

Sunday, May 9, 2010
Sixth Sunday of Easter
Holy Communion

Worship Assistants

FIRST READING: Acts 16:9–15

A reading from _____.

A vision compels Paul to move his ministry into Greece. There he meets Lydia, an important person in the business community, whose heart has been opened by God to receive the gospel. Her conversion and baptism provide the impetus for the founding of the church at Philippi.

⁹During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." ¹⁰When 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.

¹¹We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹²and 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. ¹³On 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. ¹⁴A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper 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. ¹⁵When 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.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 67

Refrain: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy. (Ps. 67:4)

¹May God be merciful to ¹ us and bless us;
may the light of God's face ¹ shine upon us.

²**Let your way be known ¹ upon earth,
your saving health a- ¹ mong all nations.**

³Let the peoples praise ¹ you, O God;
let all the ¹ peoples praise you.

⁴**Let the nations be glad and ¹ sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the na- ¹ tions on earth. R**

⁵Let the peoples praise ¹ you, O God;
let all the ¹ peoples praise you.
⁶**The earth has brought ¹ forth its increase;**
God, our own ¹ God, has blessed us.
⁷May God ¹ give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth ¹ stand in awe. **R**

SECOND READING: Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5

A reading from _____.

John's vision of a new Jerusalem coming out of heaven provides continuity with God's past actions. Yet in this new city, God's presence replaces the temple, and the glory of God and the Lamb supplant sun and moon.

Chapter 21

¹⁰And 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. ²²I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³And 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. ²⁴The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵Its gates will never be shut by day and there will be no night there. ²⁶People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Chapter 22

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 ²through 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. ³Nothing 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; ⁴they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵And 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 forever and ever.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: John 14:23–29

The holy gospel according to _____.
Glory to you, O Lord.

As Jesus talks of returning to the Father, he promises to send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, who will teach Jesus' followers and remind them of all that Jesus taught. Even more, those in whom God makes a home will experience a peace that overcomes fear.

²³Jesus 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. ²⁴Whoever 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.

²⁵I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶But 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. ²⁷Peace 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. ²⁸You 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. ²⁹And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rejoicing in the glory of the resurrection dawn, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

O God, our temple, we pray for the whole church and all its leaders; for the denominations with which we are in full communion, and for those from whom we are estranged. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

O God, our water of life, we pray for this fragile earth; for all creatures that creep or run, that fly or swim; for all places that need to be made well. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

O God, our advocate, we pray for nations broken by violence (*especially*), world leaders, those in the military, peacemakers, and for all who daily live in fear. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

O God, our tree of life, we pray for all who hunger for your fruit; for adults and children who are starving; for all who feel spiritually empty; for all producers and preparers of food. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

O God, our healer, we pray for our congregation and our neighborhood; for individuals who are lonely; for families that wish for peace at home; for travelers in our midst; for all who hurt (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

O God, our light in the darkness, we remember with thanksgiving today (*Nicholaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, renewer of the church and hymnwriter, and*) all those who have guided us in the faith, especially our mothers, and those who have been like mothers to us. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Into your hands, O God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

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