

Sixth Sunday of Easter 10th May 2026

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 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.

First Reading (Acts 17.22-31)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.
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."

Psalm (Psalm 66)

Response: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Cry out with joy to God all the earth.
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise.
Say to God: "How tremendous your deeds!" R/

Before you all the earth shall bow;
shall sing to you, sing to your name!
Come and see the works of God,
tremendous his deeds among men. R/

He turned the sea into dry land,
they passed through the river dry-shod.
Let our joy then be in him;
he rules for ever by his might. R/

Second Reading (1 Peter 3.13-22)

A reading from the First Letter of Peter.
Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what
is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is
right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear,
and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts
sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make
your defence to anyone who demands from you an
accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with
gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience
clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who
abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be
put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing
good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer
for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once
for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to
bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh,
but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went
and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison,
who in former times did not obey, when God waited
patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of
the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were
saved through water. And baptism, which this
prefigured, now saves you--not as a removal of dirt
from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good
conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,
who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of
God, with angels, authorities, and powers made
subject to him.

