

Sunday 2 May 2027

Sixth Sunday of Easter (Year B)

First Reading - Acts 15.1-2, 4-6, 8-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Paul and Barnabas

were once again in Antioch, in Syria.

Some disciples arrived from Judea,

and began teaching the believers in Antioch
that unless they kept
the entire law of Moses,
they could not be saved.

Paul and Barnabas

argued against them.

And eventually it was decided

that Paul and Barnabas
would go to Jerusalem

to discuss this question

with the apostles
and the elders,

and that some of the other believers
would go with them.

When the group arrived in Jerusalem,

they were welcomed
by the apostles and the elders,
and by the whole church;
and they reported
all that God was doing
amongst the believers
in Antioch.

But amongst the believers in Jerusalem

were some
who were also loyal
to the Pharisees;
and they insisted
that the believers in Antioch
should be ordered to keep
the entire law of Moses.

So the apostles and the elders
met to consider the matter.

After much debate,

Peter stood up, and said to them,

'It seems that God, who knows every human heart,
has poured out the Holy Spirit upon the Gentiles,
just as God poured out the Holy Spirit upon us.'

And in cleansing their hearts by faith,

God has made no distinction between them and us.

Why would we now challenge

what God has done for them,
by placing upon them
a burden so great
that neither our ancestors
nor we ourselves
have been able to bear it?

We have come to believe

that we will be saved
through the grace of the Lord Jesus -
and surely
it is through the grace of the Lord Jesus
that the Gentiles also
will be saved.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Second Reading - 1 John 4.7-10

A reading from the first letter of John.

My brothers and sisters,

love is from God,
so let us love one another.

Whoever does not love
does not know God.

And whoever does love
does know God,
and is a child of God;
for God is love.

God's love for us
is revealed in this:
that God sent

God's only Son
into the world
to draw us
to fullness of life
in him.

And this is love:
not that we loved God,
but that God loved us,
and sent God's Son
to be the atoning sacrifice
for our sin.

This is the word of the Lord.

Gospel - John 15.9-17

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you;
now remain in my love.'

If you keep my commandments,
you will remain in my love,
just as I have kept my Father's commandments,
and remain in his love.

All this I say

so that you may be
my delight; and your own joy
may be complete.

This is my commandment:

that you love one another, as I have loved you.

And there is no greater love than this:
that you lay down your life
for your friends.

You are my friends, if you keep my commandments.
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,
and the Father will give you
whatever you ask in my name.

All of this, I say to you
to direct you
to love one another.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.