

**An Order of Worship for Use at Home**  
**Third Sunday of Easter**  
**April 26, 2020**

*Before you begin, choose a place for your devotion with a table or other flat surface and seating where you are comfortable, whether alone or gathered with your family.*

*Assemble the following:*

*A Candle to represent the presence of Christ*

*A Bible that you can place near the candle*

*A Cross*

*If you have others who can share in leading the worship, assign tasks for the reader, the intercessor, and the worship leader. When all are settled, the leader says:*

*Leader* Alleluia! Christ is Risen!  
*People* **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

*As the candle is lit, the leader says:*

*Leader*

Blessed are you, Lord God of our salvation,  
to you be praise and glory for ever.  
As once you ransomed your people from Egypt  
and led them to freedom in the promised land,  
so now you have delivered us from the dominion of darkness  
and brought us into the kingdom of your risen Son.  
May we, the first fruits of your new creation,  
rejoice in this new day you have made,  
and praise you for your mighty acts.  
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*People* **Amen.**

*The Collect for the Third Sunday of Easter*

Let us pray

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

## **Psalm 116: 1-3, 10-17**

*Read together or take turns*

1 I love the Lord, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, \*  
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.

2 The cords of death entangled me;  
the grip of the grave took hold of me; \*  
I came to grief and sorrow.

3 Then I called upon the Name of the Lord: \*  
"O Lord, I pray you, save my life."

10 How shall I repay the Lord \*  
for all the good things he has done for me?

11 I will lift up the cup of salvation \*  
and call upon the Name of the Lord.

12 I will fulfill my vows to the Lord \*  
in the presence of all his people.

13 Precious in the sight of the Lord \*  
is the death of his servants.

14 O Lord, I am your servant; \*  
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;  
you have freed me from my bonds.

15 I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving \*  
and call upon the Name of the Lord.

16 I will fulfill my vows to the Lord \*  
in the presence of all his people,

17 In the courts of the Lord's house, \*  
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.  
Hallelujah!

### *The First Reading is from the Acts of the Apostles 2:14a, 36-41*

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, “Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

*Wonder for a moment: if you were in the crowd, would Peter’s testimony have convinced you? If so, why? If not, why not?*

### *The Second Reading is from Luke 24:13-35*

Now on that same day two of Jesus’ disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?” He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.” Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

*Wonder for a moment about this story of Jesus appearing to the disciples on the road to Emmaus. What part of this story speaks to you today? What does it invite you to be or to do?*

*If you have time, please also read the sermon from St Gregory the Great.*

## **The Apostles' Creed**

*All say together*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth;  
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.  
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.

## **Benedictus**

**All The Lord is risen from the tomb  
who for our sakes hung upon the tree.**

- 1 Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, •  
who has come to his people and set them free.
- 2 He has raised up for us a mighty Savior, •  
born of the house of his servant David.
- 3 Through his holy prophets God promised of old •  
to save us from our enemies,  
from the hands of all that hate us,
- 4 To show mercy to our ancestors, •  
and to remember his holy covenant.
- 5 This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: •  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
- 6 Free to worship him without fear, •  
holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.
- 7 And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, •  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
- 8 To give his people knowledge of salvation •  
by the forgiveness of all their sins.
- 9 In the tender compassion of our God •  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
- 10 To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, •  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

*Luke 1.68-79*

**All 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.**

**All The Lord is risen from the tomb  
who for our sakes hung upon the tree.**

## **Intercessory Prayer**

*Leader:*

On this day that the Lord has made,  
let us pray for the people he has redeemed.

That we may live as those who believe in the triumph of the cross:  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That all people may receive the good news of his victory:  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That those born to new life in the waters of baptism  
may know the power of his resurrection:  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That those who suffer pain and anguish  
may find healing and peace in the wounds of Christ:  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That in the undying love of Christ  
we may be united with all who have died in the faith of Christ:  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Let us commend the world, in which Christ rose from the dead,  
to the mercy and protection of God.

*Open prayer may be offered and silence is kept.*

## **Concluding Collect**

*The Leader says*

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.**

## **Lord's Prayer**

Rejoicing in God's new creation,  
let us pray with confidence as our Savior 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,  
and the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

## **A Prayer During this Time of Separation**

**Lord of the Feast, we thank you for gathering us as your people. We call to remembrance the many times we have been fed at your table and we lament our distance now. Be present Lord Jesus as you were present with your disciples, be known to us in the breaking of the bread, and may your Holy Spirit sustain us and all your Church until we can gather together again. We ask this for the sake of your love. Amen.**

## **The Conclusion**

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

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