

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, for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:
open the doors of our hearts, that we may seek the good of others
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace,
to the praise of God the Father. Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles:

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

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

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.

Alleluia

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

John 20:19-end

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 risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.'
Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.
Alleluia. The peace of the risen Christ be always with you
and also with you. Alleluia.

Prayers

This or another 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.

May Christ dwell in our hearts through faith, that we may be rooted and grounded
in love And bring forth the fruit of the Spirit. Amen.

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

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: ‘Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say.

‘You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him,

“I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;
therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
moreover, my flesh will live in hope.

For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
or let your Holy One experience corruption.

You have made known to me the ways of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.”

‘Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

“He was not abandoned to Hades,
nor did his flesh experience corruption.”

This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

John 20:19-end

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.