

EASTER SUNDAY

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

HYMN

The Priest greets the people in these or other suitable words.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

And also with you.

An invocation is said.

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

The president lights the Easter candle with the taper, saying

Christ yesterday and today, the Beginning and the End, Alpha and Omega; all time belongs to him and all the ages. To him be glory and power through every age and for ever. **Amen.**

Placing five nails at the extremities and centre of the cross, the priest says

By his glorious wounds may Christ the Lord guard us and keep us. **Amen.**

May the light of Christ, rising in glory,
banish all darkness from our hearts and minds.

The light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Christ is risen. Alleluia!

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The Prayer of Preparation is said:

Let us pray.

**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.**

**Lord, have mercy
Christ, have mercy
Lord, have mercy**

**Glory to God in the highest
and peace to God's 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 appropriate Collect of the day is read

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

The First Reading

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn of the Risen Christ

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us:
so let us celebrate the feast,
Not with the old leaven of corruption and wickedness:
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Christ once raised from the dead dies no more:
death has no more dominion over him.
In dying he died to sin once for all:
in living he lives to God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

See yourselves therefore as dead to sin:
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Christ has been raised from the dead:
the first fruits of those who sleep.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For as by one man came death:
by another has come also the resurrection of the dead;
For as in Adam all die:
even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Second Reading

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to..., Chapter..., beginning at verse....

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

After the Gospel, the reader says

For the Gospel of our Lord,

praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

THE SERMON

The Nicene Creed is said or sung, all standing:

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church:

**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 of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
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.**

THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISM VOWS

As we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, we remember that through the Paschal mystery we have died and been buried with him in baptism, so that we may rise with him to new life within the family of his Church. Now that we have completed our observance of Lent, we renew the promises made at our baptism, affirming our allegiance to Christ, and our rejection of all that is evil. Therefore I ask these questions:

Do you turn to Christ?

I turn to Christ.

Do you repent of your sins?

I repent of my sins.

Do you renounce evil?

I renounce evil.

And now I ask you to make the profession of Christian faith into which you were baptised, and in which you live and grow.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, who made the world?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ, who redeemed mankind?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God?

I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

Almighty God, we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith with all those who have been baptised in your name. Keep us faithful to our baptism, and so make us ready for that day when the whole creation shall be made perfect in your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We pray to Jesus who is present with us to eternity, saying
Jesus, Lord of life,

in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, light of the world,
bring the light and peace of your gospel to the nations...
Jesus, Lord of life,

in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, bread of life,
give food to the hungry...
and nourish us with your word.
Jesus, Lord of life,

in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, our way, our truth, our life,
be with us and all who follow you in the way...
deepen our appreciation of your truth,
and fill us with your life.
Jesus, Lord of life,

in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, good shepherd who gave your life for the sheep,
recover the straggler, bind up the injured,
strengthen the sick
and lead the healthy and strong to play.
Jesus, Lord of life,

in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, the resurrection and the life,
we give you thanks
for all who have lived and believed in you...
raise us with them to eternal life.
Jesus, Lord of life,

**in your mercy, hear us,
accept our prayers, and be with us always. Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Christ our Passover Lamb has been offered for us, therefore we come to celebrate the festival.

Silence is kept

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, with a sincere and a true heart.

**Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you in thought word and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:
we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The absolution. Standing, the priest says

Almighty God,
who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith:
pardon you and set you free from all your sins,
strengthen you in all goodness
and keep you in eternal life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, Peace be with you! Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.

Alleluia! The peace of the risen Christ be always with you
and also with you. Alleluia!

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*and all may exchange a sign of peace, greeting one another with these words. **The Lord is risen.** Answer **He is risen indeed.***

HYMN

THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

The offerings of the people are collected and presented. The following words are used:

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power,
the glory, the splendour, and the majesty;
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.
All things come from you,
and of your own do we give you.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,
mighty creator, everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary
and lived as one of us.

By his death on the cross,
he offered the one true sacrifice for sin,
and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

And now we give you thanks
that you raised him to life triumphant,
and exalted him in glory.
By his victory over death,
the reign of sin is ended,
a new day has dawned,
a broken world is restored
and we are made whole once more.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and saying:

**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.**

Merciful God, we thank you
for these gifts of your creation,
this bread and wine,
and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit,
we who eat and drink them
may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread;
and when he had given you thanks
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Take, eat. This is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup,
and again giving you thanks
he gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Drink from this, all of you.
This is my blood of the new covenant
shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

In faith we acclaim you, O Christ:

**Lord, by your cross and resurrection
you have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the world.**

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded:
proclaiming his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross,
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming again,
we celebrate, with this bread and this cup,
his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice
for the sins of the whole world.
Renew us by your Holy Spirit,
unite us in the body of your Son,
and bring us with all your people
into the joy of your eternal kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
we worship you, Father,
in songs of never-ending praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us we are confident to pray,

**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.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil,
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

The Priest breaks the consecrated bread, saying:

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
We who are many are one body
for we all share in the one bread.

The following anthem is said

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Before the distribution the Priest invites the congregation to receive the communion with the following words:

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 he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

AFTER COMMUNION

Jesus said, He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day.

John 6:54

Eternal God, giver of life,
in the breaking of the bread we know the risen Lord.
May we who celebrate this holy feast
walk in his risen light
and bring new life to all creation.
Almighty God,

**we thank you for feeding us
with the body and the 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.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

THE BLESSING & DISMISSAL

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you what is pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!