

SHARED MINISTRY IN EXNING AND NORTH NEWMARKET

**ST MARK THE EVANGELIST  
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**25 APRIL 2021**



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## **The Greeting**

*The president greets the people*

Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you  
**All and also with you.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**All He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

## **Prayer of Preparation**

**All Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## **Prayers of Penitence**

Christ our passover lamb has been sacrificed for us. Let us therefore  
rejoice by putting away all malice and evil and confessing our sins  
with a sincere and true heart.

**All Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you  
and against our neighbour  
in thought and word and deed,  
through negligence, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry  
and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past  
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life**

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

*The president says*

Almighty God,  
who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon *you*,  
pardon and deliver *you* from all *your* sins,  
confirm and strengthen *you* in all goodness,  
and keep *you* in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
*All* **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

*The Gloria in excelsis may be used*

*All* **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.**

**The Collect**

*The president introduces a period of silent prayer.*

Almighty God,  
who enlightened your holy Church  
through the inspired witness of your evangelist Saint Mark:  
grant that we, being firmly grounded  
in the truth of the gospel,

may be faithful to its teaching both in word and deed;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

*All* **Amen.**

***The Liturgy of the Word***  
***First Reading***

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

<sup>35</sup> But Paul and Barnabas remained in Antioch, and there, with many others, they taught and proclaimed the word of the Lord.  
<sup>36</sup> After some days Paul said to Barnabas, 'Come, let us return and visit the believers<sup>[a]</sup> in every city where we proclaimed the word of the Lord and see how they are doing.' <sup>37</sup> Barnabas wanted to take with them John called Mark. <sup>38</sup> But Paul decided not to take with them one who had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not accompanied them in the work. <sup>39</sup> The disagreement became so sharp that they parted company; Barnabas took Mark with him and sailed away to Cyprus. <sup>40</sup> But Paul chose Silas and set out, the believers<sup>[a]</sup> commending him to the grace of the Lord. <sup>41</sup> He went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.

*Acts 15:35-end*

This is the word of the LORD

**All: Thanks be to God**

***Gradual Psalm***

- 9 How shall young people cleanse their way ♦  
to keep themselves according to your word?
- 10 With my whole heart have I sought you; ♦  
O let me not go astray from your commandments.
- 11 Your words have I hidden within my heart, ♦  
that I should not sin against you.
- 12 Blessed are you, O Lord; ♦  
O teach me your statutes.
- 13 With my lips have I been telling ♦  
of all the judgements of your mouth.
- 14 I have taken greater delight in the way of your testimonies ♦

than in all manner of riches.

15 I will meditate on your commandments   
and contemplate your ways.

16 My delight shall be in your statutes   
and I will not forget your word.

*Psalm 119. 9-16*

### **The Gospel Reading**

Alleluia, alleluia alleluia.

I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one;  
I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>5</sup> Then Jesus began to say to them, ‘Beware that no one leads you astray. <sup>6</sup> Many will come in my name and say, “I am he!” and they will lead many astray. <sup>7</sup> When you hear of wars and rumours of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. <sup>8</sup> For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.

<sup>9</sup> ‘As for yourselves, beware; for they will hand you over to councils; and you will be beaten in synagogues; and you will stand before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them. <sup>10</sup> And the good news<sup>[B]</sup> must first be proclaimed to all nations. <sup>11</sup> When they bring you to trial and hand you over, do not worry beforehand about what you are to say; but say whatever is given you at that time, for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit. <sup>12</sup> Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; <sup>13</sup> and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Address**

**The Creed**

*All* **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 from the Holy Spirit and 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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped 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.**

## *Prayers of Intercession*

### **Intercession**

Encouraged by our fellowship with all the saints, let us make our prayers to the Father through our Lord Jesus Christ. Father, your Son called men and women to leave the past behind them and to follow him as his disciples in the way of the cross. Look with mercy upon those whom he calls today, marks with the cross and makes his disciples within the Church...

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Your Son told his disciples not to be afraid and at Easter breathed on them his gift of peace. Look with mercy upon the world into which he sent them out, and give it that peace for which it longs...

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Your Son formed around him a company who were no longer servants but friends, and he called all those who obeyed him his brother and sister and mother. Look with mercy upon our families and our friends and upon the communities in which we share...

