

# The Order of Service

## for Home Worship

### THE SIXTH SUNDAY after TRINITY



Hymn: There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

1. There's a wideness in God's mercy,  
Like the wideness of the sea;  
There's a kindness in his justice,  
Which is more than liberty.
2. There is no place where earth's sorrows  
Are more felt than up in heav'n:  
There is no place where earth's failings  
Have such kindly judgement given.
3. For the love of God is broader  
Than the scope of human mind,  
And the heart of the Eternal  
Is most wonderfully kind.
4. But we make his love too narrow  
By false limits of our own;  
And we magnify his strictness  
With a zeal he will not own.
5. There is plentiful redemption  
In the blood that has been shed;  
There is joy all their members  
In the sorrows of the Head.
6. If our love were but more simple,  
We should take him at his word;  
And our lives would be all gladness  
In the joy of Christ our Lord.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**  
Grace and peace be with you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Father of glory, holy and eternal, look upon us now in power and mercy. May your strength overcome our weakness, your radiance transform our blindness, and your Spirit draw us to that love shown and offered to us by your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

As we come into the presence of our heavenly Father let us seek his forgiveness of our sins that we may know his peace in our hearts.

Lord Jesus, you have shown us the way to the Father. **Lord, have mercy.**  
Lord Jesus, you have given us knowledge of your truth. **Christ, have mercy.**  
Lord Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd leading us to life. **Lord, have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, glory be to God on high;**  
**Alleluia, to the Saviour who has gained the victory;**  
**Alleluia to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity;**  
**Alleluia, Alleluia, to the Triune Majesty.**

**Collect:** Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass our understanding: pour into our hearts such love toward you that we, loving you in and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; 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.**

**A reading from the book of Genesis. 18. 20-32**

Then the LORD said, 'How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know.' So the men turned from there, and went towards Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the LORD. Then Abraham came near and said, 'Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?' And the LORD said, 'If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake.' Abraham answered, 'Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. Suppose five of the fifty righteous

are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?' And he said, 'I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.' Again he spoke to him, 'Suppose forty are found there.' He answered, 'For the sake of forty I will not do it.' Then he said, 'Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there.' He answered, 'I will not do it, if I find thirty there.' He said, 'Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there.' He answered, 'For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it.' Then he said, 'Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there.' He answered, 'For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.' This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalms 138. Response: Great is the glory, the glory of the Lord**

I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise;  
I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your  
steadfast love and your faithfulness;  
for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.  
On the day I called, you answered me, you increased my strength of soul. (R)

Though I walk in the midst of trouble,  
you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies;  
you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.  
The Lord will fulfil his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O Lord, endures for ever.  
Do not forsake the work of your hands. (R)

**A reading from Paul's letter to the Colossians. 2. 6-15**

As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**The Gospel Acclamation:**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

"Everyone who asks receives," says the Lord, "and for everyone who knocks the door will be opened. **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to St Luke.**

**11. 1-13**

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.' He said to them, 'When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial.' And he said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, "Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him." And he answers from within, "Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything." I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs. 'So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Meditation:** *For us as Christians, prayer is fundamental to our lives. Prayer how we express and make real our relationship with God. It is in prayer that we meet and spend time with God. Yet there are times in our lives when prayer can be difficult for many of us. Jesus was a man of prayer, he loved spending time in the company of his heavenly Father. The disciples had often observed Jesus at prayer and in the Gospel today they ask him to teach them to pray. Jesus teaches them the prayer that was the first prayer we may well have learned ourselves as children; the Lord's Prayer. It is a prayer that is so familiar to us, so familiar that there is a danger that we can recite it so well that we fail to really understand and acknowledge what each line of the prayer means for us and for God's world. The Lord's Prayer is a wonderfully intimate prayer and can serve as a model for all our prayer. We begin acknowledging the holiness of God and expressing our longing for a place in Kingdom. We place our*

*trust in him, the one who knows us best and who wants the best for each of us as we pray that his will may be our will. We express our gratitude for his mercy as he forgives our sins by pledging to show the same mercy to others who offend against us. We place ourselves in his hands as the provider of all that we need and as the protector who will enable us to resist temptation and protect us from evil. In all prayer we express begin by expressing our adoration of God, we place ourselves in his hands acknowledging our trust in him and asking his forgiveness for our shortcomings. We express gratitude for all that we receive from him before placing our needs, our cares and concerns before him. The danger in times of need that we begin with our own cares and concerns, our own needs and prayer becomes more about ourselves than about God and our relationship with him. Today's Gospel is a wonderful gift a lesson in prayer from Jesus himself. The Lord's Prayer, given to us by our Lord, contains all that is needed for authentic prayer when prayed in spirit and with faith. Whether we find it easier in our own prayer lives to recite formal prayers from the Prayer Book or to speak our own words in conversation with God the themes of the Lord's Prayer is a valuable guide. Reciting the Lord's Prayer can help us understand how in prayer we come close to God, the words can deepen our appreciation of our dependence on God. In prayer we come to understand and appreciate his great love for us and his will for us. For God longs for us to enjoy the life he has given to the full, he longs for us to reach our potential as his children and it is in prayer that he enables us to fulfil his will for us with lives of faith and service. Amen.*

**Intercessions:** In the power of the Holy Spirit and in union with Christ let us bring our prayers for the Church and for the world to our heavenly Father.

We pray for the Church throughout the world, for the leaders of the Church among them Mary our Bishop. We pray for the clergy and people of our diocese and for our own ministry area; May the Church be faithful to its calling of bringing the Good News of Christ to all the world. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the people of the world, for the victims of violence and oppression among them the people of the Ukraine, Israel and Gaza, for all suffering the effects of natural disaster and for those suffering from famine or drought; May the leaders of the nations be led by the Spirit to bring peace and hope where there is conflict and despair.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our own community, for our families, friends and neighbours. We give thanks for all who serve the needs of the vulnerable; may we bring the love of God to all in need among whom we live. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who are in need, for those who are sick, for those who are bereaved, for the lonely and isolated and for all in any kind of need. We hold in our hearts before God those known to us who are in need at this time and all whose names are recorded in our intercession books; relieve them according to their need, strengthen them with your Holy Spirit and console them with the love of Christ.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who have died. We remember before God our own departed loved ones and we pray for the recently departed and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time; welcome them and all the departed into the eternal joy and peace of your heavenly kingdom.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We bring all our prayers to our heavenly Father as we pray together:

**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.**

**The Peace:**

Blessed are those who make peace; they shall be called God's children.

The peace of the Lord be with you and with all those whom you love.

**And also with you.**

**Let us pray:**

**God of our pilgrimage, you have led us to the living water; refresh and sustain us as we go forward on our journey in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**The Blessing:**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

## **Hymn: What A Friend We Have in Jesus**

- 1. What a friend we have in Jesus,  
all our sins and grief to bear.  
What a privilege to carry  
Everything to him in prayer!  
O what peace we often forfeit,  
O what needless pain we bear,  
All because we do not carry  
Everything to God in prayer.**
- 2. Have we trials and temptations?  
Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged:  
Take it to the Lord in prayer!  
Can we find a friend so faithful,  
Who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness –  
Take it to the Lord in prayer!**
- 3. Are we weak and heavy-laden,  
Cumbered with a load of care?  
Jesus only is our refuge,  
Take it to the Lord in prayer!  
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?  
Take it to the Lord in prayer!  
In his arms he'll take and shield thee,  
Thou wilt find a solace there.**