

☩ Morning Prayer

Easter Season

Tuesday, 23 April 2024

George, Martyr, Patron of England, c.304

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 5

Refrain: You, O Lord, will bless the righteous.

1 Give ear to my words, O Lord; □
consider my lamentation.

2 Hearken to the voice of my crying, my King and my God, □
for to you I make my prayer.

3 In the morning, Lord, you will hear my voice; □
early in the morning I make my appeal to you, and look up.

4 For you are the God who takes no pleasure in wickedness; □
no evil can dwell with you. R

5 The boastful cannot stand in your sight; □
you hate all those that work wickedness.

6 You destroy those who speak lies; □
the bloodthirsty and deceitful the Lord will abhor.

7 But as for me, through the greatness of your mercy,
I will come into your house; □
I will bow down towards your holy temple in awe of you. R

8 Lead me, Lord, in your righteousness,
because of my enemies; □
make your way straight before my face.

9 For there is no truth in their mouth,
in their heart is destruction, □
their throat is an open sepulchre,
and they flatter with their tongue.

10 Punish them, O God; □
let them fall through their own devices.

11 Because of their many transgressions cast them out, ☩
for they have rebelled against you. R

12 But let all who take refuge in you be glad; ☩
let them sing out their joy for ever.

13 You will shelter them, ☩
so that those who love your name may exult in you.

14 For you, O Lord, will bless the righteous; ☩
and with your favour you will defend them as with a shield.

Refrain: You, O Lord, will bless the righteous.

Lord, protect us from the deceit
of flattering tongues and lying lips;
give us words of life which speak your truth
and bless your name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Psalm 146

Refrain: The Lord shall reign for ever.

1 Alleluia.
Praise the Lord, O my soul:
while I live will I praise the Lord; ☩
as long as I have any being,
I will sing praises to my God.

2 Put not your trust in princes,
nor in any human power, ☩
for there is no help in them.

3 When their breath goes forth, they return to the earth; ☩
on that day all their thoughts perish. R

4 Happy are those who have the God of Jacob for their help, ☩
whose hope is in the Lord their God;

5 Who made heaven and earth,
the sea and all that is in them; □
who keeps his promise for ever;

6 Who gives justice to those that suffer wrong □
and bread to those who hunger. R

7 The Lord looses those that are bound; □
the Lord opens the eyes of the blind;

8 The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; □
the Lord loves the righteous;

9 The Lord watches over the stranger in the land;
he upholds the orphan and widow; □
but the way of the wicked he turns upside down.

10 The Lord shall reign for ever, □
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.
Alleluia.

Refrain: The Lord shall reign for ever.

Lord of all,
our breath and being come from you,
yet our earthly end is dust;
as you loose the bound and feed the hungry,
so bring us in your mercy through the grave and gate of death
to the feast of eternal life,
where you reign for evermore.

Each psalm or group of psalms may end with

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.

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

Joshua 1.1-9

After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, the Lord spoke to Joshua son of Nun, Moses’ assistant, saying, ‘My servant Moses is dead. Now proceed to cross the Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the Israelites. Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, as I promised to Moses. From the wilderness and the Lebanon as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, to the Great Sea in the west shall be your territory. No one shall be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will not fail you or forsake you. Be strong and courageous; for you shall put this people in possession of the land that I swore to their ancestors to give them. Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to act in accordance with all the law that my servant Moses commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, so that you may be successful wherever you go. This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to act in accordance with all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall be successful. I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.’

Canticle

The following, or another suitable canticle, may be said or sung

Refrain:

AllMany waters cannot quench love;
neither can the floods drown it. Alleluia.

1Set me as a seal upon your heart, ☩
as a seal upon your arm;

2For love is strong as death, passion fierce as the grave; ☩
its flashes are flashes of fire, a raging flame.

3Many waters cannot quench love, ☩
neither can the floods drown it.

4If all the wealth of our house were offered for love, ☩
it would be utterly scorned.

cf Song of Solomon 8.6, 7

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.

AllMany waters cannot quench love;
neither can the floods drown it. Alleluia.

Scripture Reading

One or more readings appointed for the day are read.

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

Ephesians 6.10-20

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

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 Cantic

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

Refrain:

All Blessed are those who are persecuted for the cause of right,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 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:

All Blessed are those who are persecuted for the cause of right,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 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

God of hosts,
who so kindled the flame of love
in the heart of your servant George
that he bore witness to the risen Lord

by his life and by his death:
give us the same faith and power of love
that we who rejoice in his triumphs
may come to share with him the fullness of the resurrection;
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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