

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, your wounds declare your love for the world, and the wonder of your risen life: give us compassion and courage to risk ourselves for those we serve, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles:

Acts 7:55-end

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

Alleluia, alleluia

Jesus said, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die'.

Alleluia

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

John 14:1-14

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 they were glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

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.

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead,
strengthen you to walk his risen life; and the blessing...

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

Acts 7:55-end

But filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!' But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he died.

John 14:1-14

'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.'

Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.' Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.'