



**THE EASTER ACCLAMATION**

Christ is risen!

**The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

**HYMN: ICH 683**

**All people that on earth do dwell,  
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;  
him serve with joy, his praise forth tell,  
come ye before him and rejoice.**

**The Lord, ye know, is God indeed;  
without our aid he did us make;  
we are his folk, he doth us feed,  
and for his sheep he doth us take.**

**○ enter then his gates with praise,  
approach with joy his courts unto;  
praise, laud, and bless his name always,  
for it is seemly so to do.**

**For why? The Lord our God is good,  
his mercy is for ever sure;  
his truth at all times firmly stood,  
and shall from age to age endure.**

**To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
the God whom heaven and earth adore,  
from us and from the angel host  
be praise and glory evermore.**

*Words: William Kethe (d.1594) based on the Canticle 'Jubilate Deo' (Psalm 100)  
Tune: OLD HUNDREDDTH Melody from Genevan Psalter (1551)*

**OPENING RESPONSES:**

○ Lord, open thou our lips  
**and our mouth shall show forth thy praise.**

God, make speed to save us.

**○ Lord, make haste to help us.**

Glory be 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.**

Praise ye the Lord.

**The Lord's name be praised.**

**PSALM: 119:161-176**

Princes have persecuted me without a cause:  
but my heart standeth in awe of thy word.

I am as glad of thy word:  
as one that findeth great spoils.

As for lies, I hate and abhor them:  
but thy law do I love.

Seven times a day do I praise thee:  
because of thy righteous judgements.

Great is the peace that they have who love thy law:  
and they are not offended at it.

Lord, I have looked for thy saving health:  
and done after thy commandments.

My soul hath kept thy testimonies:  
and loved them exceedingly.

I have kept thy commandments and testimonies:  
for all my ways are before thee.  
Let my complaint come before thee, O Lord:  
give me understanding according to thy word.  
Let my supplication come before thee:  
deliver me, according to thy word.  
My lips shall speak of thy praise:  
when thou hast taught me thy statutes.  
Yea, my tongue shall sing of thy word:  
for all thy commandments are righteous.  
Let thine hand help me:  
for I have chosen thy commandments.  
I have longed for thy saving health, O Lord:  
and in thy law is my delight.  
O let my soul live, and it shall praise thee:  
and thy judgements shall help me.  
I have gone astray like a sheep that is lost:  
O seek thy servant, for I do not forget thy commandments.

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

**FIRST LESSON: Haggai 1:13-2:9**

Haggai, the messenger of the LORD, spoke to the people with the LORD's message, saying, I am with you, says the LORD. And the LORD stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people; and they came and worked on the house of the LORD of hosts, their God, on the twenty-fourth day of the month, in the sixth month.

In the second year of King Darius, in the seventh month, on the twenty-first day of the month, the word of the LORD came by the prophet Haggai, saying: Speak now to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people, and say, Who is left among you that saw this house in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Is it not in your sight as nothing? Yet now take courage, O Zerubbabel, says the LORD; take courage, O Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest; take courage, all you people of the land, says the LORD; work, for I am with you, says the LORD of hosts, according to the promise that I made you when you came out of Egypt. My spirit abides among you; do not fear. For thus says the LORD of hosts: Once again, in a little while, I will shake the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land; and I will shake all the nations, so that the treasure of all nations shall come, and I will fill this house with splendour, says the LORD of hosts. The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, says the LORD of hosts. The latter splendour of this house shall be greater than the former, says the LORD of hosts; and in this place I will give prosperity, says the LORD of hosts.

**THE CANTICLE MAGNIFICAT:**

**My soul doth magnify the Lord:  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.  
For he hath regarded:  
the lowliness of his handmaiden.  
For behold, from henceforth:  
all generations shall call me blessed.  
For he that is mighty hath magnified me:  
and holy is his Name.**

**And his mercy is on them that fear him:  
throughout all generations.  
He hath shewed strength with his arm:  
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
He hath put down the mighty from their seat:  
and hath exalted the humble and meek.  
He hath filled the hungry with good things:  
and the rich he hath sent empty away.  
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel:  
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:  
and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be:  
world without end. Amen.**

#### **SECOND LESSON: I Corinthians 3:10-17**

According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building on it. Each builder must choose with care how to build on it. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw— the work of each builder will become visible, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each has done. If what has been built on the foundation survives, the builder will receive a reward. If the work is burned, the builder will suffer loss; the builder will be saved, but only as through fire.

Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.

