

**An Order for
The Sixth Sunday Before Lent
Sunday, February 7 2021 11:00 am EET**

The Gathering

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with you all:
and also with you.

Prayers of Penitence

Hear the words of our Saviour Jesus Christ:
'I am the light of the world.
Whoever follows me shall never walk in
darkness
but shall have the light of life.'
Let us therefore bring our sins into his light
and confess them in penitence and faith.
cf John 8.12

There is a moment of silence in which we recollect all the thing we have done which we ought not to have done, and left undone those things which we ought to have done.

**All Father eternal,
giver of light and grace,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour,
in what we have thought,
in what we have said and done,
through ignorance, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We have wounded your love,
and marred your image in us.
We are sorry and ashamed,
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past;
and lead us out from darkness
to walk as children of light.
Amen.**

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Hymn: We Cannot Measure How You Heal <https://youtu.be/exr0oxZwZKA>

1 We cannot measure how you heal
or answer every sufferer's prayer,
yet we believe your grace responds
where faith and doubt unite to care.
Your hands, though bloodied on the cross,
survive to hold and heal and warn,
to carry all through death to life
and cradle children yet unborn.

2 The pain that will not go away,
the guilt that clings from things long past,
the fear of what the future holds,
are present as if meant to last.
But present too is love which tends
the hurt we never hoped to find,
the private agonies inside,
the memories that haunt the mind.

3 So some have come who need your help
and some have come to make amends,
your hands which shaped and saved the world
are present in the touch of friends.
Lord, let your Spirit meet us here
to mend the body, mind and soul,
to disentangle peace from pain,
and make your broken people whole.

Collect

Almighty God,
by whose grace alone we are accepted
and called to your service:
strengthen us by your Holy Spirit
and make us worthy of our calling;
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.

The First Reading: Isaiah 40.21-31

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

²¹ Have you not known? Have you not heard?
Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?
²² It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,
and spreads them like a tent to live in;
²³ who brings princes to naught,
and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.
²⁴ Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,
when he blows upon them, and they wither,
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.
²⁵ To whom then will you compare me,
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.
²⁶ Lift up your eyes on high and see:
Who created these?
He who brings out their host and numbers them,
calling them all by name;
because he is great in strength,
mighty in power,
not one is missing.
²⁷ Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,
“My way is hidden from the Lord,

and my right is disregarded by my God”?

²⁸ Have you not known? Have you not heard?
 The Lord is the everlasting God,
 the Creator of the ends of the earth.
 He does not faint or grow weary;
 his understanding is unsearchable.

²⁹ He gives power to the faint,
 and strengthens the powerless.

³⁰ Even youths will faint and be weary,
 and the young will fall exhausted;

³¹ but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,
 they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
 they shall run and not be weary,
 they shall walk and not faint.

This is the word of the Lord.
All Thanks be to God.

Psalm 147.1-12, 21c

1 Alleluia. How good it is to make music
 for our God,
 ♦ how joyful to honour him with praise.

2 The Lord builds up Jerusalem ♦
 and gathers together the outcasts of Israel.

3 He heals the brokenhearted ♦
 and binds up all their wounds.

4 He counts the number of the stars ♦
 and calls them all by their names.

5 Great is our Lord and mighty in power;
 ♦ his wisdom is beyond all telling.

6 The Lord lifts up the poor, ♦
 but casts down the wicked to the ground.

7 Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; ♦
 make music to our God upon the lyre;

8 Who covers the heavens with clouds ♦
 and prepares rain for the earth;

9 Who makes grass to grow upon the
 mountains
 ♦ and green plants to serve our needs. [R]

10 He gives the beasts their food ♦
 and the young ravens when they cry.

11 He takes no pleasure in the power of a
 horse,
 ♦ no delight in human strength;

12 But the Lord delights in those who fear
 him,
 ♦ who put their trust in his steadfast love.

21c Alleluia.

