

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Please silence all cell phones

May 6, 2018

**Please stand as able*

PREPARATION

Silent Prayer and Meditation

- John 15:5

"I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing."

Prelude

Greetings and Announcements (Please sign pew pads)

The Ringing of the Bell

Introit *O Taste and See* VAUGHAN-WILLIAMS

***Call to Worship**

The grace and the peace of the risen Lord be with you.

And also with you.

I was glad when they said to me: Let us go into the House of the Lord!

And so here we are! Families together! Young and old alike!

Here we are celebrating that God is our true Parent and Jesus our true brother!

Let us worship the Lord today in gladness and in song!

***Hymn 611** *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* HYMN TO JOY

Responsive Prayer of Confession

"The Lord's my shepherd; I shall not want."

Then why do you complain about not having enough money? Are you suggesting you don't want more than you have? Are you telling us that you are totally satisfied with what you now have?

Oh, no. There are lots of things I want that I don't have.

Then you weren't telling us the truth. Is that right?

Maybe I didn't say it well.

I think what I meant was, "I shall not lack what I need."

But if you have all you need, and only want what you don't need, then why do you worry about things so much?

That's a good question. I'm not sure.

Maybe you should read a bit further.

"Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil."

Then why did you lay awake anxious last night?

Is what you're going through worse than death?

No, of course not. It's just that . . . well, I guess I am afraid sometimes, in spite of what I know to be true.

Why don't you take your wants and your fears to God?

Now that sounds like a good idea. Would you like to join me?

Lord, we know that you provide for us, and yet we still are never satisfied. No matter how much we have, we still want more. No matter how healthy our mind is, we can always find someone's we think is better. No matter how healthy our body is, we complain about its imperfections. We know that goodness and mercy follow us everywhere we go. Yet we find fault in so much around us. Lord, forgive us. Help us to truly know and believe that we are completely loved by you and that we will live in your home and that you will live in us forever. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Response of Praise No 581 *Gloria Patri*

***The Exchange of Peace**

Peace be with you! **And also with you!**

(Greet one another, sharing God's peace.)

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

Children's Sermon and the Lord's Prayer

The Congregation sings Jesus Loves Me! vs. 1

(Children and Youth are excused for Church School.)

Anthem *The Prayer* SAGER/FOSTER

New Testament Reading John 15:1-8

