

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD—EASTER DAY

April 4, 2021

AS WE GATHER

Death is our common enemy. But God has chosen to do battle with our enemy and has given to all the same victory won by Jesus Christ. The veil of death cast over all is now removed in Christ Jesus. Death and all its terror and power has been answered by the resurrection of Jesus once for all. We participate in this victory in the banquet our Lord has prepared, first in the Holy Communion of His crucified and risen flesh and blood, and then in the marriage feast of the Lamb, which has no end. Though for now we wait by faith for Him to bring to consummation all things, we wait as a people saved by His blood and marked for everlasting life. So let us be glad and rejoice in His salvation!

(The Invocation and Litany are led from the back of the nave).

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

ENTRANCE RITE

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Lord Jesus Christ, our Paschal Lamb who was offered for us and has taken away the sins of the world:

have mercy on us.

Lord Jesus Christ, who by Your death has destroyed death, and by Your rising to life again has restored to us eternal life:

have mercy on us.

Lord Jesus Christ, who rose early in the morning on the first day of the week and did first appear to Mary Magdalene:

have mercy on us.

Lord Jesus Christ, who appeared to Your disciples proclaiming peace and breathed on them the Holy Spirit:

have mercy on us.

Lord Jesus Christ, who revealed Yourself to Thomas with the marks of Your suffering and who commended the faith of those who have not seen and yet believed:

have mercy on us.

By Your suffering and dying:

deliver us from sin, its guilt, and its punishment.

By Your glorious resurrection:

deliver us from this body of death.

By the majesty of Your risen body:

deliver us from the weakness of this mortal life and lead us to eternity.

Set our minds on things above, that we may walk in love in this earthly journey and that we may dwell with You forever in the heavenly places of light and life.

Grant that we may live in Easter joy today and all the days of our lives until we attain its eternal joys in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

HYMN

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia”

#463

SALUTATION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty God, You promised that the veil of death would be lifted and that we would gather upon the high mountain of Your presence to feast in the victory over sin and the grave. Grant to our hearts the rich joy of the resurrection, that, believing Jesus was raised from the dead, we, too, might look to the resurrection of our body and to the gift of life everlasting; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 25:6-9*

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *1 Corinthians 15:1-11*

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

VERSE *2 Timothy 1:10b*

Alleluia. Christ Jesus abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *Mark 16:1-8*

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixteenth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

(The Gospel is read.)

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

#457

SERMON

NICENE CREED *(inside back cover of hymnal)*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

O Gracious Father, help us believe that because Jesus lives, we, too, are made alive by faith and shall live with Him eternally.

Risen Lord, live in us that we may live in You.

Lift our vision from sin and death that we not despair nor grow weary of well-doing as we await the completion of all that our Lord began, and give us the will and desire to use our days to proclaim His victory to the ends of the earth.

Risen Lord, live in us that we may live in You.

Give Your blessing to Your Church and to her ministers, that we be called to faith and repentance, rejoice in Your merciful goodness, and be kept in the faith through the Means of Grace until the day when we are raised to everlasting life with Christ.

Risen Lord, live in us that we may live in You.

Give courage and discernment to the missionaries far and near and to those planting new congregations that they abound in the hope of the resurrection and that those who hear this Gospel be granted the Holy Spirit and faith.

Risen Lord, live in us that we may live in You.

Consider those whose lives are burdened by afflictions of the body, mind, or spirit, and who seek Your healing and strength. Deliver them according to Your merciful will, and sustain them in faith until their troubles and trials give way to the blessings of the resurrection and eternal life. Especially ...

Risen Lord, live in us that we may live in You.

Hear Your people on behalf of our nation and all our leaders, on behalf of all peoples and nations, for peace, justice, and freedom, and for the will to work together to relieve suffering and deliver the oppressed.

Risen Lord, live in us that we may live in You.

Guide us in the good use of the time, skills, abilities, and resources You provide so that we may support those in our care and serve the poor and those in need with the treasures of the Kingdom. Accept from our lips the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving and from our hands the tithes and offerings of a grateful heart.

Risen Lord, live in us that we may live in You.

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

CONEFSSION AND ABSOLUTION

Merciful and loving Father, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by our sinful actions and our failure to do the good You desire. We pray You to grant to the penitent absolution and peace, that freed from the burden of guilt they enjoy the gift of a clear conscience.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, that we may delight in your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name.

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22*

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

It is our duty and delight at all times and in every place to give You praise and thanksgiving, O Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose resurrection from the dead has shown that He is the victor over sin and the grave and that all who trust in Him shall be raised from death to everlasting life. As He has cast off the veil of sin and its darkness, bring us into the light of His presence, where we shall feast with anticipation upon the bread of life and the cup of salvation until that day when we shall be reunited with those who have gone before and sing Your praise in heaven. Remembering the apostles and evangelists to whom our Lord appeared and whose

witness has delivered to us the Good News of His resurrection, we join with angels and archangels and the whole company of the saints in light in their unending hymn of praise:

SANCTUS *(sung)*

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow’r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

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PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING
Blessed are You, almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, blessed are You. Before the foundation of the world, You chose us to be Your children. You have liberated us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of Your dear Son, the very image and reflection of Your glory. Lord, our God, we commemorate that Christ had to suffer and die but most of all that He is the firstborn from the dead, the firstborn of the whole creation, and that glorified at Your right hand, He speaks on our behalf. Send us Your Holy Spirit, the Spirit who brings to life the power of Jesus Christ, that we may faithfully receive Him who comes to us in His body and blood.
Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST *1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20*
As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
Assembled at His invitation and trusting in His salvation, we pray You, O Lord, to grant us the Holy Spirit, that we may receive with faith His most holy body and most precious blood in this Sacrament. Grant also that we may keep in holy hearts and in holy lives what we have received upon our lips and, preserved from sin and disobedience, may be prepared by this foretaste to enjoy the eternal feast He has prepared for us in heaven, where we shall know Him and the power of His resurrection face-to-face. Hear us as we pray in His name and with the words He taught us, saying:

LORD’S PRAYER *(inside back cover of hymnal)*

PAX DOMINI
The peace of the Lord be with you always.
Amen.

AGNUS DEI *(sung)*

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

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DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“I Know That My Redeemer Lives”
“Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen”

#461
#474

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING
Let us pray. O Lord, You have given us grace this day to hear in our ears the Good News of our Lord’s resurrection and to receive with our lips His crucified and risen body and blood. Grant that by this Holy Communion we be sustained in faith, equipped to fulfill the good purpose of Your love in our daily lives, and be kept holy and blameless until He comes to bring us into the place of everlasting light and life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24-26*
The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
Amen.

DISMISSAL
Go in peace! Serve the Lord!
Thanks be to God.
Alleluia! Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

HYMN

“The Day of Resurrection”

#478