

## Family Communion for Easter Sunday



### THE GATHERING

*We begin outside with the Easter Fire.*

#### Hymn

#### The Greeting:

**All** The Lord be with you  
**And also with you.**

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

#### Prayers of Penitence:

We come to God as one from whom no secrets are hidden,  
to ask for his forgiveness and peace.

**All** **Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you  
and against our neighbour  
in thought and word and deed,  
through negligence, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past  
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life  
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

The Father of all mercies  
cleanse you from your sins  
and restore you in his image  
to the praise and glory of his name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All** **Amen.**

**All**        **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 for Easter Sunday:**

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.

**All**        **Amen.**

**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**Reading: Acts 10: 34-43**

Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ - he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him

to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL READING**

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

**All Glory to you, O Lord.**

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb.

So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.”

Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb.

The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes. But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.”

When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?”

Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.”

Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, “Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord!”; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Reflection**

## Renewal of Baptismal Vows

As we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, we remember that through the paschal mystery we have died and been buried with him in baptism, so that we may rise with him to a new life within the family of his Church. Now that we have completed our observance of Lent, we renew the promises made at our baptism, affirming our allegiance to Christ, and our rejection of all that is evil.

Therefore I ask these questions:

**All** Do you turn to Christ?  
**I turn to Christ.**

**All** Do you repent of your sins?  
**I repent of my sins.**

**All** Do you renounce evil?  
**I renounce evil.**

And now I ask you to make the profession of Christian faith into which you were baptised and in which you live and grow.

**All** Do you believe and trust in God the Father,  
who made the world?  
**I believe and trust in him.**

**All** Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ,  
who redeemed mankind?  
**I believe and trust in him.**

**All** Do you believe and trust in his Holy Spirit,  
who gives life to the people of God?  
**I believe and trust in him.**

**All** This is the faith of the Church.  
**This is our faith.**  
**We believe and trust in one God,**  
**Father Son and Holy Spirit.**

Almighty God, we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith with all those who have been baptised in your name. Keep us faithful to our baptism, and so make us ready for that day when the whole creation shall be made perfect in your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION** - Written by Jen Witt

Let us pray for the Church and for the world and let us thank God for his goodness.

*The prayers include the response:*

Risen Lord.  
**All**        **hear our prayer.**

*The prayers end with:*

*Merciful Father,*  
**All**        **accept these prayers**  
**for the sake of your Son,**  
**our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

### 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.

**All**        The peace of the risen Christ be always with you. Alleluia!  
**and also with you. Alleluia!**

## PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

Wise and gracious God,  
you spread a table before us;  
nourish your people with the word of life  
and the bread of heaven.  
**Amen.**

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord is here.  
**All**        **His Spirit is with us.**

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 always right to give you thanks,  
God our Creator,  
loving and faithful,  
holy and strong.

You made us and the whole universe,  
and filled your world with life.  
You sent your Son to live among us,  
Jesus our Saviour, Mary's child.  
He suffered on the cross;

He died to save us from our sins;  
He rose in glory from the dead.  
You send your Holy Spirit  
to bring new life to the world,  
and clothe us with power from on high.

And so we join the angels to celebrate and say:

**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.**

Father, on the night before he died,  
Jesus shared a meal with his friends.  
He took the bread, and thanked you.  
He broke it, and gave it to them, saying:  
Take eat, this is my body, given for you.  
Do this to remember me.

After the meal, Jesus took the cup of wine.  
He thanked you, and gave it to them, saying:  
Drink this, all of you.  
this is my blood,  
the new promise of God's unfailing love.  
Do this to remember me.

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

Father, as we bring this bread and wine,  
and remember his death and resurrection,  
send your Holy Spirit, that we who share these gifts  
may be fed by Christ's body and his blood.

Pour your Spirit on us that we may love one another,  
work for the healing of the earth,  
and share the good news of Jesus,  
as we wait for his coming in glory.  
For honour and praise belong to you, Father,  
with Jesus your Son, and the Holy Spirit:  
one God, for ever and ever.

**All**      **Amen**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**All** As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:  
**Our Father in heaven,**  
**hallowed be your name,**  
**your kingdom come,**  
**your will be done,**  
**on earth as in heaven.**  
**Give us today our daily bread.**  
**Forgive us our sins**  
**as we forgive those who sin against us.**  
**Lead us not into temptation**  
**but deliver us from evil.**  
**For the kingdom, the power,**  
**and the glory are yours**  
**now and for ever. Amen.**

### **BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

**All** 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** God's holy gifts for God's holy people.  
**Jesus Christ is holy,**  
**Jesus Christ is Lord,**  
**To the glory of God the Father.**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*Post Communion Prayer:*

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.**

**Hymn**

## **The Blessing**

God the Father;  
by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead,  
strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life;  
and the blessing of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be with you and remain with you always.

**All**      **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All**      **In the name of Christ. Amen.**