

Monday Evening Prayer for Eastertide 2023

with centering prayer / contemplative sit.

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Invocation of a memorial or commemoration.

Bell x 3

Gathering Words

Light and peace in Jesus Christ our hope. **Thanks be to God.**

Blessed be God: Source of all being, eternal Word and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God for ever.

A hymn or poem may be sung or said.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The Psalm

The psalm of the day is said or chanted.

...Glory to You, Source of all being, eternal Word and Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end, Amen.

The Reading *A reading of the day is read.*

The Contemplative Sit

The Principles of Centering Prayer.

1. Choose a sacred word or a sacred breath as the symbol of your intention to consent to God's presence and action within.
2. Sitting comfortably and with eyes closed, settle briefly and silently introduce the sacred word as the symbol of your consent to God's presence and action within.
3. When engaged with your thoughts, return ever-so-gently to the sacred word. Thoughts include body sensations, feelings, images, and reflections.
4. At the end of the prayer period, remain in silence with eyes closed for a couple of minutes.

20 minutes of silence begins and ends with a bell. We bow toward each other.

The 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?

The Canticle

The Song of Mary (Luke 1.46-55) may be said or chanted.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, *
for you, Lord, have looked with favour
on your lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
you, the Almighty, have done great things for me
and holy is your name.

You have mercy on those who fear you, *
from generation to generation.

You have shown strength with your arm *
and scattered the proud in their conceit,
casting down the mighty from their thrones *
and lifting up the lowly.

You have filled the hungry with good things *
and sent the rich away empty.

You have come to the aid of your servant Israel, *
to remember the promise of mercy,
the promise made to our ancestors, *
to Abraham [and Sarah] and their children for ever.

...Glory to You, Source of all being, eternal Word and Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end, Amen.

Affirmation of Faith

Hear, O Israel,
the Lord our God, the Lord is one.

Love the Lord your God
with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind,
and with all your strength.

This is the first and the great commandment.

The second is like it:

Love your neighbour as yourself.

There is no commandment greater than these.

THE PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

The Litany

Let us pray, saying, 'Giver of life, hear our prayer.'

Fill us with the joy of Christ's holy and life-giving resurrection.

Giver of life, hear our prayer.

Strengthen isolated and persecuted churches in the Easter gospel.

Giver of life, hear our prayer.

Grant us humility to be subject to one another in Christian love.

Giver of life, hear our prayer.

Provide for those who lack food, work or shelter.

Giver of life, hear our prayer.

Bring wars and famines and ecological collapse to an end.

Giver of life, hear our prayer.

Reveal the light of your presence to the sick, the weak and the dying.

Giver of life, hear our prayer.

Send the fire of your Holy Spirit upon your people.

Giver of life, hear our prayer.

*Additional intercessions, petitions and thanksgivings
may be offered in silence or aloud.*

Collecting Prayers

Week of Easter

Living God, long ago, faithful women proclaimed the good news of Jesus' resurrection and the world was changed forever. Teach us to keep faith with them, so that our witness may be as bold, our love as deep and our faith as true. **Amen.**

Week of Easter 2

O God, you raised up Jesus Christ as your faithful witness and the first-born of the dead. By your Holy Spirit, help us to witness to him so that those who have not yet seen may come to believe in him who is, and was, and is to come. **Amen.**

Week of Easter 3

Holy and righteous God, you raised Christ from the dead and glorified him at your right hand. Let the words of scripture, fulfilled in Jesus your Son, burn within our hearts and open our minds to recognize him in the breaking of bread. **Amen.**

Week of Easter 4

Holy Shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, so that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, where we celebrate with you for ever. **Amen.**

Week of Easter 5

God of life, you sent your Son into the world that we might live through him. May we abide in his risen life, so that we may bear the fruit of love for one another and know the fullness of joy. **Amen.**

Week of Easter 6

Faithful God, make our hearts bold with love for one another. Pour out your Spirit upon all people, so that we may live your justice and sing in praise the new song of your marvellous victory. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

...Rejoicing in God's new creation
and gathering our prayers and praises into one
in a language, paraphrase or translation of our choosing
let us pray as our Saviour taught us,

Our Father (or Source, or Maker, or Parent) **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.

Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

THE SENDING FORTH OF THE COMMUNITY

The Dismissal

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Almighty God grant us a restful night and a peaceful death. **Amen.**

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

We stand, bow to each other, and depart in silence.

Bell x 3