

Sixth Sunday of Easter

25 May 2025

Sentence

'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you,' says the Lord. 'Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.' John 14.27

Collect

Great and loving God,
your will for us in your Son Jesus
is the peace which the world cannot give,
your abiding gift, the Advocate he promised.
Calm all troubled hearts, dispel every fear,
and keep us steadfast in love and faithful to your word.
Grant this through Jesus Christ,
the firstborn from the dead,
who lives with you now and always
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever. Amen.

1st Reading

Acts 16.9-15

⁹ During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.' ¹⁰ When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. ¹¹ We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹² and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³ On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down

and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴ A certain woman named Lydia, a worshipper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul.

¹⁵ When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, 'If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.' And she prevailed upon us.

Psalm

Psalm 67

- ¹ Let God be gracious to us and bless us:
and make his face shine upon us,
- ² That your ways may be known on earth:
your liberating power among all nations.
- ³ Let the peoples praise you, O God:
let all the peoples praise you.
- ⁴ Let the nations be glad and sing:
for you judge the peoples with integrity,
and govern the nations upon earth.
- ⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God:
let all the peoples praise you.
- ⁶ Then the earth will yield its fruitfulness:
and God, our God, will bless us.
- ⁷ God shall bless us:
and all the ends of the earth will fear him.

2nd Reading

Revelation 21.10-14; 21.22-22.5

¹⁰ And in the spirit he carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. ¹¹ It has the glory of God and a radiance like a very rare jewel, like jasper, clear as crystal. ¹² It has a great, high wall with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates are inscribed the names of the twelve tribes of the Israelites; ¹³ on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. ¹⁴ And the wall of the city has

twelve foundations, and on them are the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. ²² I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³ And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴ The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵ Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. ²⁶ People will bring into it the glory and the honour of the nations. ²⁷ But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practises abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life. ¹ Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ² through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³ Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; ⁴ they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign for ever and ever.

Gospel

John 14.23-29

²³ Jesus answered him, 'Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴ Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me. ²⁵ 'I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. ²⁸ You heard me say to you, "I am going away, and I am coming to you." If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because

the Father is greater than I. ²⁹ And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.