

# The Camel-Allen Churches

## Morning Prayer at home



Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2020 - Easter 6

### Opening Acclamation & prayer

Alleluia. Christ is risen!.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Do you see this place?

Here God dwells among the people.

**God will make a home among us  
and we shall be God's people.**

God is the beginning and the end  
and is making the whole creation new

**Let us worship together!**

### Hymn: (we say or sing)

All people that on earth do dwell  
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;  
him serve with fear, his praise forth tell,  
come ye before him and rejoice

The Lord, ye know is God indeed,  
without our aid he did us make;  
we are his folk, he doth us feed  
and for his sheep he doth us take.

O enter then his gates with praise,  
approach with joy his courts unto;  
praise, laud and bless his name always,  
for it is seemly so to do,

For why? the Lord our God is good:  
his mercy is for ever sure;  
his truth at all times firmly stood,  
and shall from age to age endure.

To Father Son and Holy Ghost,  
the God whom heav'n and earth adore,  
from us and from the angel-host  
be praise and glory evermore.

### We make our confession and receive God's forgiveness...

In penitence and faith we come before you,  
Holy God and say:

'This is who we are.'

We are the people who long for the new heaven  
and the new earth  
but can't always take the first step towards it.

**Forgive us gracious God.**  
**Lord have mercy.**

We are those who love your world  
but who too often participate in its destructive patterns  
of life  
and fail to live up to its beauty and creativity

**Forgive us gracious God.**  
**Christ have mercy.**

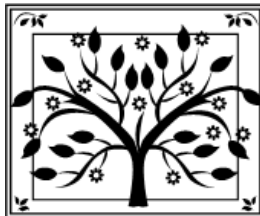
We are the people who commit ourselves to build the  
community of the Gospel  
but we so often betray that hope and fail each other.

**Forgive us gracious God**  
**Lord have mercy**

We are those who sometimes see the vision for our  
own lives  
but we are weak and fall far short of the dream

**Forgive us gracious God**  
**Christ have mercy.**

May the Father of all mercies  
cleans us from our sins,  
and restore us in his service  
to the praise and glory of his name,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**



**Gloria** (tune: *Cwm Rhondda - Guide me O thou Great Redeemer*)

Glory be to God in heaven  
Songs of joy and peace we bring:  
Thankful hearts and voices raising  
To creation's Lord we sing  
Lord we thank you:  
Lord we bless you:  
Glory be to God our King (repeat)

Lamb of God who on your shoulders  
bore the load of this world's sin:  
only Son of God the Father  
you have brought us peace within.  
Lord have mercy:  
Christ have mercy:  
Now your glorious reign begin (repeat)

You O Son of God are holy  
You we praise with one accord:  
None in heaven or earth is like you,  
Only you are Christ the Lord:  
with the Father  
and the Spirit  
ever worshipped and adored. (repeat)



## The Collect for the sixth Sunday of Easter

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**

## Psalm 66.7- 20

Come and see what God has done....

<sup>7</sup> who rules by his might for ever,  
whose eyes keep watch on the nations—  
let the rebellious not exalt themselves.

<sup>8</sup> Bless our God, O peoples,  
let the sound of his praise be heard,

<sup>9</sup> who has kept us among the living,  
and has not let our feet slip.

<sup>10</sup> For you, O God, have tested us;  
you have tried us as silver is tried.

<sup>11</sup> You brought us into the net;  
you laid burdens on our backs;

<sup>12</sup> you let people ride over our heads;  
we went through fire and through water;  
yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.

<sup>13</sup> I will come into your house with burnt-offerings;  
I will pay you my vows,

<sup>14</sup> those that my lips uttered  
and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.

<sup>15</sup> I will offer to you burnt-offerings of fatlings,  
with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams;  
I will make an offering of bulls and goats.

<sup>16</sup> Come and hear, all you who fear God,  
and I will tell what he has done for me.

<sup>17</sup> I cried aloud to him,  
and he was extolled with my tongue.

<sup>18</sup> If I had cherished iniquity in my heart,  
the Lord would not have listened.

<sup>19</sup> But truly God has listened;  
he has given heed to the words of my prayer.

<sup>20</sup> Blessed be God,  
because he has not rejected my prayer  
or removed his steadfast love from me.

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.



**Readings:** Acts 17. 22-31; 1 Peter 3.13-end

### **Gospel: John 14.15-21**

<sup>15</sup> *'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup>And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. <sup>17</sup>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.*

<sup>18</sup> *'I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. <sup>19</sup>In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup>On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup>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.'*

### **Reflection**

Jesus is speaking here of course about the Holy Spirit, his leaving present to the waiting disciples at Pentecost, as we will celebrate in two weeks-time: His Spirit, whom he promises will be with us and live in us - always.

