

PRAYERS AND READINGS FOR 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

In the name of the Father + and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

INTRODUCTION

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.

*Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.*

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,

*Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.*

We worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

*Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.*

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:

have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

*Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.*

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.

*Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.*

Amen.

[This setting written by Andrew Parnell
for St Alban's Abbey, 24th June 2006]

Let us pray that we may reign with the risen Christ in glory:

God our redeemer,
who hast delivered us from the power of darkness
and brought us into the kingdom of thy Son:
grant, that as by his death he hath recalled us to life,
so by his continual presence in us
he may raise us to eternal joy;
through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord,

who liveth and reigneth with thee,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

ACTS 17:22-31

So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: “Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, ‘To the unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way towards him and find him. Yet he is actually 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 are indeed his offspring.’”

Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and

of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

JOHN 14:15-21

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you for ever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

“I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.”

HOMILY

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

O God our Father,
whose Son Jesus Christ doth give the water of eternal life:
may we ever thirst for thee,
the spring of life and fountain of goodness,
through him who liveth and reigneth, now and for ever.

Rejoicing in God's new creation, as our Saviour taught us,
so we pray:

**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.**

NOTICES

BLESSING

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

The God of peace,
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,
that great shepherd of the sheep,
through the blood of the eternal covenant,
make you perfect in every good work to do his will,
working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight;
And the blessing ✕ of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and
the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

HYMN BY THE CHORAL SCHOLARS OF ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS

*I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?*

*Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

*I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?
Chorus*

*I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.*

*Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?
Chorus*

*Daniel L. Schutte (b.1947)
© 1981 Daniel L. Schutte & New Dawn Music*

The words and music were written for guitar - at short notice - in 1981 for a friend's ordination to the diaconate, when Schutte was associated with the St Louis Jesuits. They have become so well known by all denominations that many are unaware that this hymn represents Roman Catholic renewal music resulting from the Second Vatican Council.

The text is typical of song writers' in that era softening / adapting traditional "Christian" God language'; although it has an orthodox Trinitarian structure, addressing God as Creator and Redeemer (verse 1), Christ as the sufferer and lover of humanity (verse 2), and the Holy Spirit as provider and help (verse 3). These are combined with the refrain, which is a response to the final line of each verse, 'Whom shall I send?' The response is that of Isaiah 6: 8: 'Here am I; send me', and that of the child Samuel (1 Samuel 3: 4, 6, 8), 'Here I am'. 'I have heard you calling in the night' suggests 1 Samuel as a primary source.

This is Schutte's best known work, found in hymnals throughout the world, and translated into many languages.

Taken from "I, the Lord of sea and sky." The Canterbury Dictionary of Hymnology. Canterbury Press. Web. 16 May. 2020.<<http://www.hymnology.co.uk/i/i,-the-lord-of-sea-and-sky>>.

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