

Morning Prayer
11th May - 4th Sunday of Easter
(We will be following this in our own homes at 10.30am)

Please read these words out loud, or in your heart.

Preparation

Loving Lord,
fill us with your life-giving, joy-giving, peace-giving presence,
that we may praise you now with our lips
and all the day long with our lives,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;
let us pray with one heart and mind.

*Silence may be kept, to ask forgiveness of our sins
and to seek God's strength for our life of service.*

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and for ever.
Amen.

The Word of God

Old Testament Reading: Psalm 23

¹ The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures,
he leads me beside quiet waters,

³ he refreshes my soul.

He guides me along the right paths
for his name's sake.

⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I will fear no evil, for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies.

You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

⁶ Surely your goodness and love will follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD
for ever.

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

New Testament reading: John 10:22-30

Then came the Festival of Dedication at Jerusalem. It was winter,²³ and Jesus was in the temple courts walking in Solomon's Colonnade.²⁴ The Jews who were there gathered round him, saying, 'How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.'

²⁵ Jesus answered, 'I did tell you, but you do not believe. The works I do in my Father's name testify about me,²⁶ but you do not believe because you are not my sheep.²⁷ My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand.²⁹ My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand.³⁰ I and the Father are one.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Easter Anthems

- 1 Christ our passover has been sacrificed for us:
so let us celebrate the feast,
- 2 not with the old leaven of corruption and wickedness:
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

1 Corinthians 5.7b, 8

- 3 Christ once raised from the dead dies no more:
death has no more dominion over him.
- 4 In dying he died to sin once for all:
in living he lives to God.
- 5 See yourselves therefore as dead to sin:
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 6.9-11

- 6 Christ has been raised from the dead:
the first fruits of those who sleep.
- 7 For as by man came death:
by man has come also the resurrection of the dead;
- 8 for as in Adam all die:
even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

1 Corinthians 15.20-22

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.

Prayers

Please offer your own prayers following these suggestions, if you wish, with the response below:

¶ *for the day and its tasks*

¶ *for the world and its needs*

¶ *for the Church and her life*

¶ *for those tasked with appointing a new Pope and a new Archbishop of Canterbury*

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Silence may be kept.

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.

Collect

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:
raise us, who trust in him,
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,
that we may seek those things which are above;
where he reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Trusting in the compassion of God,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us
"Our Father, who art in heaven ..."

The Lord's Prayer is said

The Conclusion

May God the Father,
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,
open to us who believe the gates of everlasting life.
May God the Son,
who in bursting the grave has won a glorious victory,
give us joy as we share the Easter faith.
May God the Holy Spirit,
whom the risen Lord breathed into his disciples,
empower us and fill us with Christ's peace.
Amen.

With the risen life of Christ within us,
let us go in the peace of Christ.
Alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God.
Alleluia, alleluia.

*Our services today take place at:
Aldfield (Holy Communion) at 9.00 am;
Grewelthorpe (Holy Communion), Kirkby Malzeard (Morning Worship) and
Sawley (Holy Communion) at 10.30 am;
online Compline via Zoom at 8.30 pm.*

Everyone from across the benefice (and beyond) is welcome at all services.