

EASTER SEASON COMPLINE 2020

NIGHT PRAYER (COMPLINE): STRUCTURE

COMPLINE

Opening Prayer

A Sentence of Scripture

Versicles and Responses

A Psalm or Psalms *as appointed*

A Reading

An Address *may follow*

A Responsory

Hymn *or* Poem

Versicle and Response

The Gospel Canticle: *Nunc Dimittis*

The Apostles' Creed *may be said*

Lesser Litany

The Lord's Prayer

Confession

Versicles and Responses

Collects

Dismissal

Blessing

PREPARATION

THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER

THE ENDING

EASTER NOTES

Duration of the Season

Easter commences at sunset on Easter Eve and continues up to and including the Day of Pentecost.

The earliest date of Easter Day is 22 March and the latest is 25 April. The earliest date of the Day of Pentecost is 10 May and the latest is 13 June.

Nature of the Season

Easter is a season of joy in celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ and of his glorious Ascension on The Ascension Day, 40 days after Easter Day. The nine days after The Ascension Day are days of preparation for the coming of the Holy Spirit.

Colour of the Season

The liturgical colour for Easter is White, a colour associated with penitence. On the Day of Pentecost the liturgical colour becomes Red symbolizing the Holy Spirit.

Festivals in the Season

The following Festivals are celebrated during the Easter Season in 2020:

25 April Saint Mark
1 May Saint Philip and Saint James
14 May Saint Matthias

As 31 May is The Day of Pentecost, The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary which is normally celebrated on that day is transferred to 1 June, the day on which Ordinary Time resumes.

Special Considerations for the Season

'Alleluia' may be added to any refrain.

Material is provided for the two parts of Easter, that before The Ascension Day and that from The Ascension Day to the Day of Pentecost.

EASTER NIGHT PRAYER READINGS 2020

The First Sunday of Easter: Easter Day

Monday April 13	Psalms 3; 135 Colossians 3: 5-11
Tuesday April 14	Psalms 114; 115 Colossians 3: 12-17
Wednesday April 15	Psalms 113; 117 Matthew 28: 1-10
Thursday April 16	Psalms 111; 116 Colossians 4: 2-5
Friday April 17	Psalms 118 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11
Saturday April 18	Psalms 136 John 20: 11-20

The Second Sunday of Easter

Monday April 20	Psalms 115 1 Corinthians 15: 12-20
Tuesday April 21	Psalms 105: 1-22 1 Corinthians 15: 19-28
Wednesday April 22	Psalms 103 Matthew 12: 38-42
Thursday April 23	Psalms 113; 114 1 Peter 1: 8b-12
Friday April 24	Psalms 107: 1-32 1 Peter 1: 13-16
Saturday April 25	Psalms 116 Luke 14: 12-14

The Third Sunday of Easter

Monday April 27	Psalms 66 1 Peter 1: 23-25
Tuesday April 28	Psalms 105: 23-45 1 Peter 2: 1-3
Wednesday April 29	Psalms 135 John 21: 1-14
Thursday April 30	Psalms 33 1 Peter 2: 9-12
Friday May 1	Psalms 107: 33-43 1 Peter 2: 13-17
Saturday May 2	Psalms 31 Luke 15: 1-7

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Monday May 4	Psalm 139 1 Peter 5: 1-5
Tuesday May 5	Psalm 103 Hebrews 13: 20-21
Wednesday May 6	Psalm 118 Matthew 20: 17-28
Thursday May 7	Psalm 116 Acts 6: 8-15
Friday May 8	Psalms 113; 114 Acts 7: 1-16
Saturday May 9	Psalm 115 John 8: 48-59

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Monday May 11	Psalm 81 Acts 7: 17-40
Tuesday May 12	Psalm 33 Acts 7: 44-56
Wednesday May 13	Psalm 30 John 8: 31-38
Thursday May 14	Psalm 135 Acts 27: 1-12
Friday May 15	Psalm 33 Acts 27: 13-38
Saturday May 16	Psalm 139 John 14: 27-29

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Monday May 18	Psalm 106: 24-49 Acts 27: 39-44
Tuesday May 19	Psalm 78: 40-72 1 Peter 3: 8-12
Wednesday May 20	Psalms 15; 24 John 16: 16-24

