

# Easter Sunday

Christ is Risen! Truly, He is Risen! Alleluia!

Easter Sunday proclaims Christ's Resurrection. It is a joyful celebration of God's enduring love, which has conquered sin and death. Christ became a human being, suffered, died, and rose from the dead. This is the Paschal Mystery and it is what we celebrate today. The message that "Christ is risen" is a message of hope and peace, and so we pray this day for an increase of hope and peace in our world.

As in the other liturgies for the home, this service can be adapted to suit your needs. For homes with small children, you may wish to focus on the Gospel reading and have your children prepare some crafts or drawings. Perhaps they could offer these gifts to other members of the family or place them on the altar. Dyed Easter eggs are also a treat that might interest young and old alike!

For this joyful celebration you may wish to include bells and instruments, especially during the Gloria and the Alleluia. There is a space in the liturgy for feeling so exuberant that you feel a little silly. Embrace it. Ring those bells! Christ is Risen!

**Materials you might need:** candles, flowers for decoration, crafts made by children, a playlist of music

**Music you might sing or listen to:** [Jesus Christ is Risen Today](#), [Alleluia Sing to Jesus](#), [You are Love and Love Alone](#), [New Every Morning](#)

## **Entrance Antiphon**

I have risen, and I am with you still. alleluia.

You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia.

Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia, alleluia.

## **Introductory Rites**

*Leader:* In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All:** Amen.

*Leader:* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**All:** And with your Spirit.

*Leader:* This day we are gathered to celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord. He has conquered death and brought light into the world. Truly he is risen! We turn to him now in thanksgiving and praise.

## **Gloria**

**All:** Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## **Collect**

*Leader:* Let us pray.

O God, who on this day,  
through your Only Begotten Son,  
have conquered death  
and unlocked for us the path to eternity,  
grant, we pray, that we who keep  
the solemnity of the Lord's Resurrection  
may, through the renewal brought by your Spirit,  
rise up in the light of life.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
**All:** Amen.

## **Liturgy of the Word**

### **First Reading** (Acts 10:34, 37-43)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles:

Peter proceeded to speak and said:  
"You know what has happened all over Judea,  
beginning in Galilee after the baptism  
that John preached,  
how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth  
with the Holy Spirit and power.  
He went about doing good  
and healing all those oppressed by the devil,  
for God was with him.  
We are witnesses of all that he did  
both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem.  
They put him to death by hanging him on a tree.  
This man God raised on the third day and granted that he be visible,

not to all the people, but to us,  
the witnesses chosen by God in advance,  
who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.  
He commissioned us to preach to the people  
and testify that he is the one appointed by God  
as judge of the living and the dead.  
To him all the prophets bear witness,  
that everyone who believes in him  
will receive forgiveness of sins through his name."

The Word of the Lord  
**All:** Thanks be to God

### **Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 118)**

*Reader:* This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.  
**All:** This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,  
for his mercy endures forever.  
Let the house of Israel say,  
"His mercy endures forever."

**All:** This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

"The right hand of the LORD has struck with power;  
the right hand of the LORD is exalted.  
I shall not die, but live,  
and declare the works of the LORD."

**All:** This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone.  
By the LORD has this been done;  
it is wonderful in our eyes.

**All:** This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

### **Second Reading (1 Corinthians 5:6-8)**

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians:

Brothers and sisters:  
Do you not know that a little yeast leavens all the dough?  
Clear out the old yeast,  
so that you may become a fresh batch of dough,  
inasmuch as you are unleavened.  
For our paschal lamb, Christ, has been sacrificed.  
Therefore, let us celebrate the feast,  
not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and wickedness,  
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

The Word of the Lord  
**All:** Thanks be to God

### **Gospel Acclamation**

**All:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Christ, our paschal lamb, has been sacrificed;  
let us then feast with joy in the Lord.

