

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024

The Collect of the Day

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

A Reading from Acts 11:19-30

Now those who were scattered because of the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to no one except Jews. But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who on coming to Antioch spoke to the Hellenists also, preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number who believed turned to the Lord. The report of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. When he came and saw the grace of God, he was glad, and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose, for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord. So Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they met with the church and taught a great many people. And in Antioch the disciples were first called Christians. Now in these days prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. And one of them named Agabus stood up and foretold by the Spirit that there would be a great famine over all the world (this took place in the days of Claudius). So the disciples determined, every one according to his ability, to send relief to the brothers living in Judea. And they did so, sending it to the elders by the hand of Barnabas and Saul.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 33: 1-8, 18-21

The Psalm will be chanted.



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- 1 Rejoice in the LORD, O you **righteous**; *
it is fitting for the just to be **thankful**.
- 2 Praise the LORD with the **harp**; *
sing praises unto him with the ten-stringed **lute**.
- 3 Sing unto him a new **song**; *
make skillful melody and cry aloud with **joy**.
- 4 For the word of the LORD is **true**, *
and all his works are **faithful**.
- 5 He loves righteousness and true **judgment**; *
the earth is full of the goodness of the **LORD**.
- 6 By the word of the LORD were the heavens **made**, *
and all the hosts of them by the breath of his **mouth**.
- 7 He gathers the waters of the sea together, as in a **heap**, *
and lays up the deep, as in a treasure **house**.
- 8 Let all the earth fear the **LORD**; *
stand in awe of him, all you that dwell in the **world**.
- 18 To deliver their soul from **death**, *
and to feed them in the time of **famine**.
- 19 Our soul has patiently waited for the **LORD**, *
for he is our help and our **shield**.
- 20 Our heart shall rejoice in **him**, *
because we have hoped in his holy **Name**.
- 21 —Let your merciful kindness, O LORD, be u-**pon us**, *
as we have put our trust in **you**.

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. **A-men**.

A Reading from 1 John 4:7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. We love because he first loved us. If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

The Holy Gospel according to St. John 15:9-17

All standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Holy Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to _____.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. 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. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. These things I command you, so that you will love one another.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Proper Preface

Easter

For the Celebrant to read after the Sursum Corda.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was offered for us, and has taken away the sin of the world; who by his death has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again has won for us everlasting life.