Morning Prayer

(Fifth Sunday of Easter - Year B)



Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Opening Scripture

When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.
-Revelation 1:17-18

Hymn - In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
this Cornerstone, this solid Ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain:
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave he rose again!
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine - Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath.

Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home, Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

Words and Music: Stuart Townend and Keith Getty

Confession (Psalm 25:6-8, 11, 16-18, NRSV)

Come, Holy Spirit of God, And search our hearts with the light of the risen Christ.

Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O Lord! Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in the way. For your name's sake, O Lord, pardon my guilt, for it is great. Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted. Relieve the troubles of my heart, and bring me out of my distress. Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins.

Silence

May the risen Christ of love and power Forgive you and free you from your sins, Heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, And raise you to new life. Amen.

Psalm of the Week

Psalm 22:25-31 (NIV)

25 From you comes the theme of my praise in the great assembly; before those who fear you I will fulfill my vows.

26 The poor will eat and be satisfied; those who seek the Lord will praise him—may your hearts live forever!

27 All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations will bow down before him,

28 for dominion belongs to the Lord and he rules over the nations.

29 All the rich of the earth will feast and worship; all who go down to the dust will kneel before him—those who cannot keep themselves alive.

30 Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord.

31 They will proclaim his righteousness, declaring to a people yet unborn:

He has done it!

Gloria Patri

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end, Amen.

Scripture Readings

Acts 8:26-40 1 John 4:7-21

(Stand)

John 15:1-8

(A short silence is kept after the reading of the gospel)

Profession of Faith (based on 1 Corinthians 15:3-7, Colossians 1:15-20)

This is the good news that we have received, In which we stand, and by which we are saved:

Christ died for our sins, was buried, was raised on the third day, And appeared first to the women, then to Peter and the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe Jesus is the Christ, the Anointed One of God, the firstborn of all creation, the firstborn from the dead, in whom the fullness of God

was pleased to dwell by the power of the Spirit. Christ is the head of the body, the church, and by the blood of the cross reconciles all things to God. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

On this day that the Lord has made, let us pray for the people he has redeemed. That we may live as those who believe in the triumph of the cross, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

That all people may receive the good news of his victory, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

That those born to new life in the waters of baptism may know the power of his resurrection, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

That those who suffer pain and anguish may find healing and peace in the wounds of Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

That in the undying love of Christ we may have union with all who have died in the faith of Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Let us commend the world, in which Christ rose from the dead, to the mercy and protection of God this day.

Intercessions (A time of spontaneous prayers and intercessions. Say "out loud" the names and situations that you would like to bring before God.)

- We pray for the people of...(countries or regions)
- We pray for our sisters and brothers... (churches and other believers)
- We pray for friends, relatives, and neighbors...
- We pray for the day and its tasks, individuals in need, the world and its needs, and for the Church and her life...

To God be all honor and glory, dominion and power, now and forever, through Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose name we are bold to pray:

The Lord's Prayer

*If praying with others, stand and hold hands. If praying individually, stand with hands open and outstretched in the <u>sign of the Orans</u>.

Collect for the Fifth Sunday in Easter (Book of Common Prayer)

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Benediction

May God who raised Jesus from the dead bless you and by the power of the Holy Spirit raise you with him in glory. He is risen! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Hymn - Christ the Lord is Risen Today

Soar we now where Christ has led, alleluia! Following our exalted head; alleluia! Made like him, like him we rise, alleluia! Ours the cross, the grave, the skies. Alleluia!