**All:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

## **Gospel (John 20:1-9)**

A reading of the Holy Gospel according to John

**All:** Glory to you, O Lord.

On the first day of the week,  
Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning,  
while it was still dark,  
and saw the stone removed from the tomb.  
So she ran and went to Simon Peter  
and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them,  
“They have taken the Lord from the tomb,  
and we don’t know where they put him.”  
So Peter and the other disciple went out and came to the tomb.  
They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter  
and arrived at the tomb first;  
he bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did not go in.  
When Simon Peter arrived after him,  
he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there,  
and the cloth that had covered his head,  
not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place.  
Then the other disciple also went in,  
the one who had arrived at the tomb first,  
and he saw and believed.  
For they did not yet understand the Scripture  
that he had to rise from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord

**All:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

## **Reflection**

*A prepared reflection may be offered. This time could also be a chance for silent meditation on the readings or even a time to allow each person present to share their own response to the readings and the feast.*

## **Prayers of the Faithful**

*These or similar petitions may be offered.*

*Leader:* Let us place our needs and the needs of the world before God our Father, rejoicing in Christ's resurrection and triumph over death and sin.

*Reader:* We pray for all who take part in the ministries of the Church. For all ministers of the faith, especially Pope Francis, for all leaders, and families, teachers, and all who dedicate themselves to service and prayer. May the entire family of God bear witness to the joy of the Resurrection.

We pray to the Lord.

**All:** Lord, hear our prayer.

*Reader:* We pray for an end to disease, especially the current virus that is plaguing our world. May the hope of the Resurrection flood the earth, and may all who are tirelessly working to develop a remedy be blessed in their efforts.

We pray to the Lord.

**All:** Lord, hear our prayer.

*Reader:* We pray for the poor, the forgotten, the stranger, the addict, all who have no one to pray for them, the imprisoned, the lonely, the abandoned, and all who are suffering in any way. May the light of the Resurrection touch their hearts and may we be of service to those in most need.

We pray to the Lord.

**All:** Lord, hear our prayer.

*Reader:* We pray for our families. We pray for mothers and fathers and children, for grandparents, aunts and uncles, cousins, for the families we were born into, and the families we have formed along the way. May those we hold most dear be a source of joy and strength

in these difficult times, and may all of us come to see with greater clarity the one human family of which we are all a part.

We pray to the Lord.

**All:** Lord, hear our prayer.

*Reader:* We pray for the sick, for the dying, and for all who will die this day. May the Lord, the Good Shepherd, grant them comfort, peace, and life eternal.

We pray to the Lord.

**All:** Lord, hear our prayer.

*Consider inviting those present to offer their own petitions either in silence or aloud.*

*Leader:* Ever-living God, you have shown us the path of life and, through the resurrection of your Son from the dead, you have granted us the gift of salvation. In joy that is beyond words, we offer you our prayers, and we call down your blessing upon those gathered here and upon the whole world. We ask this through the risen Christ, our Lord, who lives and reign for ever and ever.

**All:** Amen.

## **Our Father**

*Leader:* At the Savior's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

**All:** 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:

*Leader:* Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, sustained by the help of your mercy, we may



be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope, the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**All:** For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

### **Sign of Peace**

*Depending on the setting, the sign of peace may be omitted. In a circumstance where physical contact is unwise, a simple and reverent bow may be more appropriate.*

*Leader:* The peace of the Lord be with you always

**All:** And with your spirit.

*Leader:* Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

### **Conclusion**

*Leader:* May Almighty God bless us  
through today's Easter Solemnity  
and, in his compassion, defend us from every assault of sin.

**All:** Amen.

*Leader:* And may he, who restores us to eternal life  
in the Resurrection of his Only Begotten,  
endow us with the prize of immortality.

**All:** Amen.

*Leader:* Now that the days of the Lord's Passion  
have drawn to a close,  
may we who celebrate the gladness of the Paschal Feast  
come with Christ's help, and exulting in spirit,  
to those feasts that are celebrated in eternal joy.

**All:** Amen.

*Leader:* And may the blessing of almighty God,  
the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit,  
come down on us  
and remain with us for ever.

**All:** Amen.

*Leader:* Go in peace, alleluia, alleluia.

**All:** Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia.

## **Acknowledgements**

### The Lectionary Texts

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