

## Morning Prayer

### Friday after the Fourth Sunday of Easter

Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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*Officiant* Lord, open our lips.  
*People* And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

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.  
Alleluia.

### Christ our Passover

*1 Cor. 5:7-8; Romans 6:9-11; 1 Cor. 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 40

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I waited patiently upon the LORD; \*  
he stooped to me and heard my cry.  
He lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the mire and clay; \*  
he set my feet upon a high cliff and made my footing sure.  
He put a new song in my mouth,  
a song of praise to our God; \*

many shall see, and stand in awe,  
 and put their trust in the LORD.  
 Happy are they who trust in the LORD! \*  
 they do not resort to evil spirits or turn to false gods.  
 Great things are they that you have done, O LORD my God!  
 how great your wonders and your plans for us! \*  
 there is none who can be compared with you.  
 Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! \*  
 but they are more than I can count.  
 In sacrifice and offering you take no pleasure \*  
 (you have given me ears to hear you);  
 Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required, \*  
 and so I said, "Behold, I come.  
 In the roll of the book it is written concerning me: \*  
 'I love to do your will, O my God;  
 your law is deep in my heart.'"

I proclaimed righteousness in the great congregation; \*  
 behold, I did not restrain my lips;  
 and that, O LORD, you know.  
 Your righteousness have I not hidden in my heart;  
 I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance; \*  
 I have not concealed your love and faithfulness from the great congregation.  
 You are the LORD;  
 do not withhold your compassion from me; \*  
 let your love and your faithfulness keep me safe for ever,  
 For innumerable troubles have crowded upon me;  
 my sins have overtaken me, and I cannot see; \*  
 they are more in number than the hairs of my head,  
 and my heart fails me.  
 Be pleased, O LORD, to deliver me; \*  
 O LORD, make haste to help me.  
 Let them be ashamed and altogether dismayed  
 who seek after my life to destroy it; \*  
 let them draw back and be disgraced who take pleasure in my misfortune.  
 Let those who say "Aha!" and gloat over me be confounded, \*  
 because they are ashamed.  
 Let all who seek you rejoice in you and be glad; \*  
 let those who love your salvation continually say,  
 "Great is the LORD!"  
 Though I am poor and afflicted, \*  
 the Lord will have regard for me.  
 You are my helper and my deliverer; \*  
 do not tarry, O my God.

## Psalm 54

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Save me, O God, by your Name; \*  
 in your might, defend my cause.

Hear my prayer, O God; \*  
give ear to the words of my mouth.  
For the arrogant have risen up against me,  
and the ruthless have sought my life, \*  
those who have no regard for God.  
Behold, God is my helper; \*  
it is the Lord who sustains my life.  
Render evil to those who spy on me; \*  
in your faithfulness, destroy them.  
I will offer you a freewill sacrifice \*  
and praise your Name, O LORD, for it is good.  
For you have rescued me from every trouble, \*  
and my eye has seen the ruin of my foes.  
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 Lessons**

### **The First Lesson**

**Exod. 34:18-35**

A Reading from the Book of Exodus.

You shall keep the festival of unleavened bread. Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread, as I commanded you, at the time appointed in the month of Abib; for in the month of Abib you came out from Egypt. All that first opens the womb is mine, all your male livestock, the firstborn of cow and sheep. The firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, or if you will not redeem it you shall break its neck. All the firstborn of your sons you shall redeem. No one shall appear before me empty-handed. Six days you shall work, but on the seventh day you shall rest; even in plowing time and in harvest time you shall rest. You shall observe the festival of weeks, the first fruits of wheat harvest, and the festival of ingathering at the turn of the year. Three times in the year all your males shall appear before the LORD God, the God of Israel. For I will cast out nations before you, and enlarge your borders; no one shall covet your land when you go up to appear before the LORD your God three times in the year. You shall not offer the blood of my sacrifice with leaven, and the sacrifice of the festival of the passover shall not be left until the morning. The best of the first fruits of your ground you shall bring to the house of the LORD your God. You shall not boil a kid in its mother's milk. The LORD said to Moses: Write these words; in accordance with these words I have made a covenant with you and with Israel.

He was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights; he neither ate bread nor drank water. And he wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant, the ten commandments. Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the

veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

## 10. The Second Song of Isaiah

*Isaiah 55:6-11*

Seek the Lord while he wills to be found; \*  
call upon him when he draws near.  
Let the wicked forsake their ways \*  
and the evil ones their thoughts;  
And let them turn to the Lord, and he will have compassion, \*  
and to our God, for he will richly pardon.  
For my thoughts are not your thoughts, \*  
nor 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 rain and snow fall from the heavens \*  
and return not again, but water the earth,  
Bringing forth life and giving growth, \*  
seed for sowing and bread for eating,  
So is my word that goes forth from my mouth; \*  
it will not return to me empty;  
But it will accomplish that which I have purposed, \*  
and prosper in that for which I sent it.  
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 Second Lesson

**Matt. 5:27-37**

A Reading from the Gospel According to Matthew.

“You have heard that it was said, **¶**You shall not commit adultery.’ But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell. “It was also said, **¶**Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

“Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, **¶**You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.’ But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let your word be **¶**Yes, Yes’ or **¶**No, No; anything more than this comes from the evil one.

The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

### **18. A Song to the Lamb**

*Revelation 4:11, 5:9-10, 13*

Splendor and honor and kingly power \*  
are yours by right, O Lord our God,  
For you created everything that is, \*  
and by your will they were created and have their being;  
And yours by right, O Lamb that was slain, \*  
for with your blood you have redeemed for God,  
From every family, language, people, and nation, \*  
a kingdom of priests to serve our God.  
And so, to him who sits upon the throne, \*  
and to Christ the Lamb,  
Be worship and praise, dominion and splendor, \*  
for ever and for evermore.

### **The Apostles' Creed**

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**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**

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*Officiant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* And also with you.  
*Officiant* Let us pray.

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

## **Suffrages A**

*V.* Show us your mercy, O Lord;  
*R.* And grant us your salvation.  
*V.* Clothe your ministers with righteousness;  
*R.* Let your people sing with joy.  
*V.* Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
*R.* For only in you can we live in safety.  
*V.* Lord, keep this nation under your care;  
*R.* And guide us in the way of justice and truth.  
*V.* Let your way be known upon earth;  
*R.* Your saving health among all nations.  
*V.* Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
*R.* Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.  
*V.* Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
*R.* And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

## **The Collect of the Day**

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people; Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## **A Collect for Fridays**

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the

cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **A Prayer for Mission**

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.*

### **The General Thanksgiving**

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Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. 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*