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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

AS WE ARE GATHERED, JESUS IS HERE

One with each other, Jesus is here

Joined by the Spirit,

washed in the blood

Part of the body, the Church of God

As we are gathered, Jesus is here

One with each other, Jesus is here

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

Almighty Father,
Who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the
sight of the risen Lord:
Give us such knowledge of his presence with us,
That we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life
and serve you continually in righteousness and truth;
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. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The First Reading

14a) Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd:

36 "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah."

37 When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"

38 Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."

40 With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation."

41 Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

Acts 2:14a, 36-41 New International Version (NIV)

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke

Alleluia. Glory to you, O Lord.

On the Road to Emmaus

13 Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. 14 They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. 15 As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; 16 but they were kept from recognizing him.

17 He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?" They stood still, their faces downcast. 18 One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" 19 "What things?" he asked.

"About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. 20 The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; 21 but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. 22 In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning 23 but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. 24 Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus."

25 He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! 26 Did not the

Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" 27 And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

28 As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. 29 But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them.

30 When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. 31 Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. 32 They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

33 They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together 34 and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon." 35 Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

Luke 24:13-35 New International Version (NIV)

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ. Alleluia.

The Sermon

Why didn't the two people in today's gospel reading recognise Jesus? Why is it that we often do not see Jesus walking alongside of us in our own lives until we look back?

Perhaps sometimes it could be that we aren't really looking but it can't be God's inability to make himself known. In many ways it would be much easier, for both us and God, if he always made us know he was there and what he was doing. So, why not? Our God is almighty, but he is also loving and gentle. He is always there and always calling us, but he doesn't force us, he doesn't use his power to make us follow him. He allows us to choose to have faith in him so that our faith can be based on our love for him which is our response to his love for us. He is gentle and patient, he lets us ask questions and forgives our mistakes, and we can trust that he is always there whether we see him or not.

The Creed

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

**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, we thank you that you are always with us even when we struggle to see it. We pray that we will always know your presence and that you will build up your Church during this difficult time.

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

Father, as we consider the effects of the restrictions on our movements being extended, we recognize the extra strain that this puts on so many people; we pray for all those who are worried about their livelihoods.

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

We thank you that the stocks in our food shops and supermarkets have return to something more like normal and ask that you protect all those who work in them. We pray for all those around the world who are hungry or worrying about how to feed themselves and their families.

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

We pray for the people of Canada, for all those who died in this week's shootings, and ask you to comfort their loved ones as they grieve.

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, unwell, mourning, and thank you for 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.

The peace of the Lord be always with you:

Third Hymn

Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour,
Glorious first born from the dead,
You alone, our strong defender,
Lifted up Your people's head.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus, true and living bread!

Prince of life, for us now living,
by Your body souls are healed;
Prince of peace, Your pardon giving,
by Your blood our peace is sealed.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Word of God in flesh revealed.

Paschal Lamb, Your offering, finished
Once for all when you were slain,
In its fullness undiminished
Shall for evermore remain,
Alleluia, alleluia!
Cleansing souls from every stain.

Great High Priest of our profession
through the veil You entered in,
by Your mighty intercession
grace and mercy there to win,
Alleluia, alleluia!
only sacrifice for sin.

Life imparting Heavenly manna,
Stricken rock with streaming side,
Heaven and earth with loud hosanna
Worship You, the Lamb who died,
Alleluia, alleluia!
Risen, ascended, glorified!

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

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

Post Communion Collect

Living God,
Your Son made himself known to his disciples
in the breaking of bread:
Open the eyes of our faith,
That we may see him in all his redeeming work;
Who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. 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,
now and for ever. Amen**

*There is a redeemer
Jesus, God's own Son
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah
Holy One.*

*Thank you, oh my father
For giving us Your Son
And leaving Your Spirit
'Til the work on Earth is done.*

*Jesus my redeemer
Name above all names
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah
Oh, for sinners slain*

*Thank you, oh my father
For giving us Your Son
And leaving Your Spirit
'Til the work on Earth is done.*

*When I stand in Glory
I will see His face
And there I'll serve my King forever
In that Holy Place*

*Thank you, oh my father
For giving us Your Son
And leaving Your Spirit
'Til the work on Earth is done.*

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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