

Sunday, May 10, 2026

Easter 6 A

WELCOME: (COMMENTATOR)

Good morning! Welcome to everyone on the day in which we celebrate Mothering love.

On behalf of the Charis Community, I welcome you to our Sunday Mass. All are truly welcome, and we are excited that you are joining us whether it's your first time praying with us or if you've been with us for a while. The worship aid for Mass is on our website, and we will put the address in the chat for you should you like to pull it up to support your prayer.

We are a Eucharistic people, so we invite you to have bread and wine, in whatever form you have it, with you where you are. Even though we are in many locations, we affirm that we are one table of believers

In today's Gospel, Jesus anticipates the Easter moment when he says, "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you" and "because I live, you also will live" (14:18-19). As Craig Koester of Luther Seminary notes, "The Easter message is that life rather than death has the final word, and this is crucial for faith. In John's gospel, faith is a relationship with a living being. For there to be authentic faith in Jesus, people must be able to relate to the living Jesus—a Jesus who is not absent but present. Otherwise faith is reduced to the memory of a Jesus who died long ago..."

"Coming to faith is analogous to falling in love. One cannot fall in love in the abstract. Love comes through an encounter with another person. The same is true of faith. If faith is a relationship with the living Christ and the living God who sent him, then faith can only come through an encounter with them. And the Spirit is the one who makes this presence known." As we will explore today.

Let us raise our hearts, minds and spirits to God in song.

FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Philip went down to the city of Samaria
and proclaimed the Christ to them.
With one accord, the crowds paid attention
to what was said by Philip
when they heard it and saw the signs he was doing.
For unclean spirits, crying out in a loud voice,
came out of many possessed people,
and many paralyzed or crippled people were cured.
There was great joy in that city.

Now when the apostles in Jerusalem
heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God,
they sent them Peter and John,
who went down and prayed for them,
that they might receive the Holy Spirit,
for it had not yet fallen upon any of them;
they had only been baptized in the name of the Christ, Jesus.
Then they laid hands on them
and they received the Holy Spirit

The Word of God.

R/. Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

A reading from the first Letter of Peter.

Beloved:

Sanctify Christ as Sovereign in your hearts.

Always be ready to give an explanation

to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope,

but do it with gentleness and reverence.

keeping your conscience clear,

so that, when you are maligned,

those who defame your good conduct in Christ
may themselves be put to shame.

For it is better to suffer for doing good,

if that be the will of God,

than to suffer for doing evil.

For Christ also suffered for sins once,

the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous,

in order to bring you to God.

Put to death in the flesh,

Christ was brought to life in the Spirit.

The Word of God.

R/. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

Jesus said to his disciples:

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

And I will ask God,

 who will give you another Advocate,

 to be with you always

 the Spirit of truth,

 whom the world cannot accept,

 because it neither sees nor knows the Spirit.

But you know the Spirit, because the Spirit remains with you,

 and will be in you.

“I will not leave you orphaned;

I will come to you.

In a little while the world will no longer see me,

 but you will see me;

 because I live, you will live.

On that day you will realize that I am in God,

 and you are in me, and I in you.

“Those who have my commandments and keep them

 are those who love me;

and those who love me will be loved by God,

 and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

The Good News of Our Savior Jesus Christ.

R/. Praise to you, O Jesus Christ.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL: (COMMENTATOR)

God, we come to you with our hearts open and ready to pour out to you. Be with us as we lift our voices up in prayer. Our response is, “Easter Us, O God.”

That our anointing into Christ’s mystical body cuts to our hearts and moves us with courage and conviction, we pray **Easter Us, O God.**

For those who have lost their way and are in need of a friend to lead them home, we pray **Easter Us, O God.**

For a renewed, inclusive, and dignified apostolic relationship in our church leaders where all belong and matter, and no one is turned away, we pray **Easter Us, O God.**

For the gates to be opened and our tables to be filled with people who represent Christ from all walk of life, we pray, **Easter Us, O God.**

For the prayers forming within us, for the prayers in our hearts, and for the prayers in our prayer basket we pray, **Easter Us, O God.**

For whom and for what would we like to pray today? We would very much like to pray with you. We will ask the off site community to begin. When their prayers are spoken, we will respond “Easter us, O God. We will then do the same here in our worship space. We invite anyone off site who has a prayer to voice to unmute your mike.

When community prayer has slowed or stopped:

Jesus, you are our safe passageway, our gate opener, and our redeemer. We go into our day with our hearts renewed and our hopes restored.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

I now invite you to join me as today on Mother's Day, we bless all those who have showered someone with a mother's love. I invite the community gathered in this space to turn to our camera and our Zoom community as we all extend our hands in blessing over the women with us, near or far.

Mother God, we bless you and praise you.
You are the God of Eve, mother of all the living.
You are the God of Sarah,
 who laughed at childbearing in old age.
You are the God of Rebekah,
 who favored her second-born, Jacob.
You are the God of Leah, mother of tribes,
and of Rachel, who mourned and wrestled and won.
You are the God of Elizabeth, who bore the Baptist,
You are the God of Mary, mother of Our Savior,
given by Christ on the cross to be the mother of us all.

God, our Mother,
we give you thanks for our mothers, grandmothers, aunts,
and all the women who have nurtured us and helped shape our lives with a
mother's love.
We are grateful for their time and energy;
for the support and patience they have shown us;
for the love and guidance they have given us,
and for the legacy of faith they have passed on to us.
Give to them the good that they have given others.
Welcome into your presence those who have died.

Fill this world, O God, with a mother's love.
Bless everyone here present
in the name of the Creator, the Redeemer, and the Sanctifier. **Amen.**