This Spirit is the 'Advocate' – the one who will represent us, and support us; plead our cause: speak for us when we don't have the words or are out of our depth.

Compare these words from Paul's letter to the Romans 8.26-27  
<sup>26</sup> *Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. <sup>27</sup>And God, who searches the heart, knows what*

*is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.*

It is with the help of the Spirit that we can learn to know the will of God and truly pray in Jesus name.

Other Bible versions translate 'Spirit' here as 'Helper'. The Spirit is the one who will come alongside to help us in our weakness, help us to keep his commandments; help us to live his way; help us to do the things he did and even greater things as we are scarily promised in

The other meaning of, 'Spirit', here is Comforter: one who comes alongside and is with us: supporting us through the difficult times. How much we need the Comforter at the moment!

Take some moments now to consider again the challenge of Jesus' words in the final verses, what might this mean for you this week?

**the person who knows my commandments and keeps them, that's who loves me.** *(John 14.21a from The Message)*

and receive the promises:

**you will live -  
you will know -  
you will be loved**

### **We affirm our faith**

In desert and forest, mountain and water,  
we see the signs that God is with us.  
In grass that grows through cities of concrete,  
we see the signs that God is with us.  
In the faces of people whom God so loves,



we see the signs that God is with us.  
In our brokenness, there is the hope of wholeness.  
In our emptiness, there is the hope of fullness.  
In our deaths, lies the hope of resurrection life.  
This is the Word in Christ to us.  
The flame of the Holy Spirit  
lives in this place and travels with us.

Let us declare our faith in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Christ died for our sins  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he was buried;  
he was raised to life on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
afterwards he appeared to his followers  
and to all the apostles:  
this we have received,  
and this we believe. Amen**

**Hymn** (tune: Blow the wind southerly)  
*Spirit of holiness, wisdom and faithfulness,  
Wind of the Lord, blowing strongly and free;  
strength of our serving and joy of our worshipping,  
Spirit of God, bring your fulness to me!*

You came to interpret and teach us effectively  
all that the Saviour has spoken and done;  
to glorify Jesus is all your activity,  
promise and gift of the Father and Son

You came with your gifts to supply all our poverty,  
pouring your love on the church in her need;  
you came with your fruit for our growth to maturity,  
richly refreshing the souls that you feed.



### **Prayers of intercession**

Let us pray.  
O God who looked upon the city of Jerusalem and wept over it,  
stand with us as we look at our communities and our world.  
**We long to see a new heaven and a new earth.**

We see the pain and struggle of the people  
bowed down by uncertainty anxiety and fear.  
We hear the groaning of creation as it waits for new life and hope.  
**Make us part of your new creation, O God**

We see your Church in all its humanness,  
standing in divided witness still,  
struggling to understand the gospel for this day, this place.  
**Recreate us, O God and send to us your liberating Spirit.**

Each one of us, O God sees and hears the cry of humanity  
and the needs of those around us in this place and beyond.  
We pray for... *(Tell God about those people, places and situations  
on your heart and your own needs)*

We see ourselves, O God  
people of faith and faithlessness  
dancing in sun one day

and overwhelmed by realities the next,  
sometimes joyfully announcing the gospel  
sometimes trembling in our uncertainty.  
Give life to the hope within us, O God  
Bring us to a celebration of who you are and who we might be in you

O God who calls us from death to life, we give ourselves to you and  
with the Church through all ages we thank you for your saving love in  
Jesus Christ. Amen

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven...**

### **Hymn**

Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour,  
First begotten from the dead,  
Thou alone, our strong defender,  
Liftest up thy people's head.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Jesus, true and living bread!

Here our humblest homage pay we;  
Here in loving reverence bow;  
Here for Faith's discernment, pray we  
Lest we fail to know thee now,  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Thou art here, we ask not how.

Though the lowliest form doth veil Thee,  
As of old in Bethlehem,  
Here as there Thine Angels hail Thee,  
Branch and flower of Jesse's stem.

Alleluia, alleluia!  
We in worship join with them.

Paschal Lamb, Thy offering, finished  
Once for all when Thou wast slain,  
In its fullness undiminished  
Shall for evermore remain,  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Cleansing souls from every stain.

Life imparting Heavenly manna,  
Stricken rock with streaming side,  
Heaven and earth with loud hosanna  
Worship Thee, the Lamb who died,  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Risen, ascended, glorified!

### **We receive God's blessing**

God is our light and always walks before us.  
We go forth into the light and share in the recreating of the world.  
And may God the beginning give us a new day.  
God the Christ take us by the hand  
and God the Spirit give us energy and peace.

And may the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit  
be among us and remain with us always. Amen



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