**Glory to God, Source of all being,
 Eternal Word and Holy Spirit;
 as it was in the beginning is now
 and shall be for ever. Amen.**

The Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

A reading from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians

If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting,
for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel!
For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward;
but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission.
What then is my reward?
Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge,
so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.
For though I am free with respect to all,
I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them.
To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews.
To those under the law I became as one under the law
(though I myself am not under the law)
so that I might win those under the law.
To those outside the law I became as one outside the law
(though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law)
so that I might win those outside the law.
To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak.
I have become all things to all people,
that I might by all means save some.
I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Hymn: Lift Every Voice and Sing (from 0:10)

<https://youtu.be/QU8921j20e8>

1 Lift ev'ry voice and sing,
till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty.
Let our rejoicing rise
high as the list'ning skies,
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith
that the dark past has taught us.
Sing a song full of the hope
that the present has brought us.
Facing the rising sun
of our new day begun,
let us march on till victory is won.

2 God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
thou who hast brought
us thus far on the way,
thou who hast by thy might
led us into the light,
keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places,
our God, where we met thee;
lest our hearts, drunk with the wine
of the world, we forget thee;
shadowed beneath thy hand,
may we forever stand,
true to our God,
true to our native land.

3 Facing the rising sun
of our new day begun,
let us march on till victory is won.

The Gospel Reading:

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark
All Glory to you, O Lord.

After Jesus and his disciples left the synagogue,
they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John.
Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever,
and they told him about her at once.
He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up.
Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sundown,
they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons.
And the whole city was gathered around the door.
And he cured many who were sick with various diseases,
and cast out many demons;
and he would not permit the demons to speak,
because they knew him.

In the morning, while it was still very dark,
he got up and went out to a deserted place,
and there he prayed.

And Simon and his companions hunted for him.

When they found him, they said to him,
"Everyone is searching for you."

He answered,
"Let us go on to the neighbouring towns,
so that I may proclaim the message there also;
for that is what I came out to do."

And he went throughout Galilee,
proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
All Praise to you, O Christ.

Reflection

An Affirmation of Faith: *Shema Yisrael* שמע ישראל

Let us recall the teaching of Jesus as we say:

Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one.

**Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul,
with all your mind, and with all your strength.**

This is the first and the great commandment.

The second is like it: Love your neighbour as yourself.

There is no commandment greater than these.

Hymn: Christ be in My Waking <https://youtu.be/X4emGI1gHPA>

1 Christ be in my waking,
as the sun is rising,
in my day of working,
with me every hour.
Christ be in my resting,
as the day is ending,
calming and refreshing,
watching through the night.

2) Christ be in my gladness
for the joy of living,
thankful for the goodness
of the Father's hand.
Christ be in my sorrow,
in my day of darkness,
knowing that I follow
in the steps He trod.

Chorus

Jesus, this is my devotion:
all my life to know you,
every day to walk with you.
Saviour, you're my deepest longing,
you're the one I live for,
teach me, Lord, to walk with You.

3 Christ when hope has faded,
nothing left to cling to,
every pleasure jaded,
every well is dry.
Christ the loving Shepherd
draws me with His kindness,
leads me from the desert
to the streams of life.

Repeat chorus twice, then verse 1.

An Intercession.

The Lord's Prayer (Traditional Language)

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.**

Announcements

The Blessing

May God,
who in Christ gives us a spring of water welling up to eternal life,
perfect in you the image of his glory;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Hymn: King of Glory, King of Peace

<https://youtu.be/TKVXTMEXbaw>

1 King of glory, King of peace,
I will love Thee;
and that love may never cease,
I will move Thee.
Thou hast granted my request,
Thou hast heard me;
Thou didst note my working breast,
Thou hast spared me.

2 Wherefore with my utmost art
I will sing Thee,
and the cream of all my heart
I will bring Thee.
Though my sins against me cried,
Thou didst clear me;
and alone, when they replied,
Thou didst hear me.

3 Sev'n whole days, not one in sev'n,
I will praise Thee;
in my heart, though not in heav'n,
I can raise Thee.
Small it is, in this poor sort
to enroll Thee:
e'en eternity's too short
to extol Thee.

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**