your joy be seen in all I do  
 Love enough to cover every sin  
 In each thought and deed and attitude  
 Kindness to the greatest and the least  
 Gentleness that sows the path of peace  
 Turn my strivings into works of grace  
 Breath of God show Christ in all I do

3. Holy Spirit from creation's birth  
 Giving life to all that God has made  
 Show Your power once again on earth  
 Cause Your church to hunger for Your  
 ways  
 Let the fragrance of our prayers arise  
 Lead us on the road of sacrifice  
 That in unity the face of Christ  
 May be clear for all the world to see

**A Reading from 1 John 5:1-6**

5:1 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child.

5:2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments.

5:3 For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome,

5:4 for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith.

5:5 Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

5:6 This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**CP 484 In Christ There Is No East and West**

1 In Christ there is no east or west,  
 in Christ no south or north,  
 but one great fellowship of love  
 throughout the whole wide earth.

2 In Christ shall true hearts everywhere  
 their high communion find.  
 Whose service is the golden cord  
 close binding humankind.

3 Join hands, disciples of the faith,  
 what e're your race may be.  
 Who serves my God in truth and love  
 is surely kin to me.

4 In Christ now meet both east and west,  
 in Christ meet south and north.  
 All faithful souls are joined in one  
 throughout the whole wide earth.

**The Gospel**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**John 15:9-17**

15:9 As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love.

15:10 If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.

15:11 I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

15:12 "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

15:13 No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.

15:14 You are my friends if you do what I command you.

15:15 I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.

15:16 You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name.

15:17 I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

The Gospel of Christ

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Sermon** by the Rev. Alison Westervelt

**CCLI 1680497 Reconciliation Song**

1. Oh let us be the generation  
Of reconciliation and peace  
And let us be a holy nation  
Where pride and prejudice shall cease  
Let us speak the truth in love  
To the lost and least of these  
Let us serve the Lord in unity  
So others will believe  
Let us be the generation  
Of reconciliation and peace

2. Oh let us be the generation  
Of reconciliation and peace  
And let us build on one foundation  
'Til He comes and the wars of men shall  
cease  
Let us share the love of Jesus  
Without hypocrisy  
Let mercy and forgiveness  
Begin with you and me  
Let us be the generation  
Of reconciliation and peace

*Bridge*

Have we not one Father  
Have we not one faith  
Have we not one calling  
To become one holy race  
Oh let us be the generation  
Of reconciliation and peace

3. And let us pray for restoration  
And seek the Lord together  
On our knees  
Let us keep our hearts from evil  
And cling to what is good  
Let us honor one another  
And love the brotherhood  
Let us be the generation  
Of reconciliation and peace

**Affirmation of Faith** (The Apostles' Creed)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again  
to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Prayers of the People** led and compiled by Autumn Reinhardt-Simpson

Let us pray together for our parish, the wider church, and the world:

We pray for all of those in authority, that they might understand the privilege of their position and seek good counsel.

We pray for the worldwide church, especially the Anglican Church of Kenya

We ask God to bless our primate Linda and Jane, our bishop.

We hold in prayer The Diocese of Western Newfoundland and their bishop, the Rt. Rev. Percy Coffin.

We pray and give thanks for the Cursillo Secretariat of the Diocese of Edmonton

We humbly ask that God bless Vumbi parish, in the diocese of Buyé, and their rector, Jean Baptiste

We pray and give thanks for all the First Nations people of Treaty Six.

We hold Bishop Jane in prayer as she nears the end of her journey as Bishop of Edmonton to embark on a new journey in God's service. As we prepare to say good-bye to a beloved leader, we pray also for the committee dedicated to the search for a new bishop, and for a smooth transition.

We hold in prayer our friends and members of our community, including Sandra; Merle; Mona; Nicole; Lois; Ray; Evelyn; Irene and Sandy; Joyce; Jim and Par; Kathryn; Trevor; Helen; Brent; Jenifer; Gavin, Ginnie and Niall; Judy; Tony; Thelma; Luisa; Carey and Olga; Chrissie, Cathy, Dawson, and Faith.

We are taught that God is among us whenever two or three are gathered in Her name. Even though we are not physically together at this time, we trust that we still have God's presence among us and therefore we have the confidence to ask:

**Lord, hear our prayer**

For India, a country in unimaginable pain as thousands of her people are dying each day of Covid-19 and many, many more suffering, sometimes in crowded conditions and without their loved ones by their sides. We pray to the Lord:

**Lord, hear our prayer**

For our province, that God will bless all doctors, nurses, and others who care for the many patients overwhelming our system and that we will soon see the light at the end of this tunnel. We pray to the Lord:

**Lord, hear our prayer**

That all of us work together to end the pandemic, remembering that we are to love each other as God loves us, rather than allow our preferences and desires to harm our friends in Christ. We pray to the Lord:

**Lord, hear our prayer**

For all our elders, those who are often dismissed or considered disposable despite being beloved of God. That we don't push by them on our way to the healing waters of Bethesda but instead help them to the spring ourselves as our community seeks to recover. We pray to the Lord:

**Lord, hear our prayer**

We give thanks for all the many tireless ministries of St. Peter's, for Revs. Heather, and Alison, and for all the people of our parish who give without counting the cost, especially those parishioners who do so quietly and without notice. We ask God to bless you for your commitment to God's people during a very trying year. We pray to the Lord:

**Lord, hear our prayer**

That we may find in these times small mercies, hidden beauty, revitalized communities, and rediscovered selves. We pray to the Lord,

**Lord, hear our prayer**

Compassionate God, it has been a long while since we have been able to gather as one body in your presence to worship you in fellowship and community. We long for the time that we can gather again in our beloved St. Peter's and experience the joy and fellowship of shared worship in a shared space. We ask for trust and for patience, not only for ourselves, but for all worshipping communities, so that when the time is right, we can open our doors and once again, carefully and with the safety of all in our minds and hearts, come together again in love and fellowship.

Until that time, we thank you for the many opportunities you have granted us to worship in different ways and we ask that you make us always mindful that the church is not the building where worship happens but that the church lives in us as you live in us, we pray.

**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.

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who 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.**

### **CP 492 Sing Hallelujah to Our God**

1 Sing hallelujah to our God,  
sing out in glad and glorious praise;  
Let "Holy, holy; be your song  
With all your heart, through all your days,  
For holy is the name we know  
In highest heaven and earth below,  
Creator, Father, Mother blest  
In whom all parents end their quest.

2 Sing hallelujah to the Son,  
By word and deed his love proclaim,  
In whom all sons their sonship find  
And every child knows their name.  
O praise with loud and joyful songs  
The Child to whom each child belongs,  
The Lamb, who to the Father brings  
All living, dying, helpless things.

3. Sing hallelujah, raise the hymn  
To Holy Spirit, God of grace,  
Who, binding all the church in one,  
Awakens hearts in every place;  
That every family may find  
In unity of humankind  
The only truth that sets us free,  
The love that serves eternally.

### **The Dismissal**

If you love me, you will keep my word, and my Father will love  
you, and we will come to you.      *See John 14.23*

Let us bless the Lord

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

May the God of peace enable us to do His will in every kind of goodness working in us  
what pleases Him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever and ever, Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**