

☩ Morning Prayer

Easter Season

Wednesday, 24 April 2024

Mellitus, Bishop of London, first Bishop at St Paul's, 624 [Commemoration]

**The Seven Martyrs of the Melanesian Brotherhood, Solomon Islands, 2003
[Commemoration]**

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

3 Christ once raised from the dead dies no more: □

death has no more dominion over him.

4 In dying he died to sin once for all: □

in living he lives to God.

5 See yourselves therefore as dead to sin: □

and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 6.9-11

6 Christ has been raised from the dead: □

the first fruits of those who sleep.

7 For as by man came death: □

by man has come also the resurrection of the dead;

8 for as in Adam all die: □

even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

1 Corinthians 15.20-22

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.

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 135

Refrain: Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good.

1 Alleluia.

Praise the name of the Lord; ☩

give praise, you servants of the Lord,

2 You that stand in the house of the Lord, ☩

in the courts of the house of our God.

3 Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good; ☩

make music to his name, for it is lovely.

4 For the Lord has chosen Jacob for himself ☩

and Israel for his own possession. R

5 For I know that the Lord is great ☩

and that our Lord is above all gods.

6 The Lord does whatever he pleases

in heaven and on earth, ☩

in the seas and in all the deeps.

7 He brings up the clouds from the ends of the earth; ☩

he makes lightning with the rain

and brings the winds out of his treasures. R

8 He smote the firstborn of Egypt, ☩

the firstborn of man and beast.

9 He sent signs and wonders into your midst, O Egypt, □
upon Pharaoh and all his servants.

10 He smote many nations □
and slew mighty kings:

11 Sihon, king of the Amorites,
and Og, the king of Bashan, □
and all the kingdoms of Canaan.

12 He gave their land as a heritage, □
a heritage for Israel his people. R

13 Your name, O Lord, endures for ever □
and shall be remembered through all generations.

14 For the Lord will vindicate his people □
and have compassion on his servants. R

15 The idols of the nations are but silver and gold, □
the work of human hands.

16 They have mouths, but cannot speak; □
eyes have they, but cannot see;

17 They have ears, but cannot hear; □
neither is there any breath in their mouths.

18 Those who make them shall become like them, □
and so will all who put their trust in them. R

19 Bless the Lord, O house of Israel; □
O house of Aaron, bless the Lord.

20 Bless the Lord, O house of Levi; □
you who fear the Lord, bless the Lord.

21 Blessed be the Lord from Zion, □
who dwells in Jerusalem.

Alleluia.

Refrain: Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good.

Wise and gracious God,
save us from the idols of our hearts
and keep us in your living presence,
that we may become a people for your praise
in 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 33

The Lord said to Moses, ‘Go, leave this place, you and the people whom you have brought up out of the land of Egypt, and go to the land of which I swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, saying, “To your descendants I will give it.” I will send an angel before you, and I will drive out the Canaanites, the Amorites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. Go up to a land flowing with milk and honey; but I will not go up among you, or I would consume you on the way, for you are a stiff-necked people.’

When the people heard these harsh words, they mourned, and no one put on ornaments. For the Lord had said to Moses, ‘Say to the Israelites, “You are a stiff-necked people; if for a single moment I should go up among you, I would consume you. So now take off your ornaments, and I will decide what to do to you.” ’ Therefore the Israelites stripped themselves of their ornaments, from Mount Horeb onwards.

Now Moses used to take the tent and pitch it outside the camp, far off from the camp; he called it the tent of meeting. And everyone who sought the Lord would go out to the tent of meeting, which was outside the camp. Whenever Moses went out to the tent, all the people would rise and stand, each of them, at the entrance of their tents and watch Moses until he had gone into the tent. When Moses entered the tent, the pillar of cloud would descend and stand at the entrance of the tent, and the Lord would speak with Moses. When all the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the entrance of the tent, all the people would rise and bow down, all of them, at the entrance of their tents. Thus the Lord used to speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend. Then he would return to the camp; but his young assistant, Joshua son of Nun, would not leave the tent.

Moses said to the Lord, ‘See, you have said to me, “Bring up this people”; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, “I know you by name, and you have also found favour in my sight.” Now if I have found favour in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favour in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people.’ He said, ‘My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.’ And he said to him, ‘If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favour in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth.’

The Lord said to Moses, 'I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favour in my sight, and I know you by name.' Moses said, 'Show me your glory, I pray.' And he said, 'I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, "The Lord"; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But', he said, 'you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live.' And the Lord continued, 'See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen.'

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.

1
I will sing to the Lord, who has triumphed gloriously,
the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

9
You 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 3.15-22

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, ‘I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.’

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people. But Herod the ruler, who had been rebuked by him because of Herodias, his brother’s wife, and because of all the evil things that Herod had done, added to them all by shutting up John in prison.

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, ‘You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.’

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 God,

whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:

raise us, who trust in him,

from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,

that we may seek those things which are above,

where he 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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