

☩ Morning Prayer

Easter Season

Saturday, 20 April 2024

Preparation

O Lord, open our lips

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

In your resurrection, O Christ,

Let heaven and earth rejoice. Alleluia.

One or more of the following is said or sung:

this or another prayer of thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Lord God of our salvation,

to you be praise and glory for ever.

As once you ransomed your people from Egypt

and led them to freedom in the promised land,

so now you have delivered us from the dominion of darkness

and brought us into the kingdom of your risen Son.

May we, the first fruits of your new creation,

rejoice in this new day you have made,

and praise you for your mighty acts.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All Blessed be God for ever.

a suitable hymn, or the Easter Anthems

1 Christ our passover has been sacrificed for us: ☩

so let us celebrate the feast,

2 not with the old leaven of corruption and wickedness: ☩

but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

1 Corinthians 5.7b, 8

3Christ once raised from the dead dies no more: ☐
death has no more dominion over him.

4In dying he died to sin once for all: ☐
in living he lives to God.

5See yourselves therefore as dead to sin: ☐
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 6.9-11

6Christ has been raised from the dead: ☐
the first fruits of those who sleep.

7For as by man came death: ☐
by man has come also the resurrection of the dead;

8for as in Adam all die: ☐
even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

1 Corinthians 15.20-22

AllGlory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.

This opening prayer may be said

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and for ever.

AllAmen.

The Word of God

Psalmody

The appointed psalmody is said.

Psalm 108

Refrain: Be exalted, O God, above the heavens.

1 My heart is ready, O God, my heart is ready; □
I will sing and give you praise.

2 Awake, my soul; awake, harp and lyre, □
that I may awaken the dawn.

3 I will give you thanks, O Lord, among the peoples; □
I will sing praise to you among the nations. R

4 For your loving-kindness is as high as the heavens □
and your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.

5 Be exalted, O God, above the heavens □
and your glory over all the earth.

6 That your beloved may be delivered, □
save us by your right hand and answer me. R

7 God has spoken in his holiness: □
‘I will triumph and divide Shechem
and share out the valley of Succoth.

8 ‘Gilead is mine and Manasseh is mine; □
Ephraim is my helmet and Judah my sceptre.

9 ‘Moab shall be my washpot,
over Edom will I cast my sandal, □
across Philistia will I shout in triumph.’ R

10 Who will lead me into the strong city? □
Who will bring me into Edom?

11 Have you not cast us off, O God? □
Will you no longer go forth with our troops?

12 O grant us your help against the enemy, □
for earthly help is in vain.

13 Through God will we do great acts, □
for it is he that shall tread down our enemies.

Refrain: Be exalted, O God, above the heavens.

In times of terror, O God,
give us boldness
to act with courage, yet with mercy,
for you rule the nations with the
sword of truth;
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Psalm 110

Refrain: The Lord is king and has put on glorious apparel.

1 The Lord said to my lord, ‘Sit at my right hand, □
until I make your enemies your footstool.’

2 May the Lord stretch forth the sceptre of your power; □
rule from Zion in the midst of your enemies.

3 ‘Noble are you on this day of your birth; □
on the holy mountain, from the womb of the dawn
the dew of your new birth is upon you.’ R

4 The Lord has sworn and will not retract: □
‘You are a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.’

5 The king at your right hand, O Lord, □
shall smite down kings in the day of his wrath. R

6 In all his majesty, he shall judge among the nations, □
smiting heads over all the wide earth.

7 He shall drink from the brook beside the way; □
therefore shall he lift high his head.

Refrain: The Lord is king and has put on glorious apparel.

Lord Jesus, divine Son and eternal priest,
inspire us with the confidence of your final conquest of evil,
and grant that daily on our way
we may drink of the brook of your eternal life
and so find courage against all adversities;
for your mercy's sake.

Psalm 111

Refrain: The Lord is gracious and full of compassion.

1 Alleluia.
I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, □
in the company of the faithful and in the congregation.

2 The works of the Lord are great, □
sought out by all who delight in them.

3 His work is full of majesty and honour □
and his righteousness endures for ever.

4 He appointed a memorial for his marvellous deeds; □
the Lord is gracious and full of compassion. R

5 He gave food to those who feared him; □
he is ever mindful of his covenant.

6 He showed his people the power of his works □
in giving them the heritage of the nations.

7 The works of his hands are truth and justice; □
all his commandments are sure. R

8 They stand fast for ever and ever; □
they are done in truth and equity.

9 He sent redemption to his people;
he commanded his covenant for ever; □
holy and awesome is his name.

10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;
a good understanding have those who live by it; □

his praise endures for ever.

Refrain: The Lord is gracious and full of compassion.

Gracious God, you are full of compassion;
may we who long for your kingdom to come
rejoice to do your will
and acknowledge your power alone to save;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Each psalm or group of psalms may end with

All Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.

