

**Morning Prayer**  
**Easter Season**  
**Sunday, 2 May 2021**  
**The Fifth Sunday of Easter**

O Lord, open our lips  
**and our mouth shall**  
**proclaim your praise.**  
In your resurrection, O Christ,  
**let heaven and earth rejoice. Alleluia.**

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.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

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. **Amen.**

Psalm 44.16-27

16 My confusion is daily before me, ♦  
and shame has covered my face,  
**17 At the taunts of the slanderer and reviler, ♦**  
**at the sight of the enemy and avenger.**  
18 All this has come upon us,  
though we have not forgotten you ♦  
and have not played false to your covenant.

**19**Our hearts have not turned back, ♦  
nor our steps gone out of your way,  
20Yet you have crushed us in the haunt of jackals, ♦  
and covered us with the shadow of death.  
**21**If we have forgotten the name of our God, ♦  
or stretched out our hands to any strange god,  
22Will not God search it out? ♦  
For he knows the secrets of the heart.  
**23**But for your sake are we killed all the day long, ♦  
and are counted as sheep for the slaughter.  
24Rise up! Why sleep, O Lord? ♦  
Awake, and do not reject us for ever.  
**25**Why do you hide your face ♦  
and forget our grief and oppression?  
26Our soul is bowed down to the dust; ♦  
our belly cleaves to the earth.  
**27**Rise up, O Lord, to help us ♦  
and redeem us for the sake of your steadfast love.

**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.**

In the darkness of unknowing,  
when your love seems absent,  
draw near to us, O God,  
in Christ forsaken,  
in Christ risen,  
our Redeemer and our Lord.

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

1I will sing to the Lord,  
who has triumphed gloriously, ♦  
the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea.  
**2The Lord is my strength  
and my song ♦  
and has become my salvation.**

3This is my God whom  
I will praise, ♦  
the God of my forebears whom I will exalt.

**4The Lord is a warrior, ♦  
the Lord is his name.**

5Your right hand, O Lord,  
is glorious in power: ♦  
your right hand, O Lord, shatters the enemy.

**6At the blast of your  
nostrils, the sea covered them; ♦  
they sank as lead in the mighty waters.**

7In your unfailing love,  
O Lord, ♦  
you lead the people whom you have redeemed.

**8And by your invincible  
strength ♦  
you will guide them to your holy dwelling.**

9You 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*

**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.**

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

*A reading from Hebrews 11.32 - 12.2*

And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets – who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of

sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented – of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, without us, be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

### *Responsory*

Death is swallowed up in victory.

**Where, O death, is your sting?**

Christ is risen from the dead,  
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

**Death is swallowed up in victory.**

The trumpet will sound  
and the dead shall be raised.

**Where, O death, is your sting?**

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

**Death is swallowed up in victory.**

**Where, O death, is your sting?**

### Gospel Cantic

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

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

**2He has raised up for  
us a mighty Saviour, ♦**

born of the house of his servant David.

3Through his holy prophets

God promised of old ♦

to save us from our enemies,  
from the hands of all that hate us,

4To show mercy to our

ancestors, ♦

and to remember his holy covenant.

5This was the oath God

swore to our father Abraham: ♦

to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

6Free to worship him

without fear, ♦

holy and righteous in his sight

all the days of our life.

7And you, child, shall

be called the prophet of the Most High, ♦

for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

8To give his people knowledge

of salvation ♦

by the forgiveness of all their sins.

9In the tender compassion

of our God ♦

the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

10To shine on those who

dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, ♦

and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

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.

The Lord is risen from the tomb

who for our sakes hung upon the tree. Alleluia.

Intercessions are offered

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer

*Silence may be kept.*

The Collect of the day is said

Almighty God,  
who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ  
have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life:  
grant that, as by your grace going before us  
    you put into our minds good desires,  
so by your continual help  
we may bring them to good effect;  
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*The Lord's Prayer is said*

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.**

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

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

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