

THE ORDER FOR
MORNING PRAYER

On the
Fifth Sunday after Easter,

commonly called Rogation Sunday.

Where this is said privately, a layman or laywoman may take the parts marked “Minister”, but the Absolution is said by a priest alone, and must be omitted in his absence.

If you wish to abbreviate this for the sake of young children who are taking part, you may read the General Confession, one of the psalms or lessons, the Creed, the Lord’s Prayer, the short versicles and responses, the three Collects and the General Thanksgiving.

Voluntaries this Sunday:

*Christ lag in Todesbanden (Victimae paschali laudes), Samuel Scheidt
Ricercar sur le choral, Johann Kaspar Ferdinand Fischer
Choral “Christ ist Ressuscite”, Anonymous, 15th c. German*

Hymns this Sunday:

[Hymn #91 The Strife Is O’er, The Battle Done \(Victory\)](#)
Christ Jesus Lay in Death’s Strong Bands

Singers this Sunday:

Gabrielle Walker, soprano; Jack VanEck, bass; Kamron Glover, tenor; and Sarah Eliasoph, alto

Hymn 91 – The Strife is O'er

Words: Latin, pub. Cologne, 1695; tr. Francis Pott, 1861, alt.

Tune: Victory – G. P. Sante da Palestrina, adapted with alleluias by Wm H Monk, 1861

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

1. The strife is o'er, the battle done,
the victory of life is won;
the song of triumph has begun.
Alleluia!

2. The powers of death have done their worst,
but Christ their legions hath dispersed:
let shout of holy joy outburst.
Alleluia!

3. The three sad days are quickly sped,
he rises glorious from the dead:
all glory to our risen Head!
Alleluia!

4. He closed the yawning gates of hell,
the bars from heaven's high portals fell;
let hymns of praise his triumphs tell!
Alleluia!

5. Lord! by the stripes which wounded thee,
from death's dread sting thy servants free,
that we may live and sing to thee.
Alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

PREPARING IN PENITENCE.

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us; but if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 *St. John* i. 8, 9.

A General Confession (*said by all*).

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father; We have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; And we have done those things which we ought not to have done; And there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare thou those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore thou those who are penitent; According to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake; That we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, To the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

The Declaration of Absolution, or Remission of Sins

Said by the Priest alone, standing, the People still kneeling.

ALMIGHTY God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desireth not the death of a sinner, but rather that he may turn from his wickedness and live, hath given power, and commandment, to his Ministers, to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the Absolution and Remission of their sins. He pardoneth and absolveth all those who truly repent, and unfeignedly believe his holy Gospel.

Wherefore let us beseech him to grant us true repentance, and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do at this present; and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy; so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Opening Versicles & Responses (*alternating*)

O Lord, open thou our lips.

Answer. And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

Answer. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Praise ye the Lord.

Answer. The Lord's Name be praised.

PRAISE OF GOD'S GLORY.

All say: Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed : O come let us adore him.
Alleluia.

Psalm 95. *Venite, exultemus.*

O COME, let us sing unto the LORD;
* let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.

2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving;
* and show ourselves glad in him with psalms.

3 For the LORD is a great God;
* and a great King above all gods.

4 In his hand are all the corners of the earth;
* and the strength of the hills is his also.

5 The sea is his, and he made it;
* and his hands prepared the dry land.

6 O come, let us worship and fall down,
* and kneel before the LORD our Maker.

7 For he is the Lord our God;
* and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.

8 To-day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts
* as in the provocation,

and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness;

9 When your fathers tempted me,
* proved me, and saw my works.

10 Forty years long was I grieved with this generation, and said,
* It is a people that do err in their hearts,
for they have not known my ways:

11 Unto whom I swear in my wrath,
* that they should not enter into my rest.

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, * and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, * world without
end. Amen.

All say: Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed : O come let us adore him.
Alleluia.

Psalm 66 *Jubilate Deo.* (Prayer Book, p. 417)
The Church called to joy in Christ's resurrection.

