

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 106.6-24

The Lord remembered his covenant.

We have sinned like our forebears;
we have done wrong and dealt wickedly.

In Egypt they did not consider your wonders,
nor remember the abundance of your faithful love;
they rebelled against the Most High at the Red Sea.

But he saved them for his name's sake,
that he might make his power to be known.

He rebuked the Red Sea and it was dried up;
so he led them through the deep as through the wilderness.

He saved them from the adversary's hand
and redeemed them from the hand of the enemy.

As for those that troubled them, the waters overwhelmed them;
there was not one of them left.

Then they believed his words
and sang aloud his praise.

But soon they forgot his deeds
and would not wait for his counsel.

A craving seized them in the wilderness,
and they put God to the test in the desert.

He gave them their desire,
but sent a wasting sickness among them.

They grew jealous of Moses in the camp
and of Aaron, the holy one of the Lord.

So the earth opened and swallowed up Dathan
and covered the company of Abiram.

A fire was kindled in their company;
the flame burnt up the wicked.

They made a calf at Horeb
and worshipped the molten image;

Thus they exchanged their glory
for the image of an ox that feeds on hay.

They forgot God their saviour,
who had done such great things in Egypt,

Wonderful deeds in the land of Ham
and fearful things at the Red Sea.

So he would have destroyed them,
had not Moses his chosen stood before him in the breach,
to turn away his wrath from consuming them. *R*

Then they scorned the Promised Land
and would not believe his word,

The Lord remembered his covenant.

*Holy God,
when our memories blot out your kindness
and we ignore your patient love,
remember us, re-make us,
and give to us poor sinners
the rich inheritance of Jesus Christ our Lord.*

The Gospel Reading

John 10. 1-10

Jesus the Good Shepherd

‘Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them

out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.' Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

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 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.
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