

A Service of the Word for Eastertide

Welcome

Preparation

Alleluia: Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed: alleluia!

Every one lights a candle

O Lord, open our lips
and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

In your resurrection, O Christ,
let heaven and earth rejoice. Alleluia.

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

Silence is kept

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 forever.

Amen.

Music

The Collect

Let us pray that we may walk the risen life of Christ in glory.

Risen Christ, by the lakeside you renewed your call to the disciples: help your Church to obey your command and draw all nations to the fire of your love, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles:

Acts 17:22-31

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

Alleluia, alleluia. Jesus said, 'All who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day.

Alleluia

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

John 14:15-21

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Reflection

Kaddish

Magnified and sanctified be the great name of God
in the world which he created according to his will.
May he establish his kingdom in your life and in your days,
and in the lifetime of all his people:

quickly and speedily may it come; and let us say Amen

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed, praised and glorified, exulted, extolled and honoured,
magnified and lauded be the name of the Holy One; blessed be God.

Though he be high above all the blessings and hymns, praises and consolations,
which are uttered in the world; and let us say Amen.

Blessed be God for ever.

May there be abundant peace from heaven
and life for us and for all people; let us say Amen.

Blessed be God for ever.

Prayer of a Jewish mourner

Reflection

Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm, together our common faith in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

I believe and trust in him.

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

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.**

The Peace

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy peace.

If we live in the Spirit, let us walk in the Spirit.

The peace of the risen Christ be always with you:

and also with you. Alleluia.

Prayers

We pray to Jesus who is present with us to eternity.

This response may be used: Lord, in your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in God's new creation, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**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.**

Music

Conclusion

Alleluia. Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia, alleluia, 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.

Blessing

The Spirit of truth lead you into all truth, give you grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, and strengthen you to proclaim the word and works of God; and the blessing...

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

Acts 17: 22-31

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, ‘Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, “To an unknown god.” What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For “In him we live and move and have our being”; as even some of your own poets have said, “For we too are his offspring.”

Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.’

John 14:15-21

‘If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

‘I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.’