

Second Sunday of Easter: Thanksgiving for the Resurrection and Spiritual Communion

Alleluia. Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Introduction

Let us bless the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
Let us praise and exalt him for ever.

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
be to him who sits upon the throne
and to the Lamb for ever and ever. Amen.**
Great and marvellous are your works,
Lord God the almighty;
just and true are your ways,
King of saints;
all glorious your gifts, Spirit of life.
Blessing and honour
and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving
and honour and power and might
be to our God for ever and ever. Amen.

Collect

Almighty Father,
you have given your only Son to die for our sins
and to rise again for our justification:
grant us so to put away the malice of leaven and wickedness
that we may always serve you
in pureness of living and truth;
through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

First Reading

Acts 2.14a, 22-32

Easter Responsory

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is gracious:
and his mercy endures for ever.
He has loved us from all eternity:
for his mercy endures for ever.
And remembered us when we were in trouble:
for his mercy endures for ever.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
for his mercy endures for ever.

He became incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man:

for his mercy endures for ever.

By his cross and passion he has redeemed the world:

for his mercy endures for ever.

And has washed us from our sins in his own blood:

for his mercy endures for ever.

On the third day he rose again:

for his mercy endures for ever.

And has given us the victory:

for his mercy endures for ever.

He ascended into heaven:

for his mercy endures for ever.

And opened wide for us the everlasting doors:

for his mercy endures for ever.

He is seated at the right hand of the Father:

for his mercy endures for ever.

And ever lives to make intercession for us:

for his mercy endures for ever.

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.

Gospel Reading

John 20.19-end

Thought

A Litany of the Resurrection

For the gift of his Spirit:

blessed be Christ.

For the catholic Church:

blessed be Christ.

For the means of grace:

blessed be Christ.

For the hope of glory:

blessed be Christ.

For the triumphs of his gospel:

blessed be Christ.

For the lives of his saints:

blessed be Christ.

In joy and in sorrow:

blessed be Christ.

In life and in death:

blessed be Christ.

Now and to the end of the ages:

blessed be Christ.

Spiritual Communion

You may wish to find a space for prayer in front of a cross, a candle, or a special place.

Reflect on the day and on your relationships.

What good things have come from God in these days?

Where have I fallen short?

Help me receive your Easter gift of peace this day and in the days to come.

Jesus said, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'

John 6.35

Prayers of intercession

Pray for the needs of the world, for your local community, and for those close to you.

Response: let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Our Father 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.

Lead us not into temptation

but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours

now and for ever. Amen.

Give thanks for the saving death and resurrection of Jesus and ask him to be with you now.

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ,

for all the benefits you have given me,

for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.

Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,

I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.

O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,

may I know you more clearly,

love you more dearly,

and follow you more nearly, day by day. Amen.

after the Prayer of St Richard of Chichester

Conclusion

Blessing and honour and thanksgiving and praise
more than we can utter,
more than we can conceive,
be to you, O most adorable Trinity,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
by all angels, all peoples, all creation,
for ever and ever.

Lancelot Andrewes (1626)

Amen. Alleluia.

The Easter Anthems

**Christ our passover has been sacrificed for us:
so let us celebrate the feast,
not with the old leaven of corruption and wickedness:
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.
Christ once raised from the dead dies no more:
death has no more dominion over him.
In dying he died to sin once for all:
in living he lives to God.
See yourselves therefore as dead to sin:
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Christ has been raised from the dead:
the first fruits of those who sleep.
For as by man came death:
by man has come also the resurrection of the dead;
for as in Adam all die:
even so in Christ shall all be made alive.
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.**

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your disciples,
'I am with you always'.
Be with us today, as we offer ourselves to you.
Hear our prayers for others and for ourselves,
and keep us in your care. Amen.

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.