

Morning Prayer Easter Season

Preparation

O Lord, open our lips
and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

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.

Blessed be God for ever.

Easter Anthem

- 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

**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.

Amen.

The Word of God

Psalm 23

Refrain: I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd;
therefore can I lack nothing.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He shall refresh my soul
and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me
in the presence of those who trouble me;
you have anointed my head with oil
and my cup shall be full.
- 6 Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Refrain: I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

*O God, our sovereign and shepherd,
who brought again your Son Jesus Christ
from the valley of death,
comfort us with your protecting presence
and your angels of goodness and love,
that we also may come home
and dwell with him in your house for ever.*

The Gospel Reading

Luke 24.13-35

The Walk to Emmaus

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?' He asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.' Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?' Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together.

They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Canticle

The Song of Moses and Miriam

**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

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

Responsory

Death is swallowed up in victory.
Where, O death, is your sting?

Christ is risen from the dead,
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.
Death is swallowed up in victory.

The trumpet will sound
and the dead shall be raised.
Where, O death, is your sting?

We shall not all sleep,
but we shall be changed.
**Death is swallowed up in victory.
Where, O death, is your sting?**

*Gospel Canticle
The Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah)*

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

- 1 Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel,
who has come to his people and set them free.
- 2 He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,
born of the house of his servant David.
- 3 Through his holy prophets God promised of old
to save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all that hate us,
- 4 To show mercy to our ancestors,
and to remember his holy covenant.
- 5 This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
- 6 Free to worship him without fear,
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.
- 7 And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
- 8 To give his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of all their sins.
- 9 In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
- 10 To 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

**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.**

**The 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*

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

Collect Prayer

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. **Amen.**

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

The Lord's Prayer

**Our 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
Amen.

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia
Thanks be to God. Alleluia