If there are two Scripture readings, the first may be read here, or both may be read after the canticle.

Exodus 29.1-9

Now this is what you shall do to them to consecrate them, so that they may serve me as priests. Take one young bull and two rams without blemish, and unleavened bread, unleavened cakes mixed with oil, and unleavened wafers spread with oil. You shall make them of choice wheat flour. You shall put them in one basket and bring them in the basket, and bring the bull and the two rams. You shall bring Aaron and his sons to the entrance of the tent of meeting, and wash them with water. Then you shall take the vestments, and put on Aaron the tunic and the robe of the ephod, and the ephod, and the breastpiece, and gird him with the decorated band of the ephod; and you shall set the turban on his head, and put the holy diadem on the turban. You shall take the anointing-oil, and pour it on his head and anoint him. Then you shall bring his sons, and put tunics on them, and you shall gird them with sashes and tie head-dresses on them; and the priesthood shall be theirs by a perpetual ordinance. You shall then ordain Aaron and his sons.

Canticle

The Song of Moses and Miriam, or another suitable canticle, for example, [number 23 \(page 574\)](#) or [number 32 \(page 583\)](#), may be said

Refrain:

All In your unfailing love, O Lord,
you lead the people whom you have redeemed. Alleluia.

I will sing to the Lord, who has triumphed gloriously, \square
the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea.

2The Lord is my strength and my song □
and has become my salvation.

3This is my God whom I will praise, □
the God of my forebears whom I will exalt.

4The Lord is a warrior, □
the Lord is his name.

5Your right hand, O Lord, is glorious in power: □
your right hand, O Lord, shatters the enemy.

6At the blast of your nostrils, the sea covered them; □
they sank as lead in the mighty waters.

7In your unfailing love, O Lord, □
you lead the people whom you have redeemed.

8And by your invincible strength □
you will guide them to your holy dwelling.

9You will bring them in and plant them, O Lord, □
in the sanctuary which your hands have established.

Exodus 15.1b-3, 6, 10, 13, 17

AllGlory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.

AllIn your unfailing love, O Lord,
you lead the people whom you have redeemed. Alleluia.

Scripture Reading

One or more readings appointed for the day are read.

The reading(s) may be followed by a time of silence.

Luke 2.21-40

After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, ‘Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord’), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, ‘a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.’

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

‘Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;
for my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel.’

And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, ‘This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.’

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

A suitable song or chant, or a responsory in this or another form, may follow

Death is swallowed up in victory.
AllWhere, O death, is your sting?
Christ is risen from the dead,
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.
AllDeath is swallowed up in victory.
The trumpet will sound
and the dead shall be raised.
AllWhere, O death, is your sting?
We shall not all sleep,
but we shall be changed.
AllDeath is swallowed up in victory.

Where, O death, is your sting?

from 1 Corinthians 15

Gospel Canticle

The Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah) is normally said,
or [The Song of Christ's Glory \(page 619\)](#) may be said

Refrain:

AllThe Lord is risen from the tomb
who for our sakes hung upon the tree. Alleluia.

1Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, □
who has come to his people and set them free.

2He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, □
born of the house of his servant David.

3Through his holy prophets God promised of old □
to save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all that hate us,

4To show mercy to our ancestors, □
and to remember his holy covenant.

5This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: □
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

6Free to worship him without fear, □
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.

7And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, □
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

8To give his people knowledge of salvation □
by the forgiveness of all their sins.

9In the tender compassion of our God □
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

10To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, ☩
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Luke 1.68-79

AllGlory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.

Refrain:

AllThe Lord is risen from the tomb
who for our sakes hung upon the tree. Alleluia.

Prayers

Intercessions are offered

- ☩ for the day and its tasks
- ☩ for the world and its needs
- ☩ for the Church and her life

Prayers may include the following concerns from the [cycle on pages 364–365](#)

- ☩ The people of God, that they may proclaim the risen Lord
- ☩ God’s creation, that the peoples of the earth may meet their responsibility to care
- ☩ Those in despair and darkness, that they may find the hope and light of Christ
- ☩ Those in fear of death, that they may find faith through the resurrection
- ☩ Prisoners and captives

A form of prayer found [on page 382](#) may be used.

These responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer

(or)

Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

Silence may be kept.

The Collect of the day is said

Almighty Father,

who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples

with the sight of the risen Lord:

give us such knowledge of his presence with us,

that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life

and serve you continually in righteousness and truth;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,

who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

AllAmen.

The Lord's Prayer is said

Rejoicing in God's new creation,

as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

AllOur Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation

but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours

now and for ever.

Amen.

(or)

Rejoicing in God's new creation,

let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

AllOur Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name;

thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

The Conclusion

May the risen Christ grant us the joys of eternal life.
AllAmen.

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.
AllThanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

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