

# Order of Worship

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost  
June 30, 2024

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## Call to worship (Evie Hughes)

We trust that the Lord is with us

**and all shall be made well.**

Our faith is the light that guides us

**through work, life and the world.**

Rejoice and know that God is here.

**Hallelujah! Praise the Lord.**

## Call to confession (Carol Prickett)

We call on the Lord from the depths of our pain. We wait for the Lord on the strength of our hope. Faithfully, let us confess our sins and trust in God to bring us new life and new ways of living.

## Prayer of confession (Evie Hughes)

**Lord, forgive us, for in the busy-ness of our lives we have forgotten to seek you. Instead of looking at the glory of every single miracle around us – from the beauty of the flowers to the turning of the leaves – we have focused on completing our own tasks. We have asked for miracles, but we haven't asked for you. Help us see what you have already given us and to see all people as you see them. When we think all is lost, remind us how your forgiveness comes like the morning, leading us out of the darkness every time. Amen.**

## Assurance of pardon (Carol Prickett)

Great is God's faithfulness! With God there is forgiveness and great power to redeem.

**God's mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning.**

God has turned our mourning to dancing, forgiving us fully and freely.

**Our souls will not be silent. As forgiven people, we will praise the Lord!**

## Prayer for illumination (Evie Hughes)

Holy Lord, we seek for an understanding when we find none. Open our ears, our hearts, and our minds, and open us to our companions in faith.



Teach us how to follow the path you are leading us on; assure us that we will be safe on this path and that we will always be welcome to follow you. Amen.

## **Scripture readings**

### **Sermon**

#### **Affirmation of faith (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 of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
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;  
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 worshiped 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.**

#### **Call for the offering (Carol Prickett)**

With gratitude for all God has given us, let us return our offerings to God.

#### **Prayer of dedication (Evie Hughes)**

Lord God, let these offerings help us all along our paths and let them



be useful in following our faith and helping our church. May our minds, souls, and bodies help to serve you. Let our gifts and kindness help not only You but our friends, our community and our world. Amen.

## **Prayers of the people and the Lord's Prayer** (Carol Prickett)

Creator, Sustainer and Redeemer God,

We come before you this morning with full hearts, with joys and sorrows all mixed up together. We rejoice in the beauty and miracle and majesty of creation. We rejoice in the simple pleasures of summer's rhythms. We rejoice in this community of faith, in the love we have for one another, in the service we provide to our neighbors, and in the faith we express in you, God.

Alongside all this rejoicing, God, we grieve too. We lift up in prayer those for whom this week has brought not blessing but curse: those who have been ridiculed, hurt, lost, or lonely. We pray for the victims of natural disaster and famine and war and violence. We pray for those whose work brings them into harm's way — emergency personnel, soldiers, mediators, activists. We pray for those who seek peace in the face of overwhelming hate. And we pray for those who need our love the most, and ask you bring us to them.

We are grateful for the privileges we have in this country, God — for the freedom to vote and worship, for access to education and medical care. Help us to remember that a privilege is not a blessing until it is shared, and help us to bless our country. We pray for those here and around who live under persecution from their governments, who suffer from limited resources and blatant corruption. Give us eyes to see beyond mere statistics to our real human siblings who need our compassion.

We pray for those who are sick today, who need your healing touch. We pray especially for those suffering illnesses the world would often rather not acknowledge — for those who experience stigma and shame from their community rather than support and healing. We rejoice in the work of doctors, nurses, therapists, researchers, technicians, and all others in the medical profession who seek to bring health and comfort to those in any kind of pain.

Risen Lord, we remember with joy and with sorrow those who have died. We admit freely that we grieve, missing those whom we loved, wanting their presence in our lives. Yet we also confess that we rejoice, knowing that they are with you, grateful for their example in our lives. We remember the string of witnesses who have brought us to this place, the faithful of the ages who have served you and built up your church. We rejoice that one day we shall join them in forever singing to the glory of your saving name.

We pray especially this day for... [petitions of the congregation may be added here]

We bring these and all other prayers in our hearts to you, O God, giving infinite thanks for the gift of prayer, for the fact that you listen when we cry and when we sing, that you abide with us every day of our lives. We



give thanks for the simple prayer that Jesus taught us, and we pray it now, joining our voices with the millions of Christians throughout time who have known it by heart, saying, **“Our Father...”**.

**Charge and benediction** (Carol Prickett & Evie Hughes)

Go in peace.  
Be whole.  
Feel this relief:  
Our Savior makes you well.

And may God who gives you life,  
Christ who shares your life,  
and the Spirit who is your life  
be with you today, tomorrow, and always. Amen.

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Liturgy written by Carol Prickett and Evie Hughes  
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