

*Evening Prayer*  
*Easter Season*  
*Sunday, 18 April 2021*  
*The Third Sunday of Easter*

## **Preparation**

O God, make speed to save us.

**All** O Lord, make haste to help us.

In your resurrection, O Christ,

**All** 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, Sovereign Lord,  
the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
to you be glory and praise for ever.  
From the deep waters of death  
you brought your people to new birth  
by raising your Son to life in triumph.  
Through him dark death has been destroyed  
and radiant life is everywhere restored.  
As you call us out of darkness into his marvellous light  
may our lives reflect his glory  
and our lips repeat the endless song.  
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
**All Blessed be God for ever.**

*A Song of David (page 573), the following or another suitable hymn*

Ye choirs of new Jerusalem,  
your sweetest notes employ,  
the Paschal victory to hymn  
in strains of holy joy.

How Judah's lion burst his chains  
and crushed the serpent's head;  
and brought with him, from death's domains,  
the long-imprisoned dead.

Triumphant in his glory now  
his sceptre ruleth all,  
earth, heaven, and hell before him bow,  
and at his footstool fall.

While joyful thus his praise we sing,  
his mercy we implore,  
into his palace bright to bring  
and keep us evermore.

All glory to the Father be,  
all glory to the Son,  
all glory, Holy Ghost, to thee,  
while endless ages run. Alleluia, Amen.

*Fulbert of Chartres, tr: Robert Campbell  
(Tune: CM)*

***This opening prayer may be said***

That this evening may be holy, good and peaceful,  
let us pray with one heart and mind.

***Silence is kept.***

As our evening prayer rises before you, O God,  
so may your mercy come down upon us  
to cleanse our hearts  
and set us free to sing your praise  
now and for ever.

**All Amen.**

## **The Word of God**

### ***Psalmody***

***The appointed psalmody is said.***

### ***Psalm 142***

***Refrain:*** *Bring my soul out of prison,  
that I may give thanks to your name.*

1 I cry aloud to the Lord; **◆**  
to the Lord I make my supplication.

2 I pour out my complaint before him **◆**  
and tell him of my trouble.

3 When my spirit faints within me, you know my path; **◆**  
in the way wherein I walk have they laid a snare for me.

4 I look to my right hand, and find no one who knows me; **◆**  
I have no place to flee to, and no one cares for my soul. **R**

5 I cry out to you, O Lord, and say: ♦  
'You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living.

6 'Listen to my cry, for I am brought very low; ♦  
save me from my persecutors, for they are too strong for me.

7 'Bring my soul out of prison,  
that I may give thanks to your name; ♦  
when you have dealt bountifully with me,  
then shall the righteous gather around me.'

***Refrain:** Bring my soul out of prison,  
that I may give thanks to your name.*

*God of compassion,  
you regard the forsaken  
and give hope to the crushed in spirit;  
hear those who cry to you in distress  
and bring your ransomed people to sing your glorious praise,  
now and for ever.*

*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.*

### *Deuteronomy 7.7-13*

It was not because you were more numerous than any other people that the Lord set his heart on you and chose you—for you were the fewest of all peoples. It was because the Lord loved you and kept the oath that he swore to your ancestors, that the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who maintains covenant loyalty with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations, and who repays in their own person those who reject him. He does not delay but repays in their own person those who reject him. Therefore, observe diligently the commandment—the statutes and the ordinances—that I am commanding you today.

If you heed these ordinances, by diligently observing them, the Lord your God will maintain with you the covenant loyalty that he swore to your ancestors; he will love you, bless you, and multiply you; he will bless the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground, your grain and your wine and your oil, the increase of your cattle and the issue of your flock, in the land that he swore to your ancestors to give you.

## ***Canticle***

***A Song of Faith, or another suitable canticle, for example, number 60 (page 618) or number 74 (page 632), may be said***

### ***Refrain:***

**All God raised Christ from the dead,  
the Lamb without spot or stain. Alleluia.**

1 Blessed be the God and Father ◆  
of our Lord Jesus Christ!

2 By his great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope ◆  
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

3 Into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled and unfading, ◆  
kept in heaven for you,

4 Who are being protected by the power of God through faith, ◆  
for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

5 You were ransomed from the futile ways of your ancestors ◆  
not with perishable things like silver or gold

6 But with the precious blood of Christ ◆  
like that of a lamb without spot or stain.

7 Through him you have confidence in God,  
who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, ◆  
so that your faith and hope are set on God.

*1 Peter 1.3-5, 18, 19, 21*

**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.**

**All God raised Christ from the dead,  
the Lamb without spot or stain. Alleluia.**

## ***Scripture Reading***

***One or more readings appointed for the day are read.***

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

***Revelation 2.1-11***

'To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven golden lampstands:

'I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance. I know that you cannot tolerate evildoers; you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them to be false. I also know that you are enduring patiently and bearing up for the sake of my name, and that you have not grown weary. But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. Remember then from what you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent. Yet this is to your credit: you hate the works of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches. To everyone who conquers, I will give permission to eat from the tree of life that is in the paradise of God.

'And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write: These are the words of the first and the last, who was dead and came to life:

'I know your affliction and your poverty, even though you are rich. I know the slander on the part of those who say that they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Beware, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison so that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have affliction. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life. Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches. Whoever conquers will not be harmed by the second death.

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

The Lord is my strength and my song:  
he has become my salvation.

**All The Lord is my strength and my song:  
he has become my salvation.**

I shall not die, but live,  
and declare the works of the Lord.

**All He has become my salvation.**

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**All The Lord is my strength and my song:  
he has become my salvation.**

*from Psalm 118*

### ***Gospel Canticle***

***The Magnificat (The Song of Mary) is normally said,  
or Great and Wonderful (page 629) may be said***

***Refrain:***

**All The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone. Alleluia.**

1 My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour; ♦  
he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.

2 From this day all generations will call me blessed; ♦  
the Almighty has done great things for me  
and holy is his name.

3 He has mercy on those who fear him, ♦  
from generation to generation.

4 He has shown strength with his arm ♦  
and has scattered the proud in their conceit,

5 Casting down the mighty from their thrones ♦  
and lifting up the lowly.

6 He has filled the hungry with good things ♦  
and sent the rich away empty.

7 He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, ♦  
to remember his promise of mercy,

8 The promise made to our ancestors, ♦  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

*Luke 1.46-55*

**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.**

**Refrain:**

**All The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone. Alleluia.**

## Prayers

***Thanksgiving may be made for the day.***

***Intercessions are offered***

***¶ for peace***

***¶ for individuals and their needs***

***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

*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.

**All Amen.**

*The Lord's Prayer is said*

**All 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.

**All Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

**All Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

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