



**Morning Prayer
Wednesday May 20, 2020
Rogation Season
Eve of the Feast of the Ascension of
Our Lord**

The Invitatory and Psalter

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! [2 Corinthians 5:17]

O God, let our mouth proclaim your praise. **And your glory all the day long.
Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be forever. Amen. Alleluia.**

Christ our Passover *Pascha nostrum*

1 Corinthians 5:7-8; Romans 6:9-11; 1 Corinthians 15:20-22

Alleluia.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; *

therefore let us keep the feast,

Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, *

but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.

Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; *

death no longer has dominion over him.

The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; *

but the life he lives, he lives to God.

So also consider yourselves dead to sin, *

and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.

Christ has been raised from the dead, *

the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

For since by a man came death, *

by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.
For as in Adam all die, *
so also in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

Psalm 68 *Exsurgat Deus*

- 1 Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered; *
let those who hate him flee before him.
- 2 Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away; *
as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.
- 3 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; *
let them also be merry and joyful.
- 4 Sing to God, sing praises to his Name; exalt him who rides upon the heavens; *
Yahweh is his Name, rejoice before him!
- 5 Father of orphans, defender of widows, * **God in his holy habitation!**
- 6 God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners into freedom; *
but the rebels shall live in dry places.
- 7 O God, when you went forth before your people, *
when you marched through the wilderness,
- 8 The earth shook, and the skies poured down rain,
at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, *
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.
- 9 You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance; *
you refreshed the land when it was weary.
- 10 Your people found their home in it; *
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.
- 11 The Lord gave the word; * **great was the company of women who bore the tidings:**
- 12 "Kings with their armies are fleeing away; *
the women at home are dividing the spoils."
- 13 Though you lingered among the sheepfolds, *
you shall be like a dove whose wings are covered with silver,
whose feathers are like green gold.
- 14 When the Almighty scattered kings, * **it was like snow falling in Zalmon.**
- 15 O mighty mountain, O hill of Bashan! * **O rugged mountain, O hill of Bashan!**
- 16 Why do you look with envy, O rugged mountain,

- at the hill which God chose for his resting place? *
truly, the Lord will dwell there for ever.
- 17 The chariots of God are twenty thousand, even thousands of thousands; *
the Lord comes in holiness from Sinai.
- 18 You have gone up on high and led captivity captive;
you have received gifts even from your enemies, *
that the Lord God might dwell among them.
- 19 Blessed be the Lord day by day, * **the God of our salvation, who bears our burdens.**
- 20 He is our God, the God of our salvation; *
God is the Lord, by whom we escape death.
- 21 God shall crush the heads of his enemies, *
and the hairy scalp of those who go on still in their wickedness.
- 22 The Lord has said, "I will bring them back from Bashan; *
I will bring them back from the depths of the sea;
- 23 That your foot may be dipped in blood, *
the tongues of your dogs in the blood of your enemies."
- 24 They see your procession, O God, *
your procession into the sanctuary, my God and my King.
- 25 The singers go before, musicians follow after, *
in the midst of maidens playing upon the hand-drums.
- 26 Bless God in the congregation; *
bless the Lord, you that are of the fountain of Israel.
- 27 There is Benjamin, least of the tribes, at the head;
the princes of Judah in a company; *
and the princes of Zebulon and Naphtali.
- 28 Send forth your strength, O God; * **establish, O God, what you have wrought for us.**
- 29 Kings shall bring gifts to you, * **for your temple's sake at Jerusalem.**
- 30 Rebuke the wild beast of the reeds, *
and the peoples, a herd of wild bulls with its calves.
- 31 Trample down those who lust after silver; * **scatter the peoples that delight in war.**
- 32 Let tribute be brought out of Egypt; * **let Ethiopia stretch out her hands to God.**
- 33 Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; * **sing praises to the Lord.**
- 34 He rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; *
he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice.

35 Ascribe power to God; *

his majesty is over Israel; his strength is in the skies.

36 How wonderful is God in his holy places! *

the God of Israel giving strength and power to his people! Blessed be God!

The Lessons

The Old Testament Lesson: A Reading from the Second Book of Kings [2:1-15]

2 Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ²Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. ³The company of prophets* who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.'

⁴ Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho. ⁵The company of prophets* who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.'

⁶ Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. ⁷Fifty men of the company of prophets* also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

⁹ When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' ¹⁰He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' ¹¹As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. ¹²Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

¹³ He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. ¹⁴He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him,

and struck the water, saying, 'Where is the Lord, the God of Elijah?' When he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over.

15 When the company of prophets* who were at Jericho saw him at a distance, they declared, 'The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha.' They came to meet him and bowed to the ground before him.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle: A Song of Our True Nature - Julian of Norwich

Christ revealed our frailty and our falling, * our trespasses and our humiliations. Christ also revealed his blessed power, * his blessed wisdom and love.

He protects us as tenderly and as sweetly when we are in greatest need; *

he raises us in spirit and turns everything to glory and joy without ending.

God is the ground and the substance, the very essence of nature; *

God is the true father and mother of natures.

We are all bound to God by nature, * and we are all bound to God by grace.

And this grace is for all the world, * because it is our precious mother, Christ.

For this fair nature was prepared by Christ for the honor and nobility of all, * and for the joy and bliss of salvation.

The Second Lesson: The Gospel of John 16:12-15

12 'I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Song of Mary *Magnificat* Luke 1:46-55

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *

for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: *

the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him * in every generation.
He has shown the strength of his arm,*
 he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things,* and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
 for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
The promise he made to our fathers, * to Abraham and his children for ever.
 Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The Apostle's Creed

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.

The Prayers

Hear our cry, O God. **And listen to our prayer.**
Let us pray. God be with you. **And also with you.**
Let us pray.

The Lord's Prayer

The Suffrages

V. Help us, O God our Savior; **R. Deliver us and forgive us our sins.**
V. Look upon your congregation; **R. Give to your people the blessing of peace.**
V. Declare your glory among the nations; **R. And your wonders among all peoples.**
V. Do not let the oppressed be shamed and turned away;
R. Never forget the lives of your poor.
V. Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you;

R. And your favor to those who are true of heart.

V. Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning;

R. So shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

Collect of the Day

Holy God, we come into this sanctuary to sing praises to your holy name, for we name ourselves an Easter people, the Body of Christ. We come to worship you in spirit and in truth, amazed and comforted by the presence of your Holy Spirit, we come to sing praise and await renewal of your blessing, gathered in the name of the Messiah, Jesus the Christ. **Amen.**

Collect for Guidance

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect for Mission

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. **Amen.**

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

[Romans 15:13]