

A Celebration for Easter Sunday

Christ is risen, alleluia! **He is risen indeed, alleluia!**

Sentence

The Lord is risen indeed, alleluia!

(Luke 24.34)

or

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

(Psalm 118:24)

Opening Prayer or Collect (Year ABC)

Glorious Lord of life, by the mighty resurrection of your Son you overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him:

grant that we, who celebrate with joy Christ's rising from the dead may be raised from the death of sin to the life of righteousness; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**.

Readings for Easter Sunday (A)

Old Testament: Acts 10:34-43

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostle, Chapter 10 beginning at verse 34

Then Peter began to speak to them:

"I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ —he is Lord of all.

That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Hear the Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

The Hymn to the Risen Christ (APBA p6)

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 one man came death: by another has come also resurrection of the dead;

For as in Adam all die: even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

New Testament: Colossians 3:1-4

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Colossians, Chapter 3 beginning at verse 1

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Hear the Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

Gospel: Matthew 28:1-10

A Reading from the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Matthew, Chapter 28 beginning at Verse 1 Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has been raised from the dead,* and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him." This is my message for you.' So they left the Page 2 of 3

tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

For the Gospel of the Lord **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**