

# The Liturgy of Easter Sunday

## Introduction

*This prayer is used as the fire is lit*

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,  
to you be glory and praise for ever.  
Your steadfast love extends to the heavens  
and your faithfulness never ceases.  
Illuminate our hearts with your wisdom  
and strengthen our lives with your word,  
for you are the fountain of life;  
in your light we see true light.  
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

## *Blessing of the Light*

Eternal God,  
who made this most holy night  
to shine with the brightness of your one true light:  
set us aflame with the fire of your love,  
and bring us to the radiance of your heavenly glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## *Marking of the Paschal Candle*

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

## *The Easter Acclamation*

Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

This is the day when our Lord Jesus Christ was raised gloriously from the dead, crushing the power of sin and destroying the sting of death. Throughout the world Christians celebrate the mighty power of God as Christ calls us out of darkness to share in his marvellous light. May we, and all Christ's people, shine as lights in the world to the glory of God the Father.

*The minister holding the Candle sings x3*

The light of Christ.  
Thanks be to God.

## Prayers at the Easter Garden

*The president says*

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

The angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said.'

*Matthew 28.5-6*

*The president says*

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,  
the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

To you be glory now and for ever.

In your great mercy you have given us a new birth  
into a living hope

through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

By your blessing, may we who have prepared this garden in celebration of his  
victory

be strengthened in faith,

know the power of his presence,

and rejoice in the hope of eternal glory.

Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

*The president says this prayer*

Risen Lord Jesus,

as Mary Magdalene met you in the garden

on the morning of your resurrection,

so may we meet you today and every day:

Speak to us as you spoke to her;

Reveal yourself as the living Lord;

Renew our hope and kindle our joy;

and send us to share the good news with others.

**Amen.**

## *Gloria in Excelsis*

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.

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*

*Let us pray.*

*Silence is kept.*

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.  
Amen.

### **Readings:**

First Reading - Acts 10.34-43

Psalm 118.1-2, 14-24

Second Reading - Colossians 3.1-4

### *At the end of each Reading*

This is the word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

### **HYMN - Jesus Christ is risen today**

**The Gospel - Matthew 28.1-10**

*Alleluia, alleluia.*

*I am the first and the last, says the Lord,  
and the living one;*

*I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.*

### *When the Gospel is announced the reader says*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *Matthew*  
Glory to you, O Lord.

*At the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
Praise to you, O Christ.

## **Sermon**

### **The Creed**

*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**

*The Liturgy of the Sacrament †*

## The Peace

### HYMN - Thine be the Glory

#### Preparation of the Table

Risen Lord Jesus Christ,  
we believe you, and all we have heard is true.  
When you break bread  
may we recognize you as the fire that burns within us,  
that we may bring light to your world.  
Amen.

#### The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you

*All* and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

*All* We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*All* It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
almighty and eternal Father,  
and in these days of Easter  
to celebrate with joyful hearts  
the memory of your wonderful works.  
For by the mystery of his passion  
Jesus Christ, your risen Son,  
has conquered the powers of death and hell  
and restored in men and women the image of your glory.  
He has placed them once more in paradise  
and opened to them the gate of life eternal.  
And so, in the joy of this Passover,  
earth and heaven resound with gladness,  
while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation  
sing for ever the hymn of your glory.

*All* 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.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
and according to your holy will,  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;  
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.  
In the same way, after supper  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying:  
Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:  
**All** Christ has died,  
Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,  
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;  
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our  
redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,  
we bring before you this bread and this cup  
and we thank you for counting us worthy  
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom  
all who share this one bread and one cup,  
so that we, in the company of Blessed Mary, the holy innocents, St Mark and all  
the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord;  
by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

**All** Amen.

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**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.

## **Breaking of the Bread**

We break this bread  
to share in the Body of Christ,  
though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.

*All* Jesus, Lamb of God,  
have mercy on us.  
Jesus, Bearer of our sins,  
have mercy on us.  
Jesus, Redeemer of the world,  
Give us your peace.

## **Giving of Communion**

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

## **Prayer after Communion**

God of Life,  
who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son  
to the death of the cross,  
and by his glorious resurrection  
have delivered us from the power of our 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.

## **Notices**

## **The Blessing**

## **The Dismissal**

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.  
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.