The Ascension Day May 21

	Psalm 110 Hebrews 7: 11-28 or 26-28
Friday May 22	Psalms 84; 138 Ephesians 2: 1-7
Saturday May 23	Psalm 104 John 8: 21-30

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

Monday May 25	Psalms 122; 125; 126 1 Peter 4: 1-6
Tuesday May 26	Psalms 120; 121; 133 1 Peter 4: 7-11
Wednesday May 27	Psalms 123; 127; 128; 131 John 3: 31-36
Thursday May 28	Psalms 124; 129; 130 Acts 2: 1-11
Friday May 29	Psalms 132; 134 Romans 8: 14-17
Saturday May 30	Psalm 33 Hebrews 7: 11-28 or 26-28

EASTER COMPLINE

PREPARATION

Stand

The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end. **Amen.**

OPENING PRAYER

A SENTENCE OF SCRIPTURE

Brethren, be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: whom resist, steadfast in the faith.

1 Peter 5: 8, 9

VERSICLES AND RESPONSES

But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.

Thanks be to God.

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen.

Praise ye the Lord.

The Lord's Name be praised.

THE WORD OF GOD

PSALM

A Psalm or Psalms as appointed or the following psalm:

Psalm 23 Dominus regit me.

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd □
therefore can I lack nothing.
- 2 He shall feed me in a green pasture □
and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.
- 3 He shall convert my soul □
and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness, for his Name's sake.
- 4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil □
For thou art with me;
thy rod and thy staff comfort me.
- 5 Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble me □
thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full.
- 6 But thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life □
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.
Glory be to the Father, □
and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, □
is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

A READING

The following short lesson, or the appointed reading:

Part I: Before The Ascension Day

If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.

Colossians 3: 1-3

Part II: The Ascension Day to The Day of Pentecost

This is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;
And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.

Acts 2: 16, 17

RESPONSORY

Stand

Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.
For thou hast redeemed me, O Lord, thou God of truth.

HYMN

Before the ending of the day,
creator of the world, we pray
that thou with wonted love wouldst keep
thy watch around us while we sleep.

O let no evil dreams be near,
or phantoms of the night appear;
our ghostly enemy restrain,
lest aught of sin our bodies stain.

All praise be thine, O risen Lord,
from death to endless life restored;
whom with the Father, we adore,
and Holy Spirit, evermore. Amen.

or POEM

Part I: Before The Ascension Day

SHEPHERD OF TENDER YOUTH

Shepherd of tender youth,
guiding in love and truth
through winding ways:
Christ, our triumphant King,
we come your name to sing;
here we our children bring
to shout your praise.

You are our holy Lord,
the all-subduing Word,
healer of strife;
you did yourself abase,
that from sin's deep disgrace
you might now save our race,
and give us life.

Forever be our Guide,
our Shepherd and our guide,
our staff and song;
Jesus, O Christ of God,
by your enduring Word,
lead us where you have trod,
make our faith strong.

Clement of Alexandria (c.170- c.220)
tr. Henry Martyn Dexter (1821-90)

Part II: The Ascension Day to The Day of Pentecost

THE HOLY SPIRIT

Come with birds' voices when the light grows dim
Yet lovelier in departure and more dear:
While the warm flush hangs yet at heavens' rim,
And the one star shines clear.

Though the swift night haste to approaching day
Stay thou and stir not, brooding on the deep:
Thy secret love, Thy silent word let say
Within the senses' sleep.

Softer than dew. But where the morning wind
Blows down the world, O Spirit! show Thy power:
Quicken the dreams within the languid mind
And bring Thy seed to flower!

Evelyn Underhill (1875-1941)

VERSICLE AND RESPONSE

The following responsory may be said:

Keep me as the apple of an eye.

Hide me under the shadow of thy wings.

**Preserve us, O Lord, while waking, and guard us while sleeping,
that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.**

THE GOSPEL CANTICLE

NUNC DIMITTIS *The Song of Simeon Luke 2: 29-32*

- 1 Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, □
according to thy word.
- 2 For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, □
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;
- 3 To be a light to lighten the Gentiles □
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father, □
and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, □
is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

**Preserve us, O Lord, while waking, and guard us while sleeping,
that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.**

PRAYER

Kneel

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE 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. Amen.**

Blessed art thou, Lord God of our fathers,
to be praised and glorified above all for ever;

Let us bless the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
Let us praise him and magnify him for ever.

