**✦ Morning Prayer — Easter Season ✦**

*(To be printed double-sided, landscape, and folded into an A5 booklet)*

**PREPARATION**

O Lord, open our lips

All: and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

A Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Lord God of our salvation,

to you be praise and glory for ever.

As once you ransomed your people from Egypt

and led them to freedom in the promised land,

so now you have delivered us from the dominion of darkness

and brought us into the kingdom of your risen Son.

May we, the first fruits of your new creation,

rejoice in this new day you have made,

and praise you for your mighty acts.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All: Blessed be God for ever.

**THE EASTER ANTHEMS**

1. Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us: so let us celebrate the feast,

2. not with the old leaven of corruption and wickedness: but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

3. Christ once raised from the dead dies no more: death has no more dominion over him.

4. In dying he died to sin once for all: in living he lives to God.

5. See yourselves therefore as dead to sin: and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

6. Christ has been raised from the dead: the first fruits of those who sleep.

7. For as by man came death: by man has come also the resurrection of the dead;

8. for as in Adam all die: even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

All: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

**OPENING PRAYER**

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 for ever.

All: Amen.

**THE WORD OF GOD**

The appointed psalm --

From the rising of the sun to its setting we praise your name, O Lord;

may your promise to raise the poor from the dust

and turn the fortunes of the needy upside down

be fulfilled in our time also,

as it was in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Compassionate God,

as you know each star you have created,

so you know the secrets of every heart;

in your loving mercy bring to your table

all who are fearful and broken,

all who are wounded and needy,

that our hungers may be satisfied

in the city of your peace;

through Christ who is our peace.

All: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

All: In your unfailing love, O Lord,

you lead the people whom you have redeemed. Alleluia.

**GOSPEL READING**

Death is swallowed up in victory.

All: Where, O death, is your sting?

Christ is risen from the dead,

the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

All: Death is swallowed up in victory.

The trumpet will sound and the dead shall be raised.

All: Where, O death, is your sting?

We shall not all sleep, but we shall be changed.

All: Death is swallowed up in victory.

Where, O death, is your sting?

All: The Lord is risen from the tomb

who for our sakes hung upon the tree. Alleluia.

BENEDICTUS (The Song of Zechariah)

1. Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, who has come to his people and set them free.

2. He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, born of the house of his servant David.

3. Through his holy prophets God promised of old to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all that hate us,

4. To show mercy to our ancestors, and to remember his holy covenant.

5. This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

6. Free to worship him without fear, holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

7. And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

8. To give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of all their sins.

9. In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

10. To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

All: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

All: The Lord is risen from the tomb who for our sakes hung upon the tree. Alleluia.

**PRAYERS & INTERCESSIONS**

Intercessions are offered:

- for the day and its tasks

- for the world and its needs

- for the Church and her life

Easter Season Prayers

On this day that the Lord has made, let us pray for the people he has redeemed.

- That we may live as those who believe in the triumph of the cross:

- That all people may receive the good news of his victory:

- That those born to new life in the waters of baptism may know the power of his resurrection:

- That those who suffer pain and anguish may find healing and peace in the wounds of Christ:

- That in the undying love of Christ we may be united with all who have died in the faith of Christ:

Let us commend the world, in which Christ rose from the dead, to the mercy and protection of God.

Open prayer may be offered, and silence is kept.

Lord, in your mercy

All: hear our prayer

**THE COLLECT & LORD'S PRAYER**

The Collect of the day is said:

Rejoicing in God’s new creation, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

All:

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.

**THE CONCLUSION**

May the risen Christ grant us the joys of eternal life.

All: Amen.