#### **THE CANTICLE NUNC DIMITTIS:**

**Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace:  
according to thy word.  
For mine eyes have seen: thy salvation.  
Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people.  
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles:  
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:  
and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be:  
world without end. Amen.**

#### **THE APOSTLES' CREED:**

**I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth;**

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick 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.**

The Lord be with you  
and with thy Spirit.

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us  
**Christ, have mercy upon us.**  
Lord, have mercy upon 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. Amen.**

O Lord, show thy mercy upon us  
**and grant us thy salvation.**

O Lord, save the Queen  
**and mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.**

Endue thy ministers with righteousness  
**and make thy chosen people joyful.**

O Lord, save thy people  
**and bless thine inheritance.**

Give peace in our time, O Lord,  
**because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.**

O God, make clean our hearts within us  
**and take not thy Holy Spirit from us.**

#### **COLLECT OF THE DAY:**

Almighty God, who hast given thine only Son to be unto us both a sacrifice for sin, and also an ensample of godly life; Give us such grace that we may always most thankfully receive that his inestimable benefit, and also daily endeavor ourselves to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

#### **COLLECT FOR PEACE:**

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels and all just works do proceed; Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both, our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

#### **COLLECT FOR AID AGAINST ALL PERILS:**

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord: and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

#### **PRAYERS**

Be present, O risen Lord, in this your Church's Easter praise; that its anthems of joy and proclamation of your victory may worthily celebrate both the mystery of your redeeming love and the majesty of your eternal glory.

Give peace in our time, O Lord: peace and reconciliation among the nations; peace and unity within the churches; peace and harmony in our communities and homes; peace and love in our hearts; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

O God our heavenly Father, you have blessed us and given us stewardship of the earth: increase our reverence for the mystery of life; give us new insights into your purposes for the human race, and new wisdom and determination in making provision for its future in accordance with your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

O God, you have bound us together as a nation in a common life: help us, amid the tension and unrest of these times, to interact with one another with compassion and integrity, and to work together with mutual forbearance and respect for the cause of justice and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Heavenly Father, give wisdom to the leaders of our nation and world as they seek ways to recover economies, jobs, businesses and industries affected by the current health crisis. We pray for all who have lost work and livelihoods, and for those who find it hard to make ends meet. Help us all to be sensitive to the needs of others, and ready to make sacrifices for the sake of others, as servants of Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **A PRAYER FOR CARERS**

Holy Spirit, promised Counsellor, we pray at this time of stress and anxiety for those who are called to the ministry of nurse, doctor, or hospital administrator, and also for those who, without special training, bear heavy burdens at home in caring for the ill and elderly. We remember those who have to manage somehow on their own, and ask your blessing on all the ordinary folk who are good neighbours and friends in need. Draw us closer in bonds of loving care and Christian compassion, and help us to see and respond to need around us. In the bearing, and alleviating, of human pain may the Father's will be done, the Father's love be known, and the Father's grace be mighty to help; through Jesus Christ, his Son, our Lord.

### **A PRAYER OF ST JOHN CHRYSOSTOM**

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests: Fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

### **THE GRACE**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

### **HYMN: ICH 327**

**Christ is our corner-stone,  
on him alone we build;  
with his true saints alone  
the courts of heaven are filled:  
on his great love  
our hopes we place  
of present grace  
and joys above.**

**Oh, then with hymns of praise  
these hallowed courts shall ring;  
our voices we will raise  
the Three in One to sing;  
and thus proclaim  
in joyful song,  
both loud and long,  
that glorious Name.**

**Here, gracious God, come now,  
and evermore draw near;  
accept each faithful vow  
and mark each earnest prayer;  
in copious shower  
on all who pray  
each holy day  
your blessings pour.**

**Here may we gain from heaven  
the grace which we implore;  
and may that grace, once given,  
be with us evermore,  
until that day  
when all the blest  
to endless rest  
are called away.**

*Words: Latin c. 7<sup>th</sup> century, tr. John Chandler (1806-76)  
Tune: HAREWOOD Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-76)*

**PRAYER OF BLESSING**

May the peace of God which passeth all understanding, keep our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be amongst us and remain with us always. **Amen.**

**THE EASTERTIDE DISMISSAL**

Go in the peace of the Risen Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Belfast Cathedral Closure**

We regret that, due to current restrictions as a result of the Covid-19 virus, Belfast Cathedral is closed to services, tourism, events and as a public gathering venue.

However, please continue to watch the cathedral website ([www.belfastcathedral.org](http://www.belfastcathedral.org)) or our Facebook Page "Belfast Cathedral" for up to date news and online prayer resources.