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COMMON WORSHIP

EASTER

THE GATHERING

The Greeting

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ:

**he has given us new life and hope
by raising Jesus from the dead.**

God has claimed us as his own.

**He has brought us out of darkness.
He has made us light to the world.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

First Hymn

Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing Alleluia!
unto Christ our heav'nly King, Alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!
our salvation hath procured; Alleluia!
now above the sky he's King, Alleluia!
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Opening Prayer

**Faithful one, whose word is life:
come with saving power to free our praise,
inspire our prayer
and shape our lives
for the kingdom of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence

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.

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.

Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived for this world alone,
and doubted our home in heaven.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

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. **Amen.**

***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. (*Glory to God...*)**

**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. (*Glory to God...*)**

**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. (*Glory to God...*)
Amen**

The Collect of the Day

God of glory,
By the raising of your Son,
You have broken the chains of death and hell:
Fill your Church with faith and hope;
For a new day has dawned and the way to life stands open
in our saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The First Reading

34 Then Peter began to speak: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favouritism 35 but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right. 36 You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. 37 You know what has happened throughout the province of Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached— 38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.

39 "We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a cross, 40 but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. 41 He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen—by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. 42 He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. 43 All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Acts 10:34-43 New International Version (NIV)

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia.

Second Hymn

*All heaven declares
The glory of the risen Lord
Who can compare
With the beauty of the Lord
Forever He will be
The Lamb upon the throne
I gladly bow the knee
And worship Him alone*

*I will proclaim
The glory of the risen Lord
Who once was slain
To reconcile man to God
Forever You will be
The Lamb upon the throne
I gladly bow the knee
And worship You alone*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John

Alleluia. Glory to you, O Lord.

The Empty Tomb

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. 2 So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

3 So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. 4 Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. 5 He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. 6 Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, 7 as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. 8 Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. 9 (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) 10 Then the disciples went back to where they were staying.

11 Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb 12 and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

13 They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?"
"They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him."

14 At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

15 He asked her, "Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?"

Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him."

16 Jesus said to her, "Mary."

She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means "Teacher").

17 Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

18 Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her.

John 20:1-18 New International Version (NIV)

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ. Alleluia.

The Sermon

Do you get it? do you really get Easter?

In our Gospel reading today there are a few examples of people not really getting what's going on. Peter and John are dashing about trying to understand, trying to get it. But they go home, back to the others. The reading says that they believe but it's not entirely clear what it is that they believe. Perhaps they do believe that Jesus is risen but do they really get Easter yet.

The angel talking to Mary seems like quite a pained conversation, I'm not at all sure that they were both on the same page at all. Mary is mourning the death of Jesus and the angel is celebrating Jesus's victory over death and sin. So, he asks "why are you crying?".

Then Jesus calls Mary by name and she got it, she got Easter. Jesus calls us all by name, do you hear him calling your name today?

Let us declare our faith together
in our Lord Jesus Christ. **Alleluia.**

**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

Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace,
We thank you for the unending hope of Easter.
In these strange and confusing times we pray that you will
sustain and inspire your Church with the abounding
creativity of your Holy Spirit.

Jesus, Lord of life:
in your mercy, hear us.

We hold before you our Prime Minister and all those who are
struggling with their health, especially those who are in
hospital.
And we ask you to renew our appreciation for all those who's
work is to care for others.
Jesus, Lord of life:
in your mercy, hear us.

We thank you for the signs of hope in places like Italy and Spain and pray that this hope will continue and with your help, spread throughout the world.

Jesus, Lord of life:

in your mercy, hear us.

We thank you for the ceasefire in Yemen and pray that it will be the start of a lasting peace. Help us, in our troubles, not to forget those afflicted by war and poverty.

Jesus, Lord of life:

in your mercy, hear us.

Father God, in this time of physical isolation we continue to pray for all those who are lonely and all those who are working to help the vulnerable in our parish.

Merciful Father;

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

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

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 Lord be always with you:

Alleluia.

**I serve a risen Saviour,
He's in the world today
I know that He is living, whatever men may say
I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer
And just the time I need Him He's always near.**

***He lives (He lives), He lives (He lives),
Christ Jesus lives today
He walks with me and talks with me
Along life's narrow way
He lives (He lives), He lives (He lives),
Salvation to impart
You ask me how I know He lives?
He lives within my heart!***

**In all the world around me I see His loving care
And though my heart grows weary
I never will despair, I know that He is leading,
through all the stormy blast
The day of His appearing
will come at last. *He lives.....***

**Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian
Lift up your voice and sing
Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ, the King
The hope of all who seek Him,
the help of all who find
None other is so loving,
so good and kind. *He lives.....***

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

Almighty God, good Father to us all, your face is turned towards your world. In love you gave us Jesus your Son to rescue us from sin and death.

Your Word goes out to call us home to the city where angels sing your praise. We join with them in heaven's song:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna, (Hosanna, Hosanna)
in the highest.**

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

Father of all, we give you thanks for every gift that comes from heaven. To the darkness Jesus came as your light. With signs of faith and words of hope he touched untouchables with love and washed the guilty clean.

This is his story.

This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.

The crowds came out to see your Son, yet at the end they turned on him.

On the night he was betrayed he came to table with his friends to celebrate the freedom of your people.

This is his story.

This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.

Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food; he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said: This is my body, given for you all. Jesus then gave thanks for the wine; he took the cup, gave it and said: This is my blood, shed for you all for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me.

This is his story.

This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup we celebrate the cross on which he died to set us free. Defying death he rose again and is alive with you to plead for us and all the world.

This is his story.

This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.

Send your Spirit on us now that by these gifts we may feed on Christ with opened eyes and hearts on fire. May we and all who share this food offer ourselves to live for you and be welcomed at your feast in heaven where all creation worships you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

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

The Lord's Prayer

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

**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**

Breaking of the Bread

Jesus says, I am the bread of life,
whoever eats this bread will live for ever.

**Lord, our hearts hunger for you;
give us this bread always.**

Giving of Communion

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Post Communion Collect

God of life,
Who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son
 To death on the cross,
And by his glorious resurrection
Has delivered us from the power of the enemy:
Grant us so to die daily to sin,
That we may evermore live with him
 In the joy of his risen life;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer after Communion

**Eternal God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way,
the truth and the life:
grant us to walk in his way,
to rejoice in his truth,
and to share his risen life:
who is alive and reigns with you,
now and for ever. Amen**

Final Hymn

Thine be the glory,
risen, conqu'ring Son:
endless is the victory
thou o'er death hast won;
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.

Refrain

Thine be the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

Lo! Jesus meets us,
risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us,
scatters fear and gloom;
let the church with gladness,
hymns of triumph sing,
for her Lord now liveth,
death hath lost its sting. [Refrain]

No more we doubt thee,
glorious Prince of life;
life is naught without thee:
aid us in our strife;
make us more than conqu'rors,
thro' thy deathless love:
bring us safe thro' Jordan
to thy home above. [Refrain]

[17]

THE SENDING OUT

The Blessing

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

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

Amen.

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

Amen.

God the Holy Spirit,
who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord,
empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.

Amen.

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

Amen.

He is not here. He is risen.

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

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