

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you;  
of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face;  
hide not your face from me, alleluia.

**GLORIA**

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,  
we bless you,  
we adore you,  
we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.

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**

Graciously hear our supplications, O Lord,  
so that we, who believe that the Saviour of  
the human race  
is with you in your glory,  
may experience, as he promised,  
until the end of the world,  
his abiding presence among us.  
Who live and reigns with you in the unity of  
the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.

**FIRST READING** Ac 1: 12-14

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles  
After Jesus was taken up into heaven, the  
apostles went back from the Mount of Olives,  
as it is called, to Jerusalem, a short distance  
away, no more than a sabbath walk; and  
when they reached the city they went to the  
upper room where they were staying; there  
were Peter and John, James son of Alphaeus  
and Simon the Zealot, and Jude son of  
James. All these joined in continuous prayer,  
together with several women, including Mary  
the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

**PSALM** Ps 26

Response:  
I believe that I shall see the good things of  
the Lord in the land or the living.

- The Lord is my light and my salvation;  
whom shall I fear?  
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;  
whom shall I dread? (R.)
- There is one thing I ask of the Lord,  
Only this do I seek:  
to live in the house of the Lord,  
all the days of my life,

to gaze the beauty of the Lord,  
to inquire at his temple. (R.)

- 3. O Lord, hear my voice when I call;  
have mercy and answer me.  
Of you my heart has spoken:  
"Seek his face." (R.)

**SECOND READING** 1Pt 4: 13-16

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

If you can have some share in the sufferings  
of Christ, be glad, because you will enjoy  
a much greater gladness when his glory is  
revealed. It is a blessing for you when they  
insult you for bearing the name of Christ,  
because it means that you have the Spirit of  
glory, the Spirit of God resting on you. None  
of you should ever deserve to suffer for being  
a murderer, a thief, a criminal or an informer;  
but if anyone of you should suffer for being a  
Christian, then he is not to be ashamed of it;  
he should thank God that he has been called  
one.

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia  
I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord;  
I will come back to you, and your hearts will  
be full of joy.  
Alleluia.

**GOSPEL** Jn 17:1-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to  
John.

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

"Father, the hour has come:  
glorify your Son  
so that your Son may glorify you;  
and, through the power over all mankind  
that you have given him,  
let him give eternal life to all those you have  
entrusted to him.

And eternal life is this:  
to know you,  
the only true God,  
and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

I have glorified you on earth  
and finished the work  
that you gave me to do.

Now, Father, it is for you to glorify me  
with that glory I had with you  
before ever the world was.

I have made your name known  
to the men you took from the world to give  
me.

They were yours and you gave them to me,  
and they have kept your word.

Now at last they know  
that all you have given me comes indeed  
from you;

for I have given them  
the teaching you gave me,  
and they have truly accepted this, that I  
came from you,  
and have believed that it was you who sent  
me.

I pray for them;  
I am not praying for the world  
but for those you have given me,  
because they belong to you:  
all I have is yours  
and all you have is mine,  
and in them I am glorified.  
I am not in the world any longer,

but they are in the world,  
and I coming to you."

The Gospel of the Lord.  
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

**PROFESSION OF FAITH**

I believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, consubstantial with  
the Father;

through him all things were made.  
For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,

(all bow during the next three lines)

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the  
Virgin Mary,  
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under  
Pontius Pilate,  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.  
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.

I 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 adored  
and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
I believe in one, holy, catholic and  
apostolic Church.  
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness  
of sins  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the  
dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Accept, O Lord, the prayers of your faithful  
with the sacrificial offerings,  
that through these acts of devotedness  
we may pass over the glory of heaven.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

Father, I pray that they may be one  
as we are also one, alleluia.

**PRAYER AFTER  
COMMUNION**

Hear us, O God our Saviour,  
and grant us confidence,  
that through these sacred mysteries  
there will be accomplished in the body of the  
whole Church  
what has already come to pass in Christ her  
Head.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.  
Amen.

24 MAY 2020

# Sunday Message

7<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

THE WORD

Year A • Season Colour: White • Psalter Week 3



On this Sunday between the feasts of the Ascension and Pentecost, the church puts before us the final prayer of Jesus from the Gospel according to John.

Jesus is aware that his departure is imminent, as his first words are, "Father, the hour has come". His leaving the disciples will be by way of the cross, but this is the means by which he and the Father will be glorified. For John, all the aspects of the Paschal Mystery take place at the crucifixion, and the crucial meaning of the resurrection is not that Jesus comes back to life (as Lazarus did), but that his existence is radically transformed and glorified.

Jesus' work of revealing God is nearing its end. He prays for his disciples, that God will be a Father to them and care for them in the midst of a hostile world. He has made known God's name, that is, all that can be known about God: it is this which makes possible the gift of eternal life. He asks that they be kept in the Father's name and so experience the unity that Jesus and the Father enjoy. Jesus' prayer ends with his declaration that he is returning to the Father, which is the meaning of the Ascension, but there is still the final act of the Paschal (or Easter) Mystery to come – the sending of the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete. **n**

## REFLECT

In the Gospel passage, Jesus says that he has made God's name known: that is, he has revealed all we can know about God. The tradition of the church is the reflecting of the people of God on the Word and what it means for the life of Jesus' disciples today. Our understanding of what the Word signifies develops: the manner in which it is expressed has to adapt to changing circumstances while preserving the essential teaching; this is what we mean by tradition. In the Dogmatic Constitution On Divine Revelation, we find that the most frequent references to the Holy Spirit occur in the chapter on tradition.

The same document teaches officially that no new public revelation is to be expected before the glorious manifestation of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Throughout the history of the church, there have been groups which have claimed secret or mystical knowledge which is denied to run-of-the-mill Christians. Individuals have alleged that they have been given privileged information through visions or other experiences. The church always treats such assertions of personal supernatural communications with a high degree of caution, if not suspicion.

No one, and no particular group, has any advantage over anyone else when it comes to knowledge of God. The teaching of Jesus is available to anyone who is open to accepting it: in this way, eternal life is offered to all. It is the Holy Spirit who will lead us into the complete truth. **n**

## LEARN

For John, the Fourth Evangelist, eternal life consists in knowing the only true God and Jesus Christ whom he has sent.

No one has to believe in any particular apparition of a supernatural figure.

In biblical thought, to know the name of a person is somehow to have access to that person's deepest being: hence the name of God YHWH is never pronounced in the Hebrew Bible.

