**The Parish of St. Helen, Surrey**

**The Great Vigil of Easter**

**Holy Saturday**

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**The Service of Light**

Dear friends in Christ, on this most holy night,

when our Lord Jesus Christ passed from death to life,

the Church invites her children throughout the world

to come together in vigil and prayer.

This is the Passover of the Lord.

We remember his death and resurrection

by hearing his word and celebrating his mysteries;

we are confident that we shall share his victory over death

and live with him for ever in God.

Lighting of the New Fire

Father, we share in the light of your glory

through your Son, the light of the world.

Sanctify this new fire, and inflame us with new hope.

Purify our minds by this Easter celebration

and bring us one day to the feast of eternal light.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Preparation of the Candle

*Christ yesterday and today*

*the beginning and the end*

*Alpha and Omega*

*all time belongs to him*

*and all the ages*

*to him be glory and power*

*through every age for ever. Amen.*

*By his holy and glorious wounds may Christ our Lord*

*guard us and keep us.* ***Amen.***

*May the light of Christ, rising in glory,*

*dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.*

The Light of Christ

**Thanks be to God**

*Tapers and candles are lighted.*

The ‘Exsultet’

Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!

Exult, all creation around God’s throne!

Jesus Christ, our King, is risen!

Sound the trumpet of salvation!

Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendour,

radiant in the brightness of your King! Christ has conquered!

Glory fills you! Darkness vanishes forever!

Rejoice, O Mother Church! Exult in glory!

The risen Saviour shines upon you!

Let this place resound with joy,

echoing the mighty song of all God’s 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.**

It is truly right that with full hearts and minds and voices

we should praise the unseen God, the all powerful Father,

and his only Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

For Christ has ransomed us with his blood,

and paid for us the price of Adam’s sin to our eternal Father!

This is our passover feast, when Christ, the true Lamb, is slain, whose blood consecrates the homes of all believers.

This is the night when first you saved our forebears:

you freed the people of Israel from their slavery

and led them dry-shod through the sea.

This is the night when Christians everywhere,

washed clean of sin and freed from all defilement,

are restored to grace and grow together in holiness.

This is the night when Jesus Christ broke the chains of death and rose triumphant from the grave.

Father, how wonderful your care for us!

How boundless your merciful love!

To ransom a slave you gave away your Son.

The power of this holy night dispels all evil,

Washes guilt away, restores lost innocence, brings mourners joy.

Night truly blessed when heaven is wedded to earth

and we are reconciled with God!

Therefore, heavenly Father, in the joy of this night,

receive our evening sacrifice of praise,

your Church’s solemn offering.

Accept this Easter candle.

May it always dispel the darkness of this night!

May the Morning Star which never sets

find this flame still burning: Christ, that Morning Star,

who came back from the dead,

and shed his peaceful light on all creation,

your Son who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**The Proclamation of the Word**

*After each reading there will be a short period of silence followed by a prayer.*

**The First Reading** - Genesis 1:1 - 2:2

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, ‘Let there be light’; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, ‘Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.’ So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

And God said, ‘Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.’ And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, ‘Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.’ And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

And God said, ‘Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.’ And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

And God said, ‘Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.’ So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, ‘Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.’ And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And God said, ‘Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.’ And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, ‘Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.’

So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

God blessed them, and God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.’ God said, ‘See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.’ And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done.

*Silence then Prayer*

**Almighty and eternal God,**

**you created all things in wonderful beauty and order.**

**Help us now to perceive**

**how still more wonderful is the new creation,**

**by which in the fullness of time**

**you redeemed your people**

**through the sacrifice of our Passover, Jesus Christ,**

**who lives and reigns for ever and ever.** **Amen.**

**The Second Reading** - Exodus 14:10-31, 15:20-21

As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the Lord. They said to Moses, ‘Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, “Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians”? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.’ But Moses said to the people, ‘Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the Lord will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to keep still.’

Then the Lord said to Moses, ‘Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. But you lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go into the sea on dry ground. Then I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them; and so I will gain glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots, and his chariot drivers. And the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his chariot drivers.’

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh’s horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, ‘Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt.’

Then the Lord said to Moses, ‘Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.’ So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron’s sister, took a tambourine in her hand; and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing. And Miriam sang to them:

‘Sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously;

horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.’

*Silence then Prayer*

**God of steadfast love, your wonderful deeds of old**

**shine forth even to our own day.**

**By the power of your mighty arm**

**you once delivered your chosen people**

**from slavery under Pharaoh,**

**to be a sign for us of the salvation of all nations**

**by the water of baptism.**

**Grant that all the peoples of the earth**

**may be numbered among the offspring of Abraham,**

**and rejoice in the inheritance of Israel.**

**We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

**The Third Reading** – Isaiah 55:1-11

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;

and you that have no money, come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,

and your labour for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,

and delight yourselves in rich food.

Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant,

my steadfast, sure love for David.

See, I made him a witness to the peoples,

a leader and commander for the peoples.

See, you shall call nations that you do not know,

and nations that do not know you shall run to you,

because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel,

for he has glorified you.

Seek the Lord while he may be found,

call upon him while he is near;

let the wicked forsake their way,

and the unrighteous their thoughts;

let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them,

and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

For my thoughts are not your thoughts,

nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.

For as the heavens are higher than the earth,

so are my ways higher than your ways

and my thoughts than your thoughts.

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,

and do not return there until they have watered the earth,

making it bring forth and sprout,

giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;

it shall not return to me empty,

but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,

and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

*Silence*

**O God, by the power of your Word**

**you have created all things,**

**and by your Spirit you renew the earth.**

**Give now the water of life to those who thirst for you,**

**that they may bring forth abundant fruit**

**in your glorious kingdom.**

**We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**The Fourth Reading** - Ezekiel 36: 24-28

I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. Then you shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors; and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

*Silence then prayer*

**Almighty and everlasting God,**

**in the paschal mystery you established**

**the new covenant of reconciliation.**

**Grant that all who are born again in baptism**

**may show forth in their lives**

**what they profess by their faith.**

**Grant this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

**The Fifth Reading** - Ezekiel 37: 1-14

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all round them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, ‘Mortal, can these bones live?’ I answered, ‘O Lord God, you know.’ Then he said to me, ‘Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord.’

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, ‘Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.’ I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, ‘Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, “Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.” Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.’

*Silence then prayer*

**Living God,**

**by the Passover of your Son**

**you have brought us out of sin into righteousness,**

**and out of death into life.**

**Grant to those who are sealed by your Holy Spirit**

**the will and power to proclaim you to all the world;**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**The Sixth Reading** - Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!

The Lord has taken away the judgements against you,

he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst;

you shall fear disaster no more.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

Do not fear, O Zion;

do not let your hands grow weak.

The Lord, your God, is in your midst,

a warrior who gives victory;

he will rejoice over you with gladness,

he will renew you in his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing

as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you,

so that you will not bear reproach for it.

I will deal with all your oppressors at that time.

And I will save the lame and gather the outcast,

and I will change their shame into praise

and renown in all the earth.

At that time I will bring you home,

at the time when I gather you;

for I will make you renowned and praised

among all the peoples of the earth,

when I restore your fortunes

before your eyes, says the Lord.

*Silence then prayer*

**O God of unchangeable power and eternal light,**

**look favourably on your whole Church,**

**that wonderful and sacred mystery.**

**By the effectual working of your providence,**

**carry out in tranquillity the plan of salvation.**

**Let the whole world see and know**

**that things which were cast down are being raised up,**

**and things which had grown old are being made new,**

**and that all things are being brought to their perfection. Amen.**

Hymn *– Glory to God on High*

**Glory to God on high,**

**and peace to all on earth**

**We worship you, we give you thanks,**

**our heavenly king.**

**We give you praise,**

**Almighty God and Father blessed**

**in glory bright**

**Our Saviour, Jesus Christ,**

**the Father’s only Son,**

**The sacrificial Lamb,**

**who saves the world from sin,**

**Have mercy Lord.**

**Beside the Father’s hand enthroned,**

**now hear our prayer.**

**You only are the Lord.**

**You only are most high.**

**You only are the holy one,**

**Lord Jesus Christ.**

**And now you reign**

**With Father and with Spirit one**

**in glorious light.**

Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Eternal Giver of life and light,

**this holy night shines with the radiance of the risen Christ.**

**Renew your Church with the Spirit given to us in baptism,**

**that we may worship you in sincerity and truth,**

**and shine as a light in the world; through Jesus Christ our**

**Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,**

**one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**New Testament Reading** – Romans 6:3-11

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into

Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have

been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as

Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so

we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will

certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know

that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin

might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to

sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died

with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We

know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die

again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he

died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to

God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive

to God in Christ Jesus.

Listen to what the Spirit is saying to the Church:

**Thanks be to God**

Gospel Acclamation - Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia

The Gospel- Mark 16:1-8

The Lord be with you

**And also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the

Mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might

go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week,

when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been

saying to one another, ‘Who will roll away the stone for us from

the entrance to the tomb?’ When they looked up, they saw that

the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back.

