

# Easter

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!  
By his great mercy we have been born anew to a living  
hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the  
dead.

*1 Peter 1.3*

## The Gathering

*We stand as the ministers enter during the opening hymn.*

In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

*All* **Amen.**

## The Greeting

*The president greets the people*

The Lord be with you  
*All* **and also with you.**

*(or)*

Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you  
*All* **and also with you.**

*From Easter Day to Pentecost this acclamation follows.*

Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
*All* **He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

*Words of introduction may be said.*

## Prayer of Preparation

*The following prayer may be said*

*All* **Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## Prayers of Penitence

*To prepare ourselves to celebrate the presence of Christ in word and sacrament, the president invites us to call to mind and confess our sins.*

*A pause for silent reflection follows. After the silence, one of the following forms of confession is used*

*All* **Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you,  
through our own fault,  
in thought, and word, and deed,  
and in what we have left undone.  
We are heartily sorry,  
and repent of all our sins.  
For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,  
forgive us all that is past;  
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life  
to the glory of your name.  
Amen.**

*(or)*

Jesus Christ, risen Master and triumphant Lord,  
we come to you in sorrow for our sins,  
and confess to you our weakness and unbelief.

We have lived by our own strength,  
and not by the power of your resurrection.  
In your mercy, forgive us.

*All* **Lord, hear us and help us.**

We have lived by the light of our own eyes,  
as faithless and not believing.  
In your mercy, forgive us.

*All* **Lord, hear us and help us.**

We have lived for this world alone,  
and doubted our home in heaven.  
In your mercy, forgive us.

*All* **Lord, hear us and help us.**

*The president gives the absolution using these or other suitable words*

May the God of love and power  
forgive you and free you from your sins,  
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,  
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

*The Kyrie Eleison, an ancient prayer for Divine mercy, may be said  
or sung.*

Lord, have mercy.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy.

*All* **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

## **Gloria in Excelsis**

*The hymn of praise, Gloria in Excelsis, may be said or sung*

*All* **Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.**

## **The Collect**

*The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words  
'let us pray' or a more specific bidding.*

*The president says the Collect, which expresses the theme of the  
day's celebration, and all respond*

*All* **Amen.**

# The Liturgy of the Word

## Readings

*We sit for the readings. Either one or two readings from Scripture precede the Gospel reading.*

*At the end the reader says*

This is the word of the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

*A psalm may follow the first reading.*

*A hymn may be sung.*

## Gospel Reading

*We stand for the proclamation of the Gospel.*

*The following or another suitable **acclamation** may herald the Gospel reading*

Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one;  
I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.

*All* **Alleluia.**

*When the Gospel is announced the reader says*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N*.

*All* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*All* **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## The Sermon

*We sit for the sermon.*

## The Creed

*We stand to declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.*

*All* We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son  
is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come.  
Amen.

## Prayers of Intercession

*The president introduces the prayers of intercession with these or similar words*

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ,  
let us pray to the Father.

*We kneel or sit for the prayers.*

*These or other suitable responses may be used*

Lord, in your mercy  
*All* **hear our prayer.**

*(or)*

Lord, hear us  
*All* **Lord, graciously hear us.**

*And at the end*

Merciful Father,  
*All* **accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

*Alternatively, the following form of intercession may be used*

Father, we praise you for the resurrection  
of your Son Jesus Christ from the dead.  
Shed his glorious light on all Christian people  
that we may live as those who believe  
in the triumph of the cross.

Lord, hear us.  
*All* **Lord, graciously hear us.**



We pray for those who at this season are receiving in baptism  
your Son's new life by water and Spirit...  
Dying with Christ,  
may they know the power of his resurrection.

Lord, hear us.

*All* **Lord, graciously hear us.**

We pray for all whom we know and love,  
both near and far...  
May their eyes be opened to see the glory of the risen Lord.

Lord, hear us.

*All* **Lord, graciously hear us.**

We pray for those who suffer pain and anguish...  
Grant them the faith to reach out towards  
the healing wounds of Christ  
and be filled with his peace.

Lord, hear us.

*All* **Lord, graciously hear us.**

We remember before you  
those who have died in the hope of the resurrection...  
Unite us with them in your undying love.

Lord, hear us.