All the earth called to joy in Christ's victory over death.

O be joyful in God, all ye lands;
* sing praises unto the honour of his Name;
make his praise to be glorious.

2 Say unto God, O how wonderful art thou in thy works!
* through the greatness of thy power
shall thine enemies bow down unto thee.

3 For all the world shall worship thee,
* sing of thee, and praise thy Name.

Israel's redemption of Israel at the Red Sea – the pattern of the Church's deliverance by Christ

4 O come hither, and behold the works of God;
* how wonderful he is in his doing toward the children of men.

5 He turned the sea into dry land,
* so that they went through the water on foot;
there did we rejoice thereof.

6 He ruleth with his power for ever; his eyes behold the nations:
* and such as will not believe
shall not be able to exalt themselves.

The deliverance of the faithful through trials and persecutions

7 O praise our God, ye peoples,
* and make the voice of his praise to be heard;

8 Who holdeth our soul in life;
* and suffereth not our feet to slip.

9 For thou, O God, hast proved us;
* thou also hast tried us, like as silver is tried.

10 Thou broughtest us into the snare;
* and laidest trouble upon our loins.

11 Thou sufferedst men to ride over our heads;
* we went through fire and water,
and thou broughtest us out into a wealthy place.

The thankfulness of the faithful for their deliverance

12 I will go into thine house with burnt-offerings,
and will pay thee my vows,

which I promised with my lips, and spake with my mouth,
when I was in trouble.

13 I will offer unto thee fat burnt-sacrifices, with the incense of rams;
* I will offer bullocks and goats.

Testimony of the faithful to answered prayer

14 O come hither, and hearken, all ye that fear God;
* and I will tell you what he hath done for my soul.

15 I called unto him with my mouth,
* and gave him praises with my tongue.

16 If I incline unto wickedness with mine heart,
* the Lord will not hear me.

17 But God hath heard me;
* and considered the voice of my prayer.

18 Praised be God, who hath not cast out my prayer,
* nor turned his mercy from me.

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, *
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, *
world without end. Amen.

The First Lesson: Isaiah 55:6 - 13

The word that accomplishes God's reconciling will.

⁶ Seek ye the LORD while he may be found,
call ye upon him while he is near:

⁷ Let the wicked forsake his way,

and the unrighteous man his thoughts:

and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him;

and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts,

neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth,

so are my ways higher than your ways,

and my thoughts than your thoughts.

¹⁰ For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven,

and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth,

and maketh it bring forth and bud,
that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:
¹¹ So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth:
it shall not return unto me void,
but it shall accomplish that which I please,
and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

¹² For ye shall go out with joy,
and be led forth with peace:
the mountains and the hills
shall break forth before you into singing,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

¹³ Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree,
and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree:
and it shall be to the LORD for a name,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Canticle: *Te Deum laudamus.*

The praise of the Creator by the whole creation, and by the Church.

WE praise thee, O God; we acknowledge thee to be the Lord.
All the earth doth worship thee, the Father everlasting.
To thee all Angels cry aloud; the Heavens, and all the Powers therein;
To thee Cherubim and Seraphim continually do cry,
Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;
Heaven and earth are full of the Majesty of thy glory.
The glorious company of the Apostles praise thee.
The goodly fellowship of the Prophets praise thee.
The noble army of Martyrs praise thee.
The holy Church throughout all the world doth acknowledge thee;
The Father of an infinite Majesty;
Thine adorable, true and only Son;
Also the Holy Ghost the Comforter.

THOU art the King of Glory, O Christ.
Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father.

When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man,
 thou didst humble thyself to be born of a Virgin.
When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death,
 thou didst open the Kingdom of Heaven to all believers.
Thou sittest at the right hand of God,
 in the glory of the Father.
We believe that thou shalt come
 to be our Judge.
 We therefore pray thee, help thy servants,
 whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood.
Make them to be numbered with thy Saints,
 in glory everlasting.

