

# Easter Season

O Lord, open our lips

**All** and our mouth shall proclaim your  
praise.

In your resurrection, O Christ,

**All** let heaven and earth rejoice.  
Alleluia.

*This opening prayer may be said*

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

### Psalm 23

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not  
want.

<sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in green  
pastures;

he leads me beside still waters;

<sup>3</sup> he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths  
for his name's sake.

<sup>4</sup>Even though I walk through the darkest  
valley,

I fear no evil;

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff—  
they comfort me.

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.

<sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow  
me  
all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD  
my whole life long.

**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.

### 1 Peter 2:19-25

<sup>19</sup>For it is a credit to you if, being aware  
of God, you endure pain while suffering  
unjustly. <sup>20</sup>If you endure when you are  
beaten for doing wrong, what credit is  
that? But if you endure when you do  
right and suffer for it, you have God's  
approval. <sup>21</sup>For to this you have been  
called, because Christ also suffered for  
you, leaving you an example, so that you  
should follow in his steps.

<sup>22</sup>"He committed no sin,  
and no deceit was found in his mouth."

<sup>23</sup>When he was abused, he did not return  
abuse; when he suffered, he did not  
threaten; but he entrusted himself to the  
one who judges justly. <sup>24</sup>He himself bore  
our sins in his body on the cross, so that,  
free from sins, we might live for  
righteousness; by his wounds you have  
been healed. <sup>25</sup>For you were going astray  
like sheep, but now you have returned to  
the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

## Canticle

**All** In your unfailing love, O Lord,  
you lead the people whom you have  
redeemed.

Alleluia.

- 1 I will sing to the Lord, who has  
triumphed gloriously, ♦  
the horse and his rider he has thrown  
into the sea.
- 2 The Lord is my strength and my  
song ♦  
and has become my salvation.
- 3 This is my God whom I will praise, ♦  
the God of my forebears whom I will  
exalt.
- 4 The Lord is a warrior, ♦  
the Lord is his name.
- 5 Your right hand, O Lord, is glorious in  
power: ♦  
your right hand, O Lord, shatters the  
enemy.
- 6 At the blast of your nostrils, the sea  
covered them; ♦  
they sank as lead in the mighty  
waters.
- 7 In your unfailing love, O Lord, ♦  
you lead the people whom you have  
redeemed.
- 8 And by your invincible strength ♦  
you will guide them to your holy  
dwelling.
- 9 You will bring them in and plant  
them, O Lord, ♦

in the sanctuary which your hands  
have established.

*Exodus 15.1b-3,6,10,13,17*

**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.

John 10:1-10

**10** "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. <sup>2</sup>The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup>The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup>When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup>They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." <sup>6</sup>Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

<sup>7</sup>So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup>All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup>I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup>The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

## *Responsory*

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?**

*from 1 Corinthians 15*

### **Gospel Cantic**

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

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.

*Luke 1.68-79*

**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 of Intercession

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: **R**

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

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

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

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

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

*Silence may be kept.*

Almighty God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ is the  
resurrection and the life:  
raise us, who trust in him,  
from the death of sin to the life of  
righteousness,  
that we may seek those things which are  
above,  
where he reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
AllAmen.

*The Lord's Prayer is said*

Rejoicing in God's new creation,  
let us pray with confidence as our  
Saviour has taught us

**All Our Father, who art in heaven ...**

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

**All Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

**All Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**