*All* **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Join our voices, we pray, Lord our God,  
to the songs of all your saints  
in proclaiming that you give us the victory  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

# The Liturgy of the Sacrament

## The Peace

*We stand for the Peace.*

*The president may introduce the Peace with a suitable sentence*

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
*All* **and also with you.**

*These words may be added*

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

## Preparation of the Altar and the Gifts

*During a **hymn** the gifts of bread and wine, which by the power of the Holy Spirit will become for us the body and blood of Christ, are brought to the altar. A collection for the work of the Church may also be taken.*

*As the gifts of bread and wine are placed on the altar the following or other suitable prayers may be used*

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:  
through your goodness we have this bread to offer,  
which earth has given and human hands have made.  
It will become for us the bread of life.

*All* **Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:  
through your goodness we have this wine to offer,  
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.  
It will become for us our spiritual drink.

*All* **Blessed be God for ever.**

## The Eucharistic Prayer [E]

*The 'preface' [enclosed in brackets] may be replaced by the preface on page 51 for Ascension Day and page 52 from the day after Ascension Day until the Day of Pentecost.*

The Lord be with you      (or)      The Lord is here.  
*All*    **and also with you.**                      **His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.  
*All*    **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*All*    **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

*Preface*

[It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
almighty and eternal Father,  
and in these days of Easter  
to celebrate with joyful hearts  
the memory of your wonderful works.  
For by the mystery of his passion  
Jesus Christ, your risen Son,  
has conquered the powers of death and hell  
and restored in men and women the image of your glory.  
He has placed them once more in paradise  
and opened to them the gate of life eternal.  
And so, in the joy of this Passover,  
earth and heaven resound with gladness,  
while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation  
sing for ever the hymn of your glory:]

*All*    **Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*All kneel or sit.*

We praise and bless you, loving Father,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
and as we obey his command,  
send your Holy Spirit,  
that broken bread and wine outpoured  
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends  
and, taking bread, he praised you.  
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.  
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:  
Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,  
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice  
made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,  
we proclaim his death and resurrection  
until he comes in glory.

*One of the following acclamations is used*

Great is the mystery of faith:

*All* **Christ has died:  
Christ is risen:  
Christ will come again.**

*(or)*

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

*All* **Dying you destroyed our death,  
rising you restored our life:  
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

*(or)*

Christ is the bread of life:

*All* **When we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,  
until you come in glory.**

Lord of all life,  
help us to work together for that day  
when your kingdom comes  
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,  
gather us in your loving arms  
and bring us with [*N and*] all the saints  
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,  
for ever and ever.

*All* **Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us  
*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.**

*(or)*

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray  
*All* **Our 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.**

## Breaking of the Bread

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.

*All* **Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

*(or)*

Every time we eat this bread  
and drink this cup,  
*All* **we proclaim the Lord's death  
until he comes.**

*The Agnus Dei may be said or sung as the bread is broken*

*All* **Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
grant us peace.**

*(or)*

*All* **Jesus, Lamb of God,  
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins,  
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world,  
grant us peace.**

## Giving of Communion

*The president invites the people to receive communion. Those who have not been confirmed are invited to come to the altar for a blessing.*

Jesus is the Lamb of God  
who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

*All* **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

*(or)*

Draw near with faith.  
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ  
which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you.  
Eat and drink in remembrance that Christ died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

*The following prayer may be said.*

*All* **Most merciful Lord,  
your love compels us to come in.  
Our hands were unclean,  
our hearts were unprepared;  
we were not fit  
even to eat the crumbs from under your table.  
But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation,  
and share your bread with sinners.  
So cleanse and feed us  
with the precious body and blood of your Son,  
that he may live in us and we in him;  
and that we, with the whole company of Christ,  
may sit and eat in your kingdom.  
Amen.**

*The president and people receive communion. Upon receiving communion the communicant replies*

**Amen.**

*During communion hymns and anthems may be sung.*



## **Prayer after Communion**

*After a period of silence, a post communion prayer is said. One of the following prayers of thanksgiving is then said*

*All* **Almighty God,  
we thank you for feeding us  
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.  
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies  
to be a living sacrifice.  
Send us out in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work to your praise and glory.  
Amen.**

*(or)*

*All* **Father of all,  
we give you thanks and praise,  
that when we were still far off  
you met us in your Son and brought us home.  
Dying and living, he declared your love,  
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.  
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;  
we who drink his cup bring life to others;  
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.  
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,  
so we and all your children shall be free,  
and the whole earth live to praise your name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## *The Dismissal*

*The president may use either of the following blessings, or another suitable blessing*

God the Father,  
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,  
open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life.

