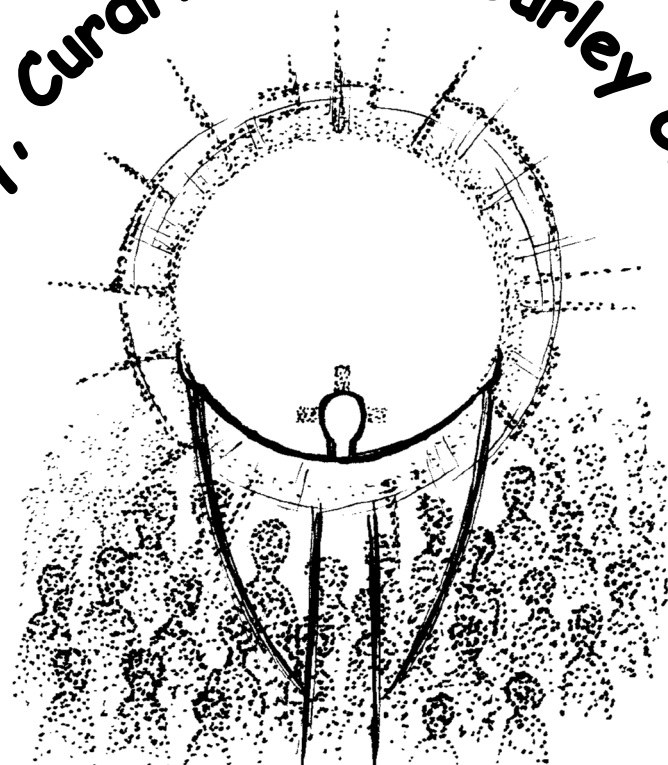


Botley, Curdridge and Durley Churches



**6th Sunday
of
Easter**

Eastertide

Welcome and Introduction

Alleluia. Christ is risen,

ALL powerless are the demons.

Alleluia. Christ is risen,

ALL the angels rejoice.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

ALL everywhere is the triumph of life

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

ALL by death defeating Death.

The preparation

ALL 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.

In baptism we died with Christ,

so that as Christ was raised from the dead,

we might walk in newness of life.

As we acknowledge our sins
let us receive new life in him.

Lord God, you look for faith and trust;
ALL yet we demand proof and certainty.

Lord have mercy.

ALL Lord have mercy.

Lord Jesus, your love is stronger than death;
ALL yet we build tombs around our hearts.

Christ have mercy.

ALL Christ have mercy.

Holy Spirit, you send us into the world
with a message of hope;

ALL yet we linger in comfortable despair.

Lord have mercy.

ALL Lord have mercy.

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.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

ALL He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Let us pray:

God of abiding love,
you choose us as your servants
and dare to call us friends:
take our fragmented hearts,
commanding them to love,
making whole our joy,
our life reborn in you;
through Jesus Christ, who laid down his life for us.

ALL Amen.

New Testament Reading

A reading from the Book of Acts 10.44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 'Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?' So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

This is the word of the Lord.

ALL Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Hear the Holy Gospel
of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

ALL Glory to you, O Lord.

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. (John 15.9-17)

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

ALL He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Sermon

The Prayers

Lord in your mercy.

ALL Hear our prayer.

Merciful Father,

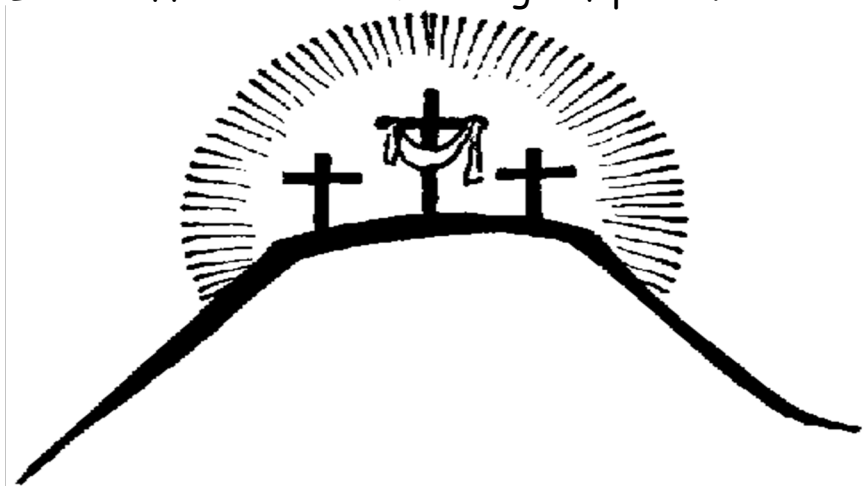
ALL Accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Peace

Christ descended to death and hell,
passed through doors locked by fear
to breathe the Spirit of peace
and make us one humanity. Alleluia.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

ALL and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.



ALL 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 Blessing

May the living God
remove the shroud
that lies upon our world;
may the risen Saviour
draw the sting of death,
bringing all to life in him;
May the flowing Spirit
set us and all creation free
and seal our hearts with faith;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

ALL Amen.

Go in peace
to mend what is broken,
to unite what is divided
and to live the gospel.

ALL In the name of Christ. Amen.

HYMN

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Fill me with life anew,
That I may love what Thou dost love,
And do what Thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Until my heart is pure,
Until with Thee I will one will,
To do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Till I am wholly Thine,
Until this earthly part of me
Glow with Thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
So shall I never die,
But live with Thee the perfect life
Of Thine eternity.

