

☩ Morning Prayer

Easter Season

Saturday, 4 May 2024

English Saints and Martyrs of the Reformation Era [Lesser Festival]

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

3Christ once raised from the dead dies no more: □
death has no more dominion over him.

4In dying he died to sin once for all: □
in living he lives to God.

5See yourselves therefore as dead to sin: □
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 6.9-11

6Christ has been raised from the dead: □
the first fruits of those who sleep.

7For as by man came death: □
by man has come also the resurrection of the dead;

8for as in Adam all die: □
even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

1 Corinthians 15.20-22

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.

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 146

Refrain: The Lord shall reign for ever.

1 Alleluia.

Praise the Lord, O my soul:

while I live will I praise the Lord; ☩

as long as I have any being,

I will sing praises to my God.

2 Put not your trust in princes,

nor in any human power, ☩

for there is no help in them.

3 When their breath goes forth, they return to the earth; ☩

on that day all their thoughts perish. R

4 Happy are those who have the God of Jacob for their help, ☩

whose hope is in the Lord their God;

5 Who made heaven and earth,

the sea and all that is in them; ☩

who keeps his promise for ever;

6 Who gives justice to those that suffer wrong ☩

and bread to those who hunger. R

7 The Lord looses those that are bound; ☩

the Lord opens the eyes of the blind;

8 The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; ☩

the Lord loves the righteous;

9 The Lord watches over the stranger in the land;

he upholds the orphan and widow; ☩

but the way of the wicked he turns upside down.

10 The Lord shall reign for ever, □
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.
Alleluia.

Refrain: The Lord shall reign for ever.

Lord of all,
our breath and being come from you,
yet our earthly end is dust;
as you loose the bound and feed the hungry,
so bring us in your mercy through the grave and gate of death
to the feast of eternal life,
where you reign for evermore.

Psalm 150

Refrain: Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

1 Alleluia.
O praise God in his holiness; □
praise him in the firmament of his power.

2 Praise him for his mighty acts; □
praise him according to his excellent greatness. R

3 Praise him with the blast of the trumpet; □
praise him upon the harp and lyre.

4 Praise him with timbrel and dances; □
praise him upon the strings and pipe. R

5 Praise him with ringing cymbals; □
praise him upon the clashing cymbals.

6 Let everything that has breath □
praise the Lord.
Alleluia.

Refrain: Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

God of life and love,
whose Son was victorious over sin and death,
make us alive with his life,
that the whole world may resound with your praise;
through 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.

Numbers 14.26-end

And the Lord spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying: How long shall this wicked congregation complain against me? I have heard the complaints of the Israelites, which they complain against me. Say to them, 'As I live', says the Lord, 'I will do to you the very things I heard you say: your dead bodies shall fall in this very wilderness; and of all your number, included in the census, from twenty years old and upwards, who have complained against me, not one of you shall come into the land in which I swore to settle you, except Caleb son of Jephunneh and Joshua son of Nun. But your little ones, who you said would become booty, I will bring in, and they shall know the land that you have despised. But as for you, your dead bodies shall fall in this wilderness. And your children shall be shepherds in the wilderness for forty years, and shall suffer for your faithlessness, until the last of your dead bodies lies in the wilderness. According to the number of the days in which you spied out the land, forty days, for every day a year, you shall bear your iniquity, forty years, and you shall know my displeasure.' I the Lord have spoken; surely I will do thus to all this wicked congregation gathered together against me: in this wilderness they shall come to a full end, and there they shall die.

And the men whom Moses sent to spy out the land, who returned and made all the congregation complain against him by bringing a bad report about the land—the men who brought an unfavourable report about the land died by a plague before the Lord. But Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of Jephunneh alone remained alive, of those men who went to spy out the land.

When Moses told these words to all the Israelites, the people mourned greatly. They rose early in the morning and went up to the heights of the hill country, saying, 'Here we are. We will go up to the place that the Lord has promised, for we have sinned.' But Moses said, 'Why do you continue to transgress the command of the Lord? That will not succeed. Do not go up, for the Lord is not with you; do not let yourselves be struck down before your enemies. For the Amalekites and the Canaanites will confront you there, and you shall fall by the sword; because you have turned back from following the Lord, the Lord will not be with you.' But they presumed to go up to the heights of the hill country, even though the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and Moses, had not left the camp. Then the Amalekites and the Canaanites who lived in that hill country came down and defeated them, pursuing them as far as Hormah.

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

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 In 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 6.12-26

Jesus went out to the mountain to pray; and he spent the night in prayer to God. And when day came, he called his disciples and chose twelve of them, whom he also named apostles: Simon, whom he named Peter, and his brother Andrew, and James, and John, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James son of Alphaeus, and Simon, who was called the Zealot, and Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

'Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

'Blessed are you who are hungry now,
for you will be filled.

'Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

'Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

'But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.

'Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.

'Woe to you who are laughing now,
for you will mourn and weep.

'Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.'

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.

All Death is swallowed up in victory.

The trumpet will sound

and the dead shall be raised.

All Where, O death, is your sting?

We shall not all sleep,

but we shall be changed.

All Death is swallowed up in victory.

Where, O death, is your sting?

from 1 Corinthians 15

Gospel Cantic

The Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah) is normally said,

or [The Song of Christ's Glory \(page 619\)](#) may be said

Refrain:

All Blessed are those who are persecuted for the cause of right,

for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 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.

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:

All Blessed are those who are persecuted for the cause of right,

for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 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

Merciful God,

who, when your Church on earth was torn apart

by the ravages of sin,

raised up men and women in this land

who witnessed to their faith with courage and constancy:

give to your Church that peace which is your will,

and grant that those who have been divided on earth

may be reconciled in heaven

and share together in the vision of your glory;

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

Rejoicing in God's new creation,

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.

(or)

Rejoicing in God's new creation,
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.

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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