

Monday Morning Prayer for Eastertide 2024

with centering prayer / contemplative sit.

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Invocation of a memorial or commemoration.

Bell x 3

Gathering Words

O Lord, open our lips

and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

In your resurrection, O Christ,

let heaven and earth rejoice. Alleluia.

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 from the psalter.

...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.

silence begins and ends with a bell. At the end 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 Benedictus may be said or chanted.

- 1 Blessed be You, Lord the God of Israel, ♦
You have come Your people and set us free.
- 2 You has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, ♦
born of the house of Your servant David.
- 3 Through Your holy prophets You promised of old ♦
to save us from our adversaries, from the hands of all that hate us,
- 4 To show mercy to our ancestors, ♦
and to remember Your holy covenant.
- 5 This was the oath You swore to our mother Sarah and father Abraham: ♦
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
- 6 Free to worship You without fear, ♦
holy and righteous in Your 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 the way,
- 8 To give God's people knowledge of salvation ♦
by the forgiveness of all our 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 bleakness
and the shadow of death, ♦
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

GP: 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

Excerpt from "A Song of Faith" the United Church of Canada

[together we say:] By becoming flesh in Jesus, God makes all things new.
In Jesus' life, teaching, and self-offering, God empowers us to live in love.
In Jesus' crucifixion, God bears the sin, grief, and suffering of the world.
In Jesus' resurrection, God overcomes death.

Nothing separates us from the love of God.

The Risen Christ lives today, present to us and the source of our hope.
In response to who Jesus was and to all he did and taught,
to his life, death, and resurrection,
and to his continuing presence with us through the Spirit,
we celebrate him as
the Word made flesh,
the one in whom God and humanity are perfectly joined,
the transformation of our lives,
the Christ. Amen.

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 communities 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

These or another collect / collect of the day may be said:

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

[chanted] Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

[spoken together] **Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Bell x 3