As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a

white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But

he said to them, ‘Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus

of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not

here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his

disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee;

there you will see him, just as he told you.’ So they went out

and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized

them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

The Gospel of Christ

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia

The Homily – *Father Steve*

**Hymn** – *That Eastertide with Joy*

That Eastertide with joy was bright,

the sun shone out with fairer light, Alleluia, Alleluia!

when, to their longing eyes restored,

the apostles saw their risen Lord.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

His bade them see his hands, his side,

where yet the glorious wounds abide; Alleluia, Alleluia!

the tokens true which made it plain

their Lord was risen again.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

From every weapon death can wield

Thine own redeemed forever shield; Alleluia, Alleluia!

O Lord of all, with us abide

In this our joyful Eastertide;

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

O Jesus, King of gentleness,

do thou thyself out hearts possess; Alleluia, Alleluia!

that we may give thee all our days

the tribute of our grateful praise.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

**Renewal of Baptism Vows**

The Blessing of the Water

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water.

Over water the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning

of creation. Through water you led the children of

Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of

promise. In water your Son Jesus received the

baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy

Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us,

through his death and resurrection, from the

bondage of sin into everlasting life. We thank you, Father, for the water of baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn

by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to

your Son, we celebrate our fellowship in him in faith.

We pray that all who have passed through the water

of baptism may continue for ever in the risen life of

Jesus Christ our Saviour. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Renewal of the Baptismal Covenant

Dear friends, through the paschal mystery we have been buried with Christ in baptism, so that we may rise with him to a new life. Now that our Lenten observance is ended, let us renew the promises we made in baptism, when we rejected Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy catholic Church.

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil

and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

**I do.**

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God,**

**the Father almighty,**

**creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ,**

**his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit**

**and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again**

**to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

Will you continue in the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

**I will, with God’s help.**

Will you persevere in resisting evil and, whenever

you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

**I will, with God’s help.**

Will you proclaim by word and example the good

news of God in Christ?

**I will, with God’s help.**

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving

your neighbour as yourself?

**I will, with God’s help.**

Will you strive for justice and peace among all

people, and respect the dignity of every human

being?

**I will, with God’s help.**

Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of God’screation, and

respect, sustain and renew the life ofthe Earth?

**I will, with God’s help.**

God the creator, the rock of our salvation, has given us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

May he keep us faithful to our calling, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*The asperges – As a remind of our baptism, with the help of a tree branch, water is flung over us all.*

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

**The Celebration of the Eucharist**

Offertory Hymn –*Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks*

*Alleluia, Alleluia Give thanks to the Risen Lord*

*Alleluia, Alleluia give Praise to his name.*

Jesus is Lord of all the earth

He is the king of creation. *Refrain*

Spread the good news o’er all the earth:

Jesus has died and is risen *Refrain*

We have been crucified with Christ:

Now we shall live forever *Refrain*

Come, let us praise the living God,

Joyfully sing to our Saviour. *Refrain*

Prayer over the Gifts

God of life and health,

**accept the offering of your holy people,**

**and grant that we who are baptized into Christ**

**may be perfected in your salvation,**

**in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving (#3)

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth;

we give you thanks and praise for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true paschal lamb who has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us eternal life. Therefore, joining our voices with the whole company of heaven, we sing our joyful hymn of praise

to proclaim the glory of your name.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love

you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son.

For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world.

In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death,

a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread;

and when he had given thanks to you,

he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said,

“ Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “Drink this, all of you:

this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it,

do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, Father, according to his command,

**we remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection,**

**we await his coming in glory;**

and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation,

this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him,

may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light

where you dwell with all your sons and daughters;

through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours,

almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lord’s Prayer

Rejoicing in God’s new creation, let us pray..

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,**

**your kingdom come, your will be done,**

**on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,**

**now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Lord, we died with you on the cross.

**Now we are raised to new life.**

We were buried in your tomb.

**Now we share in your resurrection.**

Live in us, that we may live in you.

The Communion

The gifts of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God**

Prayer after Communion

Giver of all,

**we are nourished with your Easter sacraments.**

**Fill us with the Spirit of love, and unite us in faith,**

**that we may be witnesses to the resurrection**

**and show your glory to all the world,**

**in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord. Amen.**

The Doxology

Glory to God,

**whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more**

**than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus,**

**for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Blessing

Processional Hymn – *Ye Choirs of New Jerusalem*

Ye choirs of new Jerusalem, your sweetest notes employ,

The paschal victory to hymn in strains of holy joy

For Judah’s lion bursts his chains,

Crushing the serpent’s head,

And cries aloud through death’s domains

To wake the imprisoned dead.

Devouring depths of hell their prey

At his command restore;

His ransomed hosts pursue their way

Where Jesus goes before.

Triumphant in his glory now to him all power is given;

To him in one communion bow

all saints in earth and heaven

All glory to the Father be, all glory to the Son;

All glory, Holy Ghost, to thee, while endless ages run

Dismissal

Go forth in the name of Christ! Alleluia

**Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**