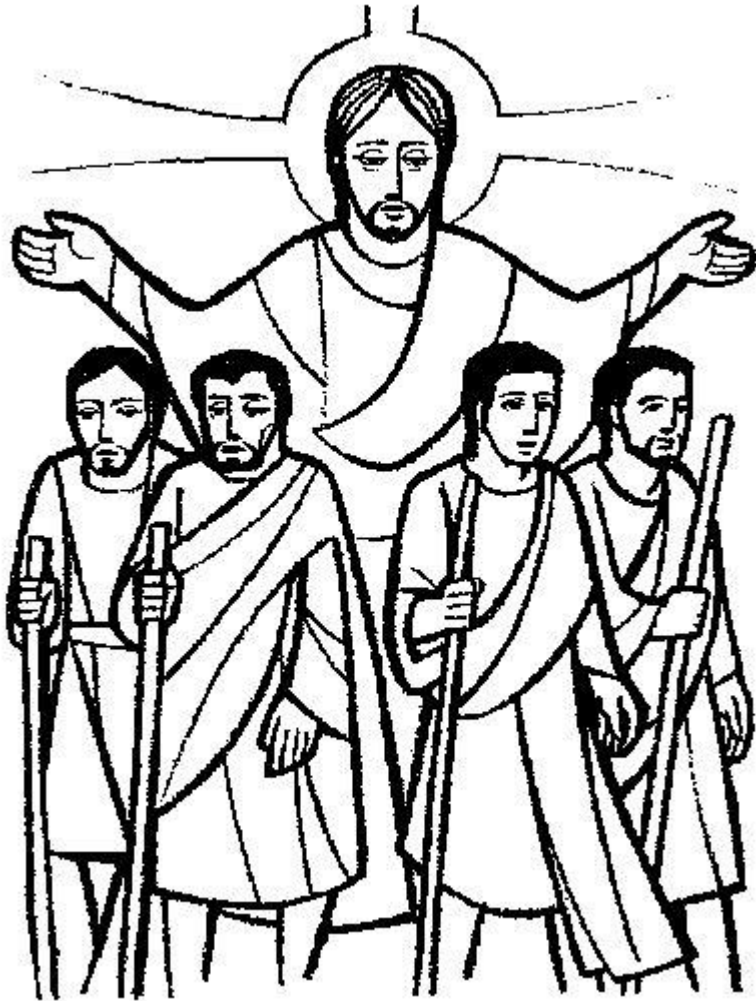


Service for Sixth Sunday of Easter



St Laurence Church, Downton

Preparation

The Easter Acclamation

Alleluia. Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

God has rescued us from the power of darkness. Alleluia!
**And transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son.
Alleliua.**

The Team Rector introduces the service

Hymn: The Church's one foundation
(Cambridge Sidney Sussex College Choir)

The Church's one foundation
Is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is His new creation
By water and the Word:
From heav'n He came and sought her
To be His holy Bride;
With His own blood He bought her,
And for her life He died.

Elect from every nation,
Yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation,
One Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy Name she blesses,
Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses,
With every grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder
men see her sore oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder,
by heresies distressed,

yet saints their watch are keeping,
their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping
shall be the morn of song.

'Mid toil and tribulation,
And tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation
Of peace for evermore;
Till, with the vision glorious,
Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious
Shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union
With God the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion
With those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we,
Like them, the meek and lowly,
In love may dwell with Thee.

Samuel John Stone (1839-1900)

Prayer:

How generous is your goodness, O God,
how great is your salvation,
how faithful is your love;
help us to trust you in trial
and praise you in deliverance;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Responses:

If you love me, you will keep my commandments;
**They who have my commandments and keep them
are those who love me.**

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.

All who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life;
and I will raise them up on the last day.

I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one;
Alleluia, alleluia!

I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.

Alleluia, alleluia!

A Time to Consider:

The first commandment is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.'

The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'

There is no other commandment greater than these.
On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Silence is kept

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

Readings:

Acts 17:22-31

John 14:15-21

After each reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Reflection

Music: Take my life and let it be (*Vineyard Music*)

Prayers

We are led in a time of prayer

The Lord's Prayer is said:

Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**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.**

Conclusion

The Collect

Let us pray that we may walk the risen life of Christ in glory.

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 has recalled us to life,
so by his continual presence in us he may raise us
to eternal joy;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Blessing:

May God pour out his Grace upon you.
May you be filled with wisdom and strength.
May you never be separated from the friendship of God.
And may you be gifted with the joy and peace of the
Trinity of Love, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, for ever. **Amen.**

We are raised to new life with Christ.
Go in his peace. Alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Music: God Be In My Head (Clare College Chapel Choir)