

Easter 6 Early Communion | 22 May 2022 8:30 am

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Greeting

Christ is Risen!

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Collect for Purity

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden;
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned in thought and word and deed,
and in what we have left undone.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us,
that we may walk in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Glory to God *page 203*

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
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.
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. Amen.**

Collect of the Sixth Sunday of Easter

Epistle Joel 2:12–17

‘Even now,’ declares the Lord,
‘return to me with all your heart,
with fasting and weeping and
mourning.’

Rend your heart
and not your garments.
Return to the Lord your God,
for he is gracious and compassionate,
slow to anger and abounding in love,
and he relents from sending calamity.
Who knows? He may turn and relent
and leave behind a blessing –
grain offerings and drink offerings
for the Lord your God.

Blow the trumpet in Zion,
declare a holy fast,
call a sacred assembly.

Gather the people,
consecrate the assembly;
bring together the elders,
gather the children,
those nursing at the breast.
Let the bridegroom leave his room
and the bride her chamber.
Let the priests, who minister before
the Lord,
weep between the portico and the
altar.
Let them say, ‘Spare your people,
Lord.
Do not make your inheritance an
object of scorn,
a byword among the nations.
Why should they say among the
peoples,
“Where is their God?”’

This is the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

Gospel John 5:1–9

Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ, according to John chapter 5 beginning at verse 1 **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Some time later, Jesus went up to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish festivals. Now there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool, which in Aramaic is called Bethesda and which is surrounded by five covered colonnades. Here a great number of disabled people used to lie – the blind, the lame, the paralysed. One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, ‘Do you want to get well?’

‘Sir,’ the invalid replied, ‘I have no-one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me.’

Then Jesus said to him, ‘Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.’ At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked.

The day on which this took place was a Sabbath

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all
that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus
Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of
the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;**

Prayers of the People

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

Merciful Father **accept these our prayers**

for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you **and also with you**

Taking the Bread & Wine and Great Thanksgiving

Christ our passover has been sacrificed for us
therefore let us celebrate the feast.

The Lord is here

His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

... for ever praising you and saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest!

**he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of
the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to
judge the living and the dead, and
his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and
the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is
worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the
prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and
apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for
the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the
dead, and the life of the world to
come. Amen.**

... with this bread and this cup we do as Christ your Son commanded:
**we remember his passion and death,
we celebrate his resurrection and ascension,
and we look for the coming of his kingdom.**

Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, **all honour and glory are yours, Almighty Father, for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Breaking Bread

The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

We being many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Invitation

Jesus Christ is the Lamb of God, who has taken away the sin of the world.

Happy are those who are called to his supper.

Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,

But only say the word and I shall be healed.

Receiving Communion

Please come forward to receive the Bread and Wine.

Prayer after Communion

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.

May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;

we who drink his cup bring life to others;

we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.

Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,

so we and all your children shall be free,

and the whole earth live to praise your name;

through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Send us

Almighty God,

**we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.**

Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice.

Send us out in the power of your Spirit

to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

Blessing and Dismissal

Go in the peace of the Risen Christ! Alleluia, Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Ascension Day (Thursday 26th) Communion at 10:00 in Carryduff