*All* **Amen.**

God the Son,  
who in bursting the grave has won a glorious victory,  
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.

*All* **Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit,  
whom the risen Lord breathed into his disciples,  
empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.

*All* **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

*All* **Amen.**

*(or)*

The God of peace,  
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,  
that great shepherd of the sheep,  
make you perfect in every good work to do his will;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

*All* **Amen.**

*We stand for the final hymn.*

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

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

*The ministers and people depart.*

## Ascension Day

*Gospel Acclamation*

Alleluia, alleluia.

Go and make disciples of all nations, says the Lord.

Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

*All* **Alleluia.**

*Preface*

It is indeed right and good,

our duty and our joy,

always and everywhere to give you thanks,

holy Father, almighty and eternal God,

through Jesus Christ the King of glory.

Born of a woman,

he came to the rescue of our human race.

Dying for us,

he trampled death and conquered sin.

By the glory of his resurrection

he opened the way to life eternal

and by his ascension,

gave us the sure hope

that where he is we may also be.

Therefore the universe resounds with Easter joy

and with choirs of angels we sing for ever to your praise:

*The Eucharistic prayer continues with the **Sanctus** [Holy, Holy, Holy] on page 33.*

*Blessing*

Christ our ascended King

pour upon you the abundance of his gifts

and bring you to reign with him in glory;

and the blessing...

## From the day after Ascension Day until the Day of Pentecost

*Gospel Acclamation*

Alleluia, alleluia.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful people  
and kindle in them the fire of your love.

*All* **Alleluia.**

*Preface for use on the days between Ascension Day and Pentecost*

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For he is our great high priest  
who has entered once for all  
into the heavenly sanctuary,  
evermore to pour upon your Church  
the grace and comfort of your Holy Spirit.

He is the one who has gone before us,  
who calls us to be united in prayer  
as were his disciples in the upper room  
while they awaited his promised gift,  
the life-giving Spirit of Pentecost.

Therefore all creation yearns with eager longing  
as angels and archangels sing the endless hymn of praise:

*Preface for the Day of Pentecost*

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and everlasting God,  
through Jesus Christ, your only Son our Lord.

This day we give you thanks  
because in fulfilment of your promise  
you pour out your Spirit upon us,  
filling us with your gifts, leading us into all truth,  
and uniting peoples of many tongues  
in the confession of one faith.

Your Spirit gives us grace to call you Father,  
to proclaim your gospel to all nations  
and to serve you as a royal priesthood.

Therefore we join our voices with angels and archangels,  
and with all those in whom the Spirit dwells,  
to proclaim the glory of your name,  
for ever praising you and *saying*:

*The Eucharistic prayer continues with the **Sanctus** [Holy, Holy, Holy] on page 33.*

*Blessing*

The Spirit of truth lead you into all truth,  
give you grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
and strengthen you to proclaim the word and works of God;  
and the blessing...

*Solemn Blessing*

May the Spirit,  
who hovered over the waters when the world was created,  
breathe into you the life he gives.

*All* **Amen.**

May the Spirit,  
who overshadowed the Virgin when the eternal Son came  
among us,  
make you joyful in the service of the Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

May the Spirit,  
who set the Church on fire upon the Day of Pentecost,  
bring the world alive with the love of the risen Christ.

*All* **Amen.**

and the blessing...

## *Prayers after Communion*

*The following prayers may be said privately after receiving communion.*

Lord Jesus Christ,  
we thank you that in this wonderful sacrament  
you have given us the memorial of your passion:  
grant us so to reverence the sacred mysteries  
of your body and blood  
that we may know within ourselves  
and show forth in our lives  
the fruits of your redemption;  
for you are alive and reign with the Father  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

*Collect for Corpus Christi*

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.  
Body of Christ, save me.  
Blood of Christ, inebriate me.  
Water from the side of Christ, wash me.  
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.  
O good Jesus, hear me.  
Within your wounds hide me.  
Let me never be separated from you.  
From the power of darkness defend me.  
In the hour of my death, call me  
and bid me come to you,  
that with your saints I may praise you  
for ever and ever.

*Anima Christi*

Set our hearts on fire with love for you, O Christ our God,  
that in that flame we may love you with all our heart,  
with all our mind, with all our soul, with all our strength,  
and our neighbours as ourselves;  
so that keeping your commandments,  
we may glorify you, the giver of all good gifts.

*Orthodox Prayer*