

# Ante-Communion Easter Day through the Day of Pentecost (also called The Liturgy of the Word)

From the 1979 Book of Common Prayer pages 351-360, 406-407 and Enriching Our Worship 1 pages 50-56.

In the absence of a priest, all that is described herein, except for the concluding blessing, may be said by a deacon, or, if there is no deacon, by a lay reader. Adapt instructions about standing, kneeling, etc., as seems appropriate for your space.

The Paschal Candle, or a reasonable substitute, is lighted, if available.

A hymn, psalm, or anthem may be sung.

The people standing, the Presider says

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia. or Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

[If Confession of Sin is used, use the following form.

The Decalogue may be said (BCP 350), the people kneeling.

The Presider may read one of the following sentences

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

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, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 John 1:8,9*

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. *Hebrews 4:14,16*

If a Confession of Sin is used, the Presider then says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

**Most merciful God,**

**we confess that we have sinned against you**

**in thought, word, and deed,**

**by what we have done,**

**and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;**

**we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.**

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,**

**have mercy on us and forgive us;**

**that we may delight in your will,**

**and walk in your ways,**

**to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*The Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.  
**Amen.**

*A deacon or lay person using the preceding form substitutes "us" for "you" and "our" for "your." ]*

*When appointed, the following hymn or some other song of praise is sung or said, all standing*

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.

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.

*On other occasions the following is used*

Lord, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.** *or*  
Lord, have mercy.

Kyrie eleison.  
**Christe eleison.** *or*  
Kyrie eleison.

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
**Have mercy upon us.**

The Collect of the Day

*The Presider says to the people*

The Lord be with you. *or* God be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Let us pray.

*The Celebrant says the Collect. Collects for the Sundays in Easter Season are on pages 222-227 of the Book of Common Prayer. They may also be found at [www.lectionarypage.net](http://www.lectionarypage.net).*

*People* **Amen.**

The Lessons

Page 894-895 of the Book of Common Prayer or [www.lectionarypage.net](http://www.lectionarypage.net)

The people sit. One or two Lessons, as appointed, are read, the Reader first saying

A Reading (Lesson) from .

A citation giving chapter and verse may be added.

After each Reading, the Reader may say

The word of the Lord. or Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

or the Reader may say Here ends the Reading (Epistle).

Silence may follow

A Psalm, hymn, or anthem may follow each Reading.

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest, or a lay reader if no Deacon or Priest is available, reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord (or Savior) Jesus Christ according to .

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon



*On Sundays and other Major Feasts there follows, all standing*

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius  
Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living  
and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,  
the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he  
is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic  
and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

*Prayer is offered with intercession for  
The Universal Church, its members, and its mission  
The Nation and all in authority*

*or the following*

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit  
and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius  
Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living  
and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,  
the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father,  
who with the Father and the Son  
is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic  
and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*The welfare of the world  
The concerns of the local community  
Those who suffer and those in any trouble  
The departed (with commemoration of a saint when appropriate)*

*See the forms beginning on page 383 of The Book of Common Prayer or the following may be used.*

*Deacon or other Leader:* Called by the risen Christ to love and follow the Lord, let us pray to God for the needs of all believers and of all peoples everywhere.

*Leader:* For the holy churches of God in every place, for Michael our Presiding Bishop, for Carlye our Bishop, for all lay leaders and clergy, and for the unity of all.

*People:* **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

*Leader:* In this season of new life, we pray for new ways to connect to one another and to you, our source of life and joy, O God; for this holy gathering, even while separated and for all who know one another in Christ.

*People:* **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

*Leader:* For all those who await being baptized, that we may soon gather again to celebrate their entry into the life of Christ.

*People:* **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

*Leader:* For the world and its leaders, for Donald, our President, Phil our Governor, [\_\_\_\_\_ our Mayor]; for our nation and its people.

*People:* **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

*Leader:* For all those who are suffering during this pandemic, for all victims of COVID-19, including those we name now . . . , for all who are sick and for those who are dying.

*People:* **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

*Leader:* For all victims of violence, for those in danger and need, for the oppressed; for all those who face these concerns, now magnified; for those who suffer for any reason, for all other illnesses, for all those we name now . . . , we pray.

*People:* **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

*Leader:* For all those providing care at this time, for doctors, nurses, staff, technician, for social workers, counselors, therapists, for all first responders and for all essential workers, that you may safeguard them as they work on our behalf.

*People:* **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

*Leader:* For research scientists and lab technicians; for all those seeking a vaccine for this virus and those seeking enhanced treatments for this illness; for healing and restoration.

*People:* **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

*Leader:* For all the blessings of this life, for those you would name here . . . , and for all those we love.

*People:* **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

*Leader:* For all those who mourn, for those who grieve, separated at the last hour from their loved one; for those who face death without the consolation of family at their side; for all those who have died, including those we name now . . . , we pray.

*People:* **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

*Leader:* Remembering our most glorious and blessed Virgin Mary and [\_\_\_\_\_ and] all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.

*People:* **To you, O gracious God.**

*Priest or other Leader:* Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*A hymn or anthem may then be sung, and the offerings of the people received.  
This would be an appropriate time to give electronically.*

## The Lord's Prayer

*The Presider then says*  
And now, as our Savior  
Christ has taught us,  
we are bold to say,

As our Savior Christ  
has taught us,  
we now pray,

*People and Celebrant*

**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.**

*People and Celebrant*

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

*The Service may conclude with one of the following:*

## The Grace

*The Presider, lay or ordained, may say*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen. *2 Corinthians 13:14*

*or*

## The Blessing

*The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, may bless the people.*

*or*

## The Peace

*Presider* The peace of the Lord be always with you. *or* The peace of Christ be always with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**

*Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*