*Evening Prayer, 14 April 2024, The Third Sunday of Easter*

**Preparation**

O God, make speed to save us.  
**O Lord, make haste to help us.**

In your resurrection, O Christ,  
**let heaven and earth rejoice. Alleluia.**

***HYMN***

That this evening may be holy, good and peaceful,  
let us pray with one heart and mind.

***Silence is kept.***

As our evening prayer rises before you, O God,  
so may your mercy come down upon us  
to cleanse our hearts  
and set us free to sing your praise  
now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

**The Word of God**

***Psalmody***

*Psalm 142*

*Bring my soul out of prison,  
that I may give thanks to your name.*

1 I cry aloud to the Lord; *♦*  
to the Lord I make my supplication.

2 I pour out my complaint before him *♦*  
and tell him of my trouble.

3 When my spirit faints within me, you know my path; *♦*  
in the way wherein I walk have they laid a snare for me.

4 I look to my right hand, and find no one who knows me; *♦*  
I have no place to flee to, and no one cares for my soul.

5 I cry out to you, O Lord, and say: *♦*  
‘You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living.

6 ‘Listen to my cry, for I am brought very low; *♦*  
save me from my persecutors, for they are too strong for me.

7 ‘Bring my soul out of prison,  
that I may give thanks to your name; *♦*  
when you have dealt bountifully with me,  
then shall the righteous gather around me.’

**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.**

*Bring my soul out of prison,  
that I may give thanks to your name.*

***Canticle***

***A Song of Faith***

**God raised Christ from the dead,  
the Lamb without spot or stain. Alleluia.**

1 Blessed be the God and Father *♦*  
of our Lord Jesus Christ!

2 By his great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope *♦*  
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

3 Into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled and unfading, *♦*  
kept in heaven for you,

4 Who are being protected by the power of God through faith, *♦*  
for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

5 You were ransomed from the futile ways of your ancestors *♦*  
not with perishable things like silver or gold

6 But with the precious blood of Christ *♦*  
like that of a lamb without spot or stain.

7 Through him you have confidence in God,  
who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, *♦*  
so that your faith and hope are set on God.

*1 Peter 1.3-5, 18, 19, 21*

**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.**

**God raised Christ from the dead,  
the Lamb without spot or stain. Alleluia.**

***Scripture Reading***

*Deuteronomy 7.7-13*

It was not because you were more numerous than any other people that the Lord set his heart on you and chose you—for you were the fewest of all peoples. It was because the Lord loved you and kept the oath that he swore to your ancestors, that the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who maintains covenant loyalty with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations, and who repays in their own person those who reject him. He does not delay but repays in their own person those who reject him. Therefore, observe diligently the commandment—the statutes and the ordinances—that I am commanding you today.

If you heed these ordinances, by diligently observing them, the Lord your God will maintain with you the covenant loyalty that he swore to your ancestors; he will love you, bless you, and multiply you; he will bless the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground, your grain and your wine and your oil, the increase of your cattle and the issue of your flock, in the land that he swore to your ancestors to give you.

***Gospel Canticle***

***The Magnificat***

**The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone. Alleluia.**

1 My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour; *♦*  
he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.

2 From this day all generations will call me blessed; *♦*  
the Almighty has done great things for me  
and holy is his name.

3 He has mercy on those who fear him, *♦*  
from generation to generation.

4 He has shown strength with his arm *♦*  
and has scattered the proud in their conceit,

5 Casting down the mighty from their thrones *♦*  
and lifting up the lowly.

6 He has filled the hungry with good things *♦*  
and sent the rich away empty.

7 He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, *♦*  
to remember his promise of mercy,

8 The promise made to our ancestors, *♦*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

*Luke 1.46-55*

**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.**

**The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone. Alleluia.**

**Prayers**

***The Collect of the day is said***

Almighty Father,  
who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples  
      with the sight of the risen Lord:  
give us such knowledge of his presence with us,  
that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life  
and serve you continually in righteousness and truth;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

***The Lord’s Prayer***

Rejoicing in God’s new creation,  
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**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,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

**The Conclusion**

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

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**