O LORD, save thy people, and bless thine heritage.
Govern them and lift them up for ever.
 Day by day we magnify thee;
 And we worship thy Name ever, world without end.
 Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.
 O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.
 O Lord, let thy mercy be upon us, as our trust is in thee.
 O Lord, in thee have I trusted; let me never be confounded.

The Second lesson(s):

St. James 1:22 - 27 *The unfinished work of obedience.*

Dearly beloved: be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: for he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed. If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain. Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

St. John 16:16:23-27 *The finished work of redemption.*

At that time: Jesus said unto his disciples: Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you. Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full. These things have I spoken unto you in proverbs: but the time cometh, when I shall no more speak unto you in proverbs, but I shall shew you plainly of the Father. At that day ye shall ask in my name: and I say not unto you, that I will pray the Father for you: for the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God. I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world: again, I leave the world, and go to the Father. His disciples said unto him, Lo, now speakest thou plainly, and speakest no proverb. Now are we sure that thou knowest all things, and needest not that any man should ask thee: by this we believe that thou camest forth from God. Jesus answered them, Do ye now believe? Behold, the hour cometh, yea, is now come, that ye shall be scattered, every man to his own, and shall leave me alone: and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with me. These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace In the world ye shall have tribulation but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

Benedictus. St. Luke i. 68.

*Thanksgiving for our redemption in Christ,
and grateful self-dedication to his service.*

BLESSED be the Lord God of Israel; *
for he hath visited and redeemed his people;

And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us, *
in the house of his servant David;

As he spake by the mouth of his holy Prophets, *
which have been since the world began;

That we should be saved from our enemies, *
and from the hand of all that hate us.

To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers, *
and to remember his holy covenant;

To perform the oath which he sware to our forefather Abraham, *
that he would give us;

That we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies *
might serve him without fear;

In holiness and righteousness before him, *
all the days of our life.

And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest: *
for thou shalt go. before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;

To give knowledge of salvation unto his people *
for the remission of their sins,

Through the tender mercy of our God; *
whereby the day-spring from on high hath visited us;

To give light to them that sit in darkness, and in the shadow of death, *
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, *
and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, *
world without end. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR GOD'S GRACE.

The Apostles' Creed (said be all)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: Who was conceived by the
Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary: Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was
crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day he rose
again from the dead: He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right
hand of God the Father Almighty: From thence he shall come to judge the

quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost: The holy Catholic Church; The Communion of Saints: The Forgiveness of sins: The Resurrection of the body: And the Life everlasting. Amen.

Minister. The Lord be with you.

Answer. And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Minister. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Answer. Christ, have mercy upon us.

Minister. Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Lord's Prayer (said by 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. Amen.

Minister. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.

Answer. And grant us thy salvation.

Minister. O Lord, save the State.

Answer. And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Minister. Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

Answer. And make thy chosen people joyful.

Minister. O Lord, save thy people.

Answer. And bless thine inheritance.

Minister. Give peace in our time, O Lord.

Answer. For it is thou, Lord, only, that makest us dwell in safety.

Minister. O God, make clean our hearts within us.

Answer. And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

The Collect for the Fifth Sunday after Easter

O LORD, from whom all good things do come; Grant to us thy humble servants, that by thy holy inspiration we may think those things that are good, and by thy merciful guiding may perform the same; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

A Collect for Peace.

O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom; Defend us thy humble servants in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in thy defence, may not fear the power of any adversaries, through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Collect for Grace.

O Lord, our heavenly Father, Almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day; Defend us in the same with thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that all our doings, being ordered by thy governance, may be righteous in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Prayer for all in Civil Authority.

