

## ¶ Evening Prayer

### Easter Season

**Sunday, 4 April 2021**

### Easter Day

#### Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.

All O Lord, make haste to help us.

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, 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.

AllAmen.

## **The Word of God**

## Psalmody

The appointed psalmody is said.

### Psalm 105

Refrain: Remember the marvels the Lord has done.

1 O give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name; <sup>□</sup>  
make known his deeds among the peoples.

2 Sing to him, sing praises, <sup>□</sup>  
and tell of all his marvellous works.

3 Rejoice in the praise of his holy name; <sup>□</sup>  
let the hearts of them rejoice who seek the Lord.

4 Seek the Lord and his strength; <sup>□</sup>  
seek his face continually.

5 Remember the marvels he has done, <sup>□</sup>  
his wonders and the judgements of his mouth,

6 O seed of Abraham his servant, <sup>□</sup>  
O children of Jacob his chosen. R

7 He is the Lord our God; <sup>□</sup>  
his judgements are in all the earth.

8 He has always been mindful of his covenant, <sup>□</sup>  
the promise that he made for a thousand generations:

9 The covenant he made with Abraham, <sup>□</sup>  
the oath that he swore to Isaac,

10 Which he established as a statute for Jacob, <sup>□</sup>  
an everlasting covenant for Israel,

11 Saying, 'To you will I give the land of Canaan <sup>□</sup>  
to be the portion of your inheritance.' R

12 When they were but few in number, <sup>□</sup>  
of little account, and sojourners in the land,

13 Wandering from nation to nation,<sup>□</sup>  
from one kingdom to another people,

14 He suffered no one to do them wrong<sup>□</sup>  
and rebuked even kings for their sake,

15 Saying, 'Touch not my anointed<sup>□</sup>  
and do my prophets no harm.' R

16 Then he called down famine over the land<sup>□</sup>  
and broke every staff of bread.

17 But he had sent a man before them,<sup>□</sup>  
Joseph, who was sold as a slave.

18 They shackled his feet with fetters;<sup>□</sup>  
his neck was ringed with iron.

19 Until all he foretold came to pass,<sup>□</sup>  
the word of the Lord tested him.

20 The king sent and released him;<sup>□</sup>  
the ruler of peoples set him free.

21 He appointed him lord of his household<sup>□</sup>  
and ruler of all he possessed,

22 To instruct his princes as he willed<sup>□</sup>  
and to teach his counsellors wisdom. R

23 Then Israel came into Egypt;<sup>□</sup>  
Jacob sojourned in the land of Ham.

24 And the Lord made his people exceedingly fruitful;<sup>□</sup>  
he made them too many for their adversaries,

25 Whose heart he turned, so that they hated his people<sup>□</sup>  
and dealt craftily with his servants. R

26 Then sent he Moses his servant<sup>□</sup>  
and Aaron whom he had chosen.

27 He showed his signs through their word  
and his wonders in the land of Ham.

28 He sent darkness and it grew dark;  
yet they did not heed his words.

29 He turned their waters into blood  
and slew all their fish.

30 Their land swarmed with frogs,  
even in their kings' chambers.

31 He spoke the word, and there came clouds of flies,  
swarms of gnats within all their borders.

32 He gave them hailstones for rain  
and flames of lightning in their land.

33 He blasted their vines and their fig trees  
and shattered trees across their country.

34 He spoke the word, and the grasshoppers came  
and young locusts without number;

35 They ate every plant in their land  
and devoured the fruit of their soil.

36 He smote all the firstborn in their land,  
the first fruits of all their strength. R

37 Then he brought them out with silver and gold;  
there was not one among their tribes that stumbled.

38 Egypt was glad at their departing,  
for a dread of them had fallen upon them.

39 He spread out a cloud for a covering  
and a fire to light up the night.

40 They asked and he brought them quails;  
he satisfied them with the bread of heaven. R

41 He opened the rock, and the waters gushed out  
and ran in the dry places like a river.

42 For he remembered his holy word  
and Abraham, his servant.

43 So he brought forth his people with joy,  
his chosen ones with singing.

44 He gave them the lands of the nations  
and they took possession of the fruit of their toil,

45 That they might keep his statutes  
and faithfully observe his laws.

Alleluia.

Refrain: Remember the marvels the Lord has done.

God of our earthly pilgrimage,  
feed your Easter people with the bread of heaven,  
that we may hunger and thirst for righteousness  
until we reach our promised land;  
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.

## **Ezekiel 37.1-14**

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all round them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, 'Mortal, can these bones live?' I answered, 'O Lord God, you know.' Then he said to me, 'Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord.'

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, 'Prophesy to

the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.' I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, 'Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, "Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely." Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.'

## 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.

## Luke 24.13-35

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.

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 Cantic

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

(or)

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Silence may be kept.

The Collect of the day is said

Lord of all life and power,

who through the mighty resurrection of your Son

overcame the old order of sin and death  
to make all things new in him:  
grant that we, being dead to sin  
and alive to you in Jesus Christ,  
may reign with him in glory;  
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit  
be praise and honour, glory and might,  
now and in all eternity.  
AllAmen.

The Lord's Prayer is said

Rejoicing in God's new creation,  
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

AllOur 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

AllOur 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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