

**OPENING RESPONSES:**

O Lord, open thou our lips.  
And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

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

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.

Praise ye the Lord.  
The Lord's name be praised.

**PSALM: 12**

Help me, Lord, for there is not one godly man left \*  
for the faithful are minished from among the children of men.  
They talk of vanity every one with his neighbour \*  
they do but flatter with their lips, and dissemble in their double heart.  
The Lord shall root out all deceitful lips \*  
and the tongue that speaketh proud things;  
Which have said, With our tongue will we prevail \*  
we are they that ought to speak, who is lord over us?  
Now for the comfortless troubles' sake of the needy \*  
and because of the deep sighing of the poor,  
I will up, saith the Lord \*  
and will help every one from him that swelleth against him, and will set him at rest.  
The words of the Lord are pure words \*  
even as the silver, which from the earth is tried, and purified seven times in the fire.  
Thou shalt keep them, O Lord \*  
thou shalt preserve him from this generation for ever.  
The ungodly walk on every side \*  
when they are exalted, the children of men are put to rebuke.

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: Isaiah 60:1-14**

Arise, shine; for your light has come,  
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.  
For darkness shall cover the earth,  
and thick darkness the peoples;  
but the LORD will arise upon you,  
and his glory will appear over you.  
Nations shall come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Lift up your eyes and look around;  
they all gather together, they come to you;

your sons shall come from far away,  
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.  
Then you shall see and be radiant;  
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,  
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,  
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.  
A multitude of camels shall cover you,  
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;  
all those from Sheba shall come.  
They shall bring gold and frankincense,  
and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.  
All the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered to you,  
the rams of Nebaioth shall minister to you;  
they shall be acceptable on my altar,  
and I will glorify my glorious house.

Who are these that fly like a cloud,  
and like doves to their windows?  
For the coastlands shall wait for me,  
the ships of Tarshish first,  
to bring your children from far away,  
their silver and gold with them,  
for the name of the LORD your God,  
and for the Holy One of Israel,  
because he has glorified you.  
Foreigners shall build up your walls,  
and their kings shall minister to you;  
for in my wrath I struck you down,  
but in my favour I have had mercy on you.  
Your gates shall always be open;  
day and night they shall not be shut,  
so that nations shall bring you their wealth,  
with their kings led in procession.  
For the nation and kingdom  
that will not serve you shall perish;  
those nations shall be utterly laid waste.  
The glory of Lebanon shall come to you,  
the cypress, the plane, and the pine,  
to beautify the place of my sanctuary;  
and I will glorify where my feet rest.  
The descendants of those who oppressed you  
shall come bending low to you,  
and all who despised you  
shall bow down at your feet;  
they shall call you the City of the LORD,  
the Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

**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: Revelation 3:1-13**

'And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: These are the words of him who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars:

'I know your works; you have a name for being alive, but you are dead. Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is at the point of death, for I have not found your works perfect in the sight of my God. Remember then what you received and heard; obey it, and repent. If you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come to you. Yet you have still a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes; they will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are worthy. If you conquer, you will be clothed like them in white robes, and I will not blot your name out of the book of life; I will confess your name before my Father and before his angels. Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

'And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write:  
These are the words of the holy one, the true one,  
who has the key of David,  
who opens and no one will shut,  
who shuts and no one opens:

'I know your works. Look, I have set before you an open door, which no one is able to shut. I know that you have but little power, and yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name. I will make those of the synagogue of Satan who say that they are Jews and are not, but are lying—I will make them come and bow down before your feet, and they will learn that I have loved you. Because you have kept my word of patient endurance, I will keep you from the hour of trial that is coming on the whole world to test the inhabitants of the earth. I am coming soon; hold fast to what you have, so that no one may seize your crown. If you conquer, I will make you a pillar in the temple of my God; you will never go out of it. I will write on you the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem that comes down from my God out of heaven, and my own new name. Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.'

## **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, which art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come.  
Thy will be done,  
In earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
As we forgive them that trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
But deliver us from evil. Amen.

O Lord, shew 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.

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

O Almighty God, who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men; grant unto thy people, that they may love the things which thou commandest, and desire that which thou dost promise; that so, among the sundry and manifold changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed, where true joys are to be found; through 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.

## **PRAYER**

O Lord God, our Father. You are the light that can never be put out; and now you give us a light that shall drive away all darkness. You are love without coldness, and you have given us such warmth in our hearts that we can love all when we meet. You are the life that defies death, and you have opened for us the way that leads to eternal life.

None of us is a great Christian; we are all humble and ordinary. But your grace is enough for us. Arouse in us that small degree of joy and thankfulness of which we are capable, to the timid faith which we can muster, to the cautious obedience which we cannot refuse, and thus to the wholeness of life which you have prepared for all of us through the death and resurrection of your Son. Do not allow any of us to remain apathetic or indifferent to the wondrous glory of Easter, but let the light of our risen Lord reach every corner of our dull hearts.

*Karl Barth*

*A time of **FREE PRAYER** in which to remember others and commend the coming week to God*

*Pause for **SILENT REFLECTION***

## **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.

## Hymns suitable for use at home:

ICH 52

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,  
Christ, the true, the only light,  
Sun of Righteousness, arise,  
Triumph o'er the shades of night;  
Dayspring from on high, be near;  
Daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn  
Unaccompanied by thee:  
Joyless is the day's return,  
Till thy mercy's beams I see;  
Till they inward light impart,  
Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine;  
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;  
Fill me, radiancy divine,  
Scatter all my unbelief;  
More and more thyself display,  
Shining to the perfect day.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-88)

Tune: RATISBON Melody from J.G. Werner's Choralbuch (Leipzig 1815, Harmony by W.H. Havergal (1793-1870)

ICH 279\*

O sons and daughters, let us sing!  
The King of heaven, the glorious King  
o'er death today rose triumphing:  
*alleluia!*

'My piercèd side, O Thomas, see;  
behold my hands and feet,' said he,  
'not faithless but believing be':  
*alleluia!*

That night the apostles met in fear;  
amidst them came their Lord most dear  
and said, 'My peace be on all here':  
*alleluia!*

No longer Thomas then denied;  
he saw the feet, the hands, the side;  
'You are my Lord and God', he cried:  
*alleluia!*

When Thomas first the tidings heard,  
he doubted if it were the Lord  
until he came and spoke the word:  
*alleluia!*

How blessed are they who have not seen,  
and yet whose faith has constant been,  
for they eternal life shall win:  
*alleluia!*

On this most holy day of days  
our hearts and voices, Lord, we raise  
in laud and jubilee and praise:  
*alleluia!*

Words: Jean Tisserand (d.1494) tr. John Mason Neale (1818-66) based on John 20:1-29

Tune: O FILII ET FILIAE French Easter carol melody from *Airs sur les hymnes sacrez* (Paris, 1623) harm. Elizabeth Poston (1905-87)

Bible passages in this service are from the New Revised Standard Version.

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