

**05 May 2024**

**THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**



**LICHFIELD**  
CATHEDRAL

## **Collect and Readings for the Holy Communion**

### **COLLECT**

God our redeemer,  
who hast delivered us from the power of darkness  
and brought us into the kingdom of thy Son:  
grant, that as by his death he hath recalled us to life,  
so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy;  
through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord,  
who liveth and reigneth with thee,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen

### **EPISTLE** Acts 10. 44-end

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 'Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?' So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

### **GOSPEL** John 15. 9-17

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

## **PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

*(for those who are worshipping at home on line)*

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ,  
for all the benefits you have given me,  
for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.  
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,  
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.  
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,  
May I know you more clearly, love you more dearly,  
and follow you more nearly, day by day. Amen.