



Sharing the Feast of Life in the Easter Season

Please have ready: a candle, a Bible, bread and wine/juice.



Alleluia! Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed!
Alleluia!

We light a candle.

***Jesus, stand among us
in your risen power;
let this time of worship
be a hallowed hour.***

***Breathe the Holy Spirit into every heart;
bid the fears and sorrows from each soul depart.
Thus with quickened footsteps
we'll pursue our way,
watching for the dawning of eternal day.***

Living God,
who came to your world and entered human pain:
**Come and be in every painful place in our lives,
in every painful place in our world today.**

Living God,
who worked in secret
darkness to raise Christ
from the grave:

Colours

president: black

worship leader: blue

cantor: green

readers and others: violet

Come and work in every secret dark place of our lives, in every secret dark place of our world today.

Living God,

who sent women out to proclaim the resurrection to the frightened, downcast disciples:

Come and empower us in every frightened, downcast place in our lives, in every frightened, downcast place in our world today.

Living God, Risen God, Easter God:

Come and make us your living church, your risen church, your Easter church, today and every day. Amen.

Reconciliation

We recognize the violence and pain of our world, and our part in that pain:

we seek to know God's forgiveness and healing:

Cleanse us, Lord; make us whole:

Lord, have mercy.

I will make you clean, I will make you whole,

I have heard your prayer.

Sisters, brothers, siblings,

hear the word of the Lord:

we are forgiven; Christ sets us free –

let us journey on with hope.

Let us forgive and love ourselves:

Let us forgive and love others.

In the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Praise

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the Highest!

Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!

Kids' Church departs.

Reading(s) and reflection

Open our minds to know you, Lord,

open our ears to hear your voice,

open our minds now to your Word:

come to us now, O Lord our God.

After the reading(s):

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

The reflection or sermon follows.

Affirmation of Faith

We believe in God above us,

maker and sustainer of all life,

of sun and moon, of water and earth,

of all the variety of humankind.

We believe in God beside us,

Jesus Christ, the word made flesh,

born of a woman, servant of the poor.

Tortured and nailed to a tree,

he died alone and forsaken.

He descended to the place of death.

On the third day he rose from the tomb.

He ascended into heaven,

to be everywhere present throughout all ages,

and his kingdom will come on earth.

We believe in God within us,
the Holy Spirit renewing us
with resurrection power,
life-giving breath of the Church,
Spirit of healing and forgiveness,
source of new and eternal life. Amen.

Prayers

*Please write prayer requests into the comments
(remembering that this is a public space).*

The Peace

*The kingdom of God is justice and peace
and joy in the Holy Spirit.*

*Come Lord, and open in us
the gates of your kingdom.*

The peace of the Lord be always with you:

And also with you. Alleluia!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Everything is yours, Lord,
everything comes from you:
all we have we offer to you.*

*Accept our love, Lord, we pray;
receive our gifts, Lord, today.*

We praise you, God of many names,
whose Spirit runs free through all the earth,
whose image lies deep in every human soul.

In your grace

your Word is made known to every people,

calling forth the best they have to offer;
your Beloved is immersed in the waters of creation,
healing the chaos that floods our world;
your Son is the guest who offers new wine,
changing hearts grown withered and cold.
Therefore we celebrate the rays of morning light
that bathe the world in glory and kindle a new song:

*Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of heaven and earth adored,
ceasing never, God for ever,
holy, holy Lord.*

Holy God, in the breaking of bread Jesus shows
himself among us. Eating with his disciples, he took
bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and said,
'This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to
remember me.'

After supper he took the cup of wine and said,
'This is my blood, poured out for you: the new
covenant in God's love. Do this to remember me.'

Come now, disturbing Spirit of our God,
breathe on these bodily things,
and make us one body in Christ.

Open our graves, unbind our eyes,
and name us here;
touch and heal all that has been buried in us,
that we need not cling to our pain,
**but may go forth with power
to release resurrection in the world.**

Halle, Halle, Halle – Iujah! (×3)

Hallelujah, Hallelujah!

O God in heaven,

**Mother and Father of us all,
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.**

**Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power and the glory
are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

Jesus, Lamb of God:

have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins:

have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world:

give us your peace.

Breaking the Bread

This bread we break
is a sharing in the body of Christ.

Gathered in different places,
we are connected in one Spirit:

**We who are many are one body,
for we all share the one bread.**

The Communion

Please share some bread and juice/wine at home.

*Eat this bread, drink this cup,
come to him and never be hungry.*

*Eat this bread, drink this cup,
trust in him and you will not thirst.*

Prayer after Communion

**Goodness is stronger than evil;
love is stronger than hate;
light is stronger than darkness;
life is stronger than death;
victory is ours through the One who loves us.
Amen.**

News and Notices

Blessing

May the risen Christ,
who turns darkness to light and despair to hope,
fill us with his new life;
and may the blessing of the God of Love,
Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,
be among us and remain with us always.
Amen.

Mayenziwe 'ntando yakho:

Your will be done on earth, O Lord.

We are God's people, loved and cherished:

We go out in joy.

We are God's people, called and challenged:

We go out in joy.

We are God's people,
refreshed and forgiven:
**We go out in joy –
alleluia!**

Go in the peace of
Christ.

**Thanks be to God.
Alleluia!**