Blessed art thou, O Lord, in the firmament of heaven
to be praised and glorified above all for ever.

The Almighty and most merciful Lord guard us and give us his blessing.
Amen.

CONFESSION

A prayerful examination of the past day may be undertaken after which the following or other suitable words of penitence may be used

**We confess to God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
That we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, Through our own
grievous fault. Wherefore we pray God to have mercy upon us.
Almighty God, have mercy upon us, Forgive us all our sins, Deliver us
from all evil, Confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, And bring us
to life everlasting; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The priest, when present, pronounces the absolution.

May the Almighty and merciful Lord grant unto you pardon and remission of all your sins, time for amendment of life,
and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

VERSICLES AND RESPONSES

Wilt thou not turn again and quicken us
that thy people may rejoice in thee?
O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us
and grant us thy salvation.
Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this night without sin.
O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.
O Lord, hear our prayer
and let our cry come unto thee.
Let us pray.

THE COLLECTS

One or both of the following:

Part I: Before The Ascension Day

Almighty God,
by triumphing over the powers of darkness
Christ has prepared a place for us in the new Jerusalem:
may we, who give thanks for his resurrection,
praise him in the eternal city
of which he is the light;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty God,
thou givest us the joy of celebrating our Lord's resurrection.
Bestow on us also the joys of life in thy service,
and bring us at last to the full joy of eternal life,
through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord,
who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Part II: The Ascension Day to The Day of Pentecost

Come, O Spirit of God,
and make within us thy dwelling place and home.
May our darkness be dispelled by thy light,
and our troubles calmed by thy peace;
may all evil be redeemed by thy love,
all pain transformed through the suffering of Christ,
and all dying glorified in his risen life. **Amen.**

Almighty God,
thy blessed Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ,
ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things.
Mercifully give us faith to trust that, as he promised,
he abides with us on earth to the end of time,
who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE ENDING

We will lay us down in peace and take our rest.
For it is thou, Lord, only, that makest us dwell in safety.

The Lord be with you
and with thy spirit.

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

DISMISSAL

Part I: Before The Ascension Day

May the risen Lord Jesus bless us.
May he watch over us and renew us
as he renews the whole of creation.
May our hearts and lives echo his love. **Amen.**

Part II: The Ascension Day to The Day of Pentecost

May the Holy Spirit of God bless and sanctify us
so that we may be consecrated in the truth. **Amen.**

BLESSING

EASTER COLLECTS

The First Sunday of Easter: Easter Day

Almighty God,
through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ
you have overcome death
and opened to us the gate of everlasting life:
Grant that, as by your grace going before us
you put into our minds good desires,
so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect;
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

The Second Sunday of Easter

Almighty Father,
you have given your only Son to die for our sins
and to rise again for our justification:
Grant us so to put away the leaven
of malice and wickedness
that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth;
through the merits of your Son
Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Third Sunday of Easter

Almighty Father,
who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples
with the sight of the risen Lord:
Give us such knowledge of his presence with us,
that we may be strengthened
and sustained by his risen life
and serve you continually in righteousness and truth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:
Raise us, who trust in him,
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,
that we may seek those things which are above,
where he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Lord of all life and power,
who through the mighty resurrection of your Son
overcame the old order of sin and death
to make all things new in him:
Grant that we, being dead to sin
and alive to you in Jesus Christ,
may reign with him in glory;
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit
be praise and honour, glory and might,
now and in all eternity.

The Sixth Sunday of Easter: Rogation Sunday

This provision is not used on or after The Ascension Day.

God our redeemer,
you have delivered us from the power of darkness
and brought us into the kingdom of your Son:
Grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life,
so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Ascension Day

This provision is also used on the weekdays after The Ascension Day

Grant, we pray, Almighty God,
that as we believe your only-begotten Son
our Lord Jesus Christ
to have ascended into the heavens;
so we in heart and mind may also ascend
and with him continually dwell;
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

The Seventh Sunday of Easter: Sunday after The Ascension Day

O God the King of Glory,
you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:
Mercifully give us faith to know
that, as he promised,
he abides with us on earth to the end of time;
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.