

CONGREGATIONS OF THE AELC
TRINITY OAKEY, ST PAUL'S GREENWOOD, ST JOHN'S AUBIGNY, BETHLEHEM TOOWOOMBA
TRINITY MARBURG, ST JOHN'S MINDEN, OUR SAVIOUR LOWOOD

26 April 2020

Bulletin for the 3rd Sunday of Easter

ORDER OF SERVICE WITHOUT HOLY COMMUNION

THE INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

HYMN 14 LET THE EARTH NOW PRAISE THE LORD

1
Let the earth now praise the Lord,
Who hath truly kept His word,
And the sinners' help and friend
Now at last to us doth send.

2
What the fathers most desired,
What the prophets' heart inspired,
What they longed for many a year,
Stands fulfilled in glory here.

3
Abram's promised great reward,
Zion's helper, Jacob's Lord,
Him of twofold race behold,
Truly come, as long foretold.

4
Welcome, O my Saviour, now!
Hail, my portion, Lord, art Thou.
Here too in my heart I pray,
O prepare Thyself a way.

5
King of glory, enter in,
Cleanse it from the filth of sin,
As Thou hast so often done,
It belongs to Thee alone.

6
As Thy coming was in peace,
Quiet, full of gentleness,
Let the same mind dwell in me
That was ever found in Thee.

7
Bruise for me the serpent's head,
That, set free from doubt and dread,
I may cleave to Thee in faith,
Safely kept through life and death.

8
And when Thou dost come again,
As a glorious King to reign,
I with joy may see Thy face,
Freely ransomed by Thy grace.

THE CONFESSION

Dear friends in Christ: Let us draw near to God our Father with a true heart to confess our sins, and ask Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

Our help is in the name of the Lord. **He made heaven and earth.**

I said, I will confess my sins to the Lord. **Then He forgave the guilt of my sin.**

Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we confess to You that by nature we are sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You by thought, word and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to your infinite mercy and plead for Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Most merciful God, You have given Your only Son to die for us: Have mercy on us, and for His sake grant us forgiveness of all our sins. By Your Holy Spirit increase our knowledge of You and Your will, and make us obedient to Your Word, so that by Your grace we may come to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us, and has given His only Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in His name He has given the right to become the children of God, and has given them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptised will be saved. Grant this, Lord, to us all. Amen.

THE INTROIT

I love the LORD, because He hears my voice, my plea for mercy.
Because He has turned His ear to me, I shall call on Him all my life.
The cords of death had entangled me.
The distresses of Sheol had taken hold of me. I was encountering affliction and anguish.
However, I kept on calling on the name of the LORD: "O LORD, I pray, save my life!"
The LORD is gracious and righteous. Our God is compassionate.
The LORD protects simple people. When I was weak, He saved me.
Return to your resting place, O my soul! For the LORD has been good to you.
For You have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears and my feet from stumbling.
I shall walk before the LORD in the land of the living.
I believed even when I said, "I am severely afflicted."
I myself said, when I was alarmed, "Every human being is a liar."
What shall I repay to the LORD for all the good that He has done to me?
I shall lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD.
I shall fulfil my vows to the LORD, right in the presence of all His people.

Psalm 116:1-14

THE GLORY TO THE FATHER

Glory to the Father and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and will be for evermore. Amen.

THE LORD HAVE MERCY

Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy.

THE GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST

Glory to God in the highest.

And on earth peace, among men with whom He is pleased. We praise You, we bless You, we worship You, we glorify You, we give thanks to You for Your great glory, O Lord God, heavenly king, God, the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; receive our prayer. You are seated at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us. For You alone are holy, You alone are Lord, You alone, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT

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

O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE FIRST READING

The First Reading for _____ is written in chapter _____ of _____, beginning at verse _____.

After the reading:

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE SECOND READING

The Second Reading is written in chapter _____ of _____, beginning at verse _____.

After the reading: This is the Word of the Lord.

Hallelujah Hallelujah Hallelujah.

