

Sunday, May 8, 2022

Prelude

Lord Listen to Your Children Praying

Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord send your Spirit in this place,
Lord, listen to your children praying,
Send us love, send us power, send us grace.

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose steadfast love endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Living Lord,

During this Easter season, we celebrate the empty tomb, the doorway standing wide open that releases your living spirit into the world. We are sorry for our words, actions and inactions that limit the power of Easter. We are sorry for our words, actions, and inactions that keep people from hearing the promise of new life for all. We are sorry for our words, actions, and inactions as we too readily criticize others, not realizing the harm we cause. Forgive us for our failures, and remind us that the cross will never be the end. Amen.

Beloved Children of God,

Hear the good news! With a deep sense of peace and hope, we acknowledge that the cross was not the end. Christ is risen, and we gather together with astonishment and joy. Christ is risen, and we have been set free from the bonds of death. Christ is risen, and we are forgiven.

Amen.

Opening Hymn

We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus

We are baptized in Christ Jesus, we are baptized in his death,
That as Christ is raised victorious, we might live a brand new life.
And if we have been united in a dreadful death like his,
We will all be reunited, for he lives.

In the water and the witness, in the breaking of the bread,
In the waiting arms of Jesus who is risen from the dead,
God has made a new beginning from the ashes of our past,
In the losing and the winning we hold fast.

Glory be to God the Father, glory be to Christ the Son,
Glory to the Holy Spirit, ever three and ever one,
As it was in the beginning, glory now resounds again,
In a song that has no ending. Amen.

Invocation

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

An Easter Litany

The path of the righteous is like the light of dawn,
which shines brighter and brighter until the full day. (Proverbs 4:18)

Lord, we lift your name on high.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

Those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. (Isaiah 9:2)

Lord, we lift your name on high.

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. (Isaiah 60:1)

Lord, we lift your name on high.

Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory
to your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:16)

Lord, we lift your name on high.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. (John 1:5)

Lord, we lift your name on high.

Do all things as children of God in which you shine like stars in the world. (Philippians 2:14-16)

Lord, we lift your name on high.

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us. (Psalm 67:1)

Lord, we lift your name on high.

Liturgy

Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

Lord I lift your name on high,
Lord I love to sing your praises,
I'm so glad you're in my life,
I'm so glad you came to save us.
You came from heaven to earth to show the way,
From the earth to the cross my debt to pay,
From the cross to the grave,
From the grave to the sky,
Lord I lift your name on high.

Opening Prayer

God, we sing to you songs of praise, knowing that we have been freed from the troubles of this world.
Your Son, Jesus Christ has liberated our minds and removed the shackles from our hearts
so that we are able to share your love with everyone.

Amen.

Reading

Acts 16

Paul and Silas Freed From Prison

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

Message

Hymn of the Day

Children of the Heavenly Father

Children of the heavenly Father, safely in his bosom gather,
Nestling bird nor star in heaven, such a refuge e'er was given.

God, his own doth tend and nourish, in his holy courts they flourish,
From all evil things he spares them, in his mighty arms he bears them.

Neither life nor death shall ever, from the Lord, his children sever,
Unto them his grace he showeth, and their sorrows all he knoweth.

Though he giveth or he taketh, God his children ne'er forsaketh,
His, the loving purpose solely, to preserve them, pure and holy.

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

Offering

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Closing Prayer

Risen Lord, death could not contain you, your power of life has been set free,
and we are now your Easter people. Let us draw strength from this worship,
for we are ready to walk with you into the world, ready to be used by your Spirit,
and ready to set love free for the good of all. The tomb is empty,
and your light now shines in the world. Alleluia.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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 and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Benediction

May Almighty God, Creator, Christ, and Comforter, keep you in God's light, God's truth, and God's love, now and forever.
Amen.

Closing Hymn

For All the Faithful Women

For all the faithful women who served in days of old,
To you shall thanks be given, to all their story told.
They served with strength and gladness in tasks your wisdom gave,
To you their lives bore witness, proclaimed your power to save.

O God, for saints and servants, those named and those unknown,
In whom through all the ages your light of glory shone.
We offer glad thanksgiving and fervent prayer we raise,
That faithful in Your service, our lives may sing Your praise.

All praise to God the Father! All praise to Christ the Son!
All praise to God the Spirit who binds the church as one!
With saints who went before us, with saints who witness still,
We sing glad Alleluias and strive to do your will.

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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In Our Prayers this Week:

Lyle Kuntz (father of Kim Kuntz), Roger Kamann, Denice Widmer,
Sara Baluski (currently deployed in the U.S. military)