

¶ Evening Prayer

Easter Season

Thursday, 8 April 2021

Thursday of Easter Week

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 106

Refrain: The Lord remembered his covenant.

1 Alleluia.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is gracious,
for his faithfulness endures for ever.

2 Who can express the mighty acts of the Lord
or show forth all his praise?

3 Blessed are those who observe what is right
and always do what is just.

4 Remember me, O Lord, in the favour you bear for your people;
visit me in the day of your salvation;

5 That I may see the prosperity of your chosen
and rejoice in the gladness of your people,
and exult with your inheritance. R

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

7 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.

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

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

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

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

12 Then they believed his words
and sang aloud his praise. R

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

23 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

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

25 But murmured in their tents

and would not heed the voice of the Lord.

26 So he lifted his hand against them[□]
and swore to overthrow them in the wilderness,

27 To disperse their descendants among the nations,[□]
and to scatter them throughout the lands. R

28 They joined themselves to the Baal of Peor[□]
and ate sacrifices offered to the dead.

29 They provoked him to anger with their evil deeds[□]
and a plague broke out among them.

30 Then Phinehas stood up and interceded[□]
and so the plague was stayed.

31 This was counted to him for righteousness[□]
throughout all generations for ever.

32 They angered him also at the waters of Meribah,[□]
so that Moses suffered for their sake;

33 For they so embittered his spirit[□]
that he spoke rash words with his lips. R

34 They did not destroy the peoples[□]
as the Lord had commanded them.

35 They mingled with the nations[□]
and learned to follow their ways,

36 So that they worshipped their idols,[□]
which became to them a snare.

37 Their own sons and daughters[□]
they sacrificed to evil spirits.

38 They shed innocent blood,[□]
the blood of their sons and daughters,

39 Which they offered to the idols of Canaan,[□]
and the land was defiled with blood.

40 Thus were they polluted by their actions,[□]

and in their wanton deeds went whoring after other gods. R

41 Therefore was the wrath of the Lord
kindled against his people,[□]
and he abhorred his inheritance.

42 He gave them over to the hand of the nations,[□]
and those who hated them ruled over them.

43 So their enemies oppressed them[□]
and put them in subjection under their hand.

44 Many a time did he deliver them,
but they rebelled through their own devices[□]
and were brought down through their wickedness.

45 Nevertheless, he saw their adversity,[□]
when he heard their lamentation.

46 He remembered his covenant with them[□]
and relented according to the greatness of his faithful love.

47 He made them also to be pitied[□]
by all who had taken them captive. R

48 Save us, O Lord our God,
and gather us from among the nations,[□]
that we may give thanks to your holy name
and glory in your praise.

49 Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
from everlasting and to everlasting;[□]
and let all the people say, Amen.
Alleluia.

Refrain: 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.

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.

Exodus 13.1-16

The Lord said to Moses: Consecrate to me all the firstborn; whatever is the first to open the womb among the Israelites, of human beings and animals, is mine.

Moses said to the people, 'Remember this day on which you came out of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, because the Lord brought you out from there by strength of hand; no leavened bread shall be eaten. Today, in the month of Abib, you are going out. When the Lord brings you into the land of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, which he swore to your ancestors to give you, a land flowing with milk and honey, you shall keep this observance in this month. For seven days you shall eat unleavened bread, and on the seventh day there shall be a festival to the Lord. Unleavened bread shall be eaten for seven days; no leavened bread shall be seen in your possession, and no leaven shall be seen among you in all your territory. You shall tell your child on that day, "It is because of what the Lord did for me when I came out of Egypt." It shall serve for you as a sign on your hand and as a reminder on your forehead, so that the teaching of the Lord may be on your lips; for with a strong hand the Lord brought you out of Egypt. You shall keep this ordinance at its proper time from year to year.

'When the Lord has brought you into the land of the Canaanites, as he swore to you and your ancestors, and has given it to you, you shall set apart to the Lord all that first opens the womb. All the firstborn of your livestock that are males shall be the Lord's. But every firstborn donkey you shall redeem with a sheep; if you do not redeem it, you must break its neck. Every firstborn male among your children you shall redeem. When in the future your child asks you, "What does this mean?" you shall answer, "By strength of hand the Lord brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery. When Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go, the Lord killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from human firstborn to the firstborn of animals. Therefore I sacrifice to the Lord every male that first opens the womb, but every firstborn of my sons I redeem." It shall serve as a sign on your hand and as an emblem on your forehead that by strength of hand the Lord brought us out of Egypt.'

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.

1 Corinthians 15.29-34

Otherwise, what will those people do who receive baptism on behalf of the dead? If the dead are not raised at all, why are people baptized on their behalf?

And why are we putting ourselves in danger every hour? I die every day! That is as certain, brothers and sisters, as my boasting of you—a boast that I make in

Christ Jesus our Lord. If with merely human hopes I fought with wild animals at Ephesus, what would I have gained by it? If the dead are not raised,

‘Let us eat and drink,
for tomorrow we die.’

Do not be deceived:

‘Bad company ruins good morals.’

Come to a sober and right mind, and sin no more; for some people have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame.

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.

AllThe 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.

AllHe has become my salvation.

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

AllThe 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:

AllThe stone which the builders rejected

has become the chief cornerstone. Alleluia.

1My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,

my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour; [□]

he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.

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

3He has mercy on those who fear him, [□]
from generation to generation.

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

5Casting down the mighty from their thrones [□]
and lifting up the lowly.

6He has filled the hungry with good things [□]
and sent the rich away empty.

7He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, [□]
to remember his promise of mercy,

8The promise made to our ancestors, [□]
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Luke 1.46-55

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:

AllThe 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.
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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