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Your Son sent out disciples to preach and heal the sick. Look with mercy on all those who yearn to hear the good news of salvation, and renew among your people the gifts of healing...

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Your Son promised to those who followed him that they would sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel and would share the banquet of the kingdom. According to your promise, look with mercy on those who have walked with Christ in this life and now have passed through death...

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Almighty God,  
Grant that your Church

may faithfully hold and make known  
the faith that has come to us through the apostles,  
that with them and all your saints  
we may inherit the glories of eternal life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### ***The Peace***

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples  
and said, 'Peace be with you.'

Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace. 

*All may express a virtual sign of peace.*

### ***Prayer over the Offerings***

Be present, be present,  
Lord Jesus Christ,  
our risen high priest;  
make yourself known in the breaking of bread.

**Amen.**

### ***Thanksgiving***

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour and the  
majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

**All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.**

### ***Eucharistic Prayer***

The Lord be with you;  
**and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts:  
**we lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God:  
**it is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
almighty and eternal Father,  
and in these days of Easter  
to celebrate with joyful hearts  
the memory of your wonderful works.  
For by the mystery of his passion  
Jesus Christ, your risen Son,  
has conquered the powers of death and hell  
and restored in men and women the image of your glory.  
He has placed them once more in paradise  
and opened to them the gate of life eternal.  
And so, in the joy of this Passover,  
earth and heaven resound with gladness,  
while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation  
sing for ever the hymn of your glory.  
*saying:*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the ✠ Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power  
of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and  
wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;  
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.  
In the same way, after supper  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying:

Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins;  
do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

*All* **Dying you destroyed our death,  
rising you restored our life:  
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Lord of all life,  
help us to work together for that day  
when your kingdom comes  
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.  
Look with favour on your people,  
gather us in your loving arms  
and bring us with [*N and*] all the saints  
to feast at your table in heaven.  
Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,  
for ever and ever.

*All* **Amen.**

### ***The Lord's Prayer***

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**Our Father, ...**

### ***Breaking of the Bread***

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Redeemer of the world, grant us peace.**

### ***Invitation to Communion***

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

**Therefore let us keep the feat. Alleluia.**

*The Holy Communion at this time is received in the form of the bread only.*

**Prayer after Communion**

*The celebrant says:*

Almighty God,  
who on the day of Pentecost  
sent your Holy Spirit to the apostles  
with the wind from heaven and in tongues of flame,  
filling them with joy and boldness to preach the gospel:  
by the power of the same Spirit  
strengthen us to witness to your truth  
and to draw everyone to the fire of your love;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Father of all,  
we give you thanks and praise,  
that when we were still far off  
you met us in your Son and brought us home.  
Dying and living, he declared your love,  
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.  
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;  
we who drink his cup bring life to others;  
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.  
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,  
so we and all your children shall be free,  
and the whole earth live to praise your name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

***The Blessing***

God the Father,  
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,  
open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life.  
**Amen.**

God the Son,  
who in bursting from the grave has won a glorious victory,  
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.

**Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit,  
who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord,  
empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.

**Amen.**

And the blessing ...

**The Dismissal**

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

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*NOTE: The Great Fifty Days of Eastertide form a single festival period in which the tone of joy created at the Easter Vigil is sustained through the following seven weeks, and the Church celebrates the gloriously risen Christ:*

*Triumphant in his glory now,  
his sceptre ruleth all,  
earth, heaven and hell before him bow,  
and at his footstool fall.*

*(Fulbert of Chartres)*

*Early Christians gave the name Pentecost to this whole fifty-day span of rejoicing, which Tertullian calls 'this most joyful period' (laetissimum spatium). It is sometimes also called 'Great Sunday'. In those places where the custom of lighting the Easter Candle at the beginning of Easter is followed, the lit Candle stands prominently in church for all the Eastertide services. The Alleluia appears frequently in liturgical speech and song; Morning Prayer begins with the traditional collection of Pauline texts known as the Easter Anthems, and white or gold vestments and decorations emphasize the joy and brightness of the season.*

*On the fortieth day there has from the late fourth century been a particular celebration of Christ's ascension. He commissions his disciples to continue his work, he promises the gift of the Holy Spirit, and then he is no longer among them in the flesh. The ascension is therefore closely connected with the theme of mission. The arrival of the promised gift of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost completes and crowns the Easter Festival.*

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