ALMIGHTY God, whose kingdom is everlasting and power infinite; Have mercy upon this whole land; and so rule the hearts of thy servants **THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, *The Governor of this State***, and all others in authority, that they, knowing whose ministers they are, may above all things seek thy honour and glory; and that we and all the People, duly considering whose authority they bear, may faithfully and obediently honour them, according to thy blessed Word and ordinance; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

A Prayer for the Clergy and People.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, from whom cometh every good and perfect gift; Send down upon our Bishops, and other Clergy, and upon the Congregations committed to their charge, the healthful Spirit of thy grace; and, that they may truly please thee, pour upon them the continual dew of thy blessing. Grant this, O Lord, for the honour of our Advocate and Mediator, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

A Prayer for all Conditions of Men.

O GOD, the Creator and Preserver of all mankind, we humbly beseech thee for all sorts and conditions of men; that thou wouldest be pleased to make thy ways known unto them, thy saving health unto all nations. More especially we pray for thy holy Church universal; that it may be so guided and governed by thy good Spirit, that all who profess and call themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life. Finally, we commend to thy fatherly goodness all those who are any ways afflicted, or distressed, in mind, body, or estate; [**especially those for whom our prayers are desired;*] that it may please thee to comfort and relieve them, according to their several necessities; giving them patience under their sufferings, and a happy issue out of all their afflictions. And this we beg for Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

** This may be said when any desire the prayers of the Congregation.*

In Time of Great Sickness and Mortality.

O Most mighty and merciful God, in this time of grievous sickness, we flee unto thee for succour. Deliver us, we beseech thee, from our peril; give strength and skill to all those who minister to the sick; prosper the means made use of for their cure; and grant that, perceiving how frail and uncertain our life is, we may apply our hearts unto that heavenly wisdom which leadeth to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For the Faithful Departed

I bid your prayers for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed:

Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord;

Answer. and let light perpetual shine upon them.
May they rest in peace. *Amen.*

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom & the Grace.

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests; Fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. *Amen.* (2 Cor. xiii. 14.)

The Sermon – Father Dunbar

A General Thanksgiving (*may be said by all*).

ALMIGHTY God, Father of all mercies, we, thine unworthy servants, do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all men; We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all, for thine inestimable 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 beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

The Blessing (*said by the priest*)



Christ Lag in Todesbanden

“Christ Jesus Lay in Death’s Strong Bands”

[Stanzas marked with asterisk * are omitted in performance]

Christ Jesus lay in death’s strong bands,
For our offenses given;
But now at God’s right hand He stands,
And brings us life from Heaven.
Wherefore let us joyful be,
And sing to God right thankfully
Loud songs of Alleluia! Alleluia!

*No son of man could conquer death,
Such mischief sin had wrought us,
For innocence dwelt not on earth,
And therefore death had brought us
Into thralldom from of old
And ever grew more strong and bold
And kept us in his bondage. Alleluia!

*But Jesus Christ, God’s only Son,
To our low state descended,
The cause of death He has undone,
His power forever ended,
Ruined all his right and claim
And left him nothing but the name,
His sting is lost forever. Alleluia!

It was a strange and dreadful strife
When life and death contended;
The victory remained with life;
The reign of death was ended.
Stripped of power, no more it reigns,
An empty form alone remains
Death’s sting is lost forever! Alleluia!

*Here the true Paschal Lamb we see,
Whom God so freely gave us;
He died on the accursed tree—

So strong His love!—to save us.
See, His blood doth mark our door;
Faith points to it, death passes over,
And Satan cannot harm us. Alleluia!

So let us keep the festival
Where to the Lord invites us;
Christ is Himself the joy of all,
The sun that warms and lights us.
By His grace He doth impart
Eternal sunshine to the heart;
The night of sin is ended! Alleluia!

Then let us feast this Easter day
On the true bread of Heaven;
The Word of grace hath purged away
The old and wicked leaven.
Christ alone our souls will feed;
He is our meat and drink indeed;
Faith lives upon no other! Alleluia!

Words – Martin Luther, tr. Richard Massie
Music – *Geistliches Gesangbüchlein*, Wittenberg, 1524,
Harmonized J. S. Bach