THE GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel is written in the _____ chapter of the Gospel according to _____, beginning at verse ____.

Glory be to You, O Lord.

After the Gospel: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise be to You, O Christ.**

THE APOSTLES' CREED

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 Spirit, 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 sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN 181 ABIDE, O DEAREST JESUS

1
Abide, O dearest Jesus,
Among us with Thy grace,
That Satan may not harm us,
Nor we to sin give place.

2
Abide, O dear Redeemer,
Among us with Thy Word,
And thus now and hereafter
True peace and joy afford.

3
Abide with heavenly brightness
Among us, precious Light;
Thy truth direct and keep us
From error's gloomy night.

4
Abide with richest blessings
Among us, bounteous Lord;
Let us in grace and wisdom
Grow daily through Thy Word.

5
Abide with Thy protection
Among us, Lord, our Strength,
Lest world and Satan fell us
And overcome at length.

6
Abide, O faithful Saviour,
Among us with Thy love;
Grant steadfastness, and help us
To reach our home above.

SERMON - BE CAREFUL IN FOLLOWING YOUR CHRISTIAN CALLING 1 Peter 1:17-25

HYMN 327 JESUS, THY BLOOD AND RIGHTEOUSNESS

1
Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness
My beauty are, my glorious dress,
Wherein before my God I'll stand
When I will reach the heavenly land.

2
Bold will I stand in Thy great day,
For who ought to my charge will lay?
Fully through these absolved I am
From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.

3
The holy, meek, unspotted Lamb,
Who from the Father's bosom came,
Who died for me, e'en me, to atone,
Now for my Lord and God I own

4
Lord, I believe Thy precious blood,
Which at the mercy seat of God
For ever doth for sinners plead,
For me, e'en for my soul, was shed.

5
Lord, I believe were sinners more
Than sands upon the ocean shore,
Thou hast for all a ransom paid,
For all a full atonement made.

6
When from the dust of death I rise
To claim my mansion in the skies,
E'en then this will be all my plea:
Jesus hath lived, hath died, for me.

THE PRAYER

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.

THE BLESSING

The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make His face shine on us and be gracious to us. The Lord look upon us with favour, and give us peace. **Amen.**

HYMN 511 ALMIGHTY FATHER, BLESS THE WORD

1
Almighty Father, bless the Word
Which through Thy grace we now have heard;
O may the precious seed take root,
Spring up, and bear abundant fruit.

2
We praise Thee for the means of grace,
As in Thy courts we seek Thy face;
Grant, Lord, that we who worship here
May all at last in heaven appear.

The following hymn of Luther has brought me much comfort over the years, I pray it does for you too....

“In the Very Midst of Life”

A hymn of Martin Luther

1. In the midst of earthly life
Snares of death surround us;
Who shall help us in the strife
Lest the Foe confound us?
Thou only, Lord, Thou only.
We mourn that we have greatly erred,
That our sins Thy wrath have stirred.
Holy and righteous God!
Holy and mighty God!
Holy and all-merciful Savior!
Eternal Lord God!
Save us lest we perish
In the bitter pangs of death.
Have mercy, O Lord!

2. In the midst of death's dark vale
Powers of hell o'ertake us.
Who will help when they assail,
Who secure will make us?
Thou only, Lord, Thou only.
Thy heart is moved with tenderness,
Pities us in our distress.
Holy and righteous God!
Holy and mighty God!
Holy and all-merciful Savior!
Eternal Lord God!
Save us lest we perish
In the bitter pangs of death.
Have mercy, O Lord!

3. In the midst of utter woe
All our sins oppress us,
Where shall we for refuge go,
Where for grace to bless us?
To Thee, Lord Jesus, only.
Thy precious blood was shed to win
Full atonement for our sin.
Holy and righteous God!
Holy and mighty God!
Holy and all-merciful Savior!
Eternal Lord God!
Save us lest we perish
In the bitter pangs of death.
Have mercy, O Lord