

# **GARROWBY**BENEFICE

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**The Sixth Sunday of Easter**  
Service of the Word

## Welcome and Introduction

We join together today as one body from the many places where God gives us shelter. We give thanks for the glorious resurrection of Christ. We commit ourselves to worship Him in Spirit and in truth. We commit ourselves afresh to one another. We humble ourselves to serve the world through our prayer and action. We content ourselves with the inner freedom of the Spirit. In this last week of the Easter season, we proclaim:

Alleluia Christ is risen

**All He is risen indeed Alleluia**  
*(a candle is lit)*

We light this candle as a symbol of our faith and hope, remembering our future as a Benefice, and our future as your people. We trust in the alchemy of the Holy Spirit to bring dreams of life here amongst us. Gather your people O God that your dream for us may come true.

## Hymn: How deep the Father's love

### Confession and Absolution

When we have failed to recognise you as our saviour, when we have failed to acknowledge you as our risen Lord, when we have doubted you are with us:

**All Forgive us and fill our hearts with joy**

When we have not shared your good news, when we have been too concerned with ourselves, when we have not shared the joy of knowing you with others:

**All Forgive us and fill our hearts with joy**

When we have failed to bring hope to the hopeless, when we have failed to bring joy to the joyless, when we have failed to offer your grace to those who hurt us:

**All Forgive us and fill our hearts with joy**

May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by His Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.

**All Amen**

### 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 recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen**

## Ministry of the Word

### New Testament lesson 1 John 5 1-6

#### **Faith Conquers the World**

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

#### **Testimony concerning the Son of God**

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

This is the word of the Lord

**All Thanks be to God**

*Hymn: Your grace still amazes me*

#### **The Gospel**

#### **Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 15 9-17**

As the Father has loved me, so I have 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. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**All Praise be to you O Christ**

## Sermon

### *Hymn: What a friend we have in Jesus*

## Creed

**All We believe in God the Father from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named. We believe in God the Son who lives in our lives through faith and fills us with his love. We believe in God the Holy Spirit who strengthens us with power from on high. We believe in one God, father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

**Amen**

## Intercessions

God of grace, we bring before you those who have no joy and no hope, those who see no future, no light at the end of the tunnel, those scarred by pain and sadness, and those who grieve. We remember today those who are struggling with isolation and those who are feeling cut off from their families.

**All God of grace and resurrection power, bring your joy and healing today**

We pray for those who are living in places of danger and violence. Women, men, and children forced to leave their homes to escape war and fighting. Women, men and children trying to escape from violent partners and relatives and those who have woken up in fear this morning. Please bring them to a place of safety.

**All God of grace and resurrection power, bring your joy and healing today**

We pray for those working in the NHS, Doctors, Nurses, carers and support staff; give them strength today as they treat people suffering from coronavirus and peace when they feel overwhelmed. Thank you for everyone who is researching vaccines and treatments, inspire them and help them to persevere.

**All God of grace and resurrection power, bring your joy and healing today**

May we always be Easter people, willing always to share the good news of hope, resurrection and freedom to all those whom we meet

**All Merciful Father, accept these prayers through your Son our saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

## The Lord's Prayer

**All** Our Father, which art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy Name.  
Thy Kingdom come.  
Thy will be done in earth,  
As it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
As we forgive them that 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

Christ is our Peace in good times and bad, may we always know his embrace of love

The Peace of the Lord be always with you

**All** And also with you

## Closing words

May we who have been together during this time of worship

**All** know the reality of your presence with us always.

May we who are living at this time of brokenness and separation,

**All** know your wholeness in our hearts and in our communities.

May we who hunger for a time when we may be all together again

**All** feed a world hungry for love and justice. Amen

## Blessing

May the one who established the dance of creation, who transforms death into life and chaos into order lead us to transform our lives and the church to reflect God's glory in creation and the blessing of God almighty Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you today and in the days to come.

**All** Amen

## *Hymn: Great is thy faithfulness*