

# **The Emmaus Community Friday Morning Prayer for Easter Season**

## **THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY**

*Bell x 3*

### **Penitential Rite**

*One of the following may be said:*

- Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff --- they comfort me. Psalm 23.4
- Hear my prayer, O Lord; let my cry come to you. Do not hide your face from me in the day of my distress. Incline your ear to me; answer me speedily in the day when I call. Psalm 102.1-2
- If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free. John 8.31-32

Let us confess our sin against God and our neighbour.

*Bell. Silence is kept. Bell.*

God of all mercy,

**we confess that we have sinned against you,  
opposing your will in our lives.**

**We have denied your goodness in each other,  
in ourselves and in the world you have created.**

**We repent of the evil that enslaves us,  
the evil we have done  
and the evil done on our behalf.**

**Forgive, restore and strengthen us  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
so that we may abide in your love  
and serve only your will. Amen.**

May the God of love and power  
forgive us and free us from our sins,  
heal and strengthen us by the Holy Spirit  
and raise us to new life in Jesus Christ. Amen.

### **Introductory Responses**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Let us praise our God

**who has given us life and hope by raising Jesus from the dead.**

Let us rejoice, then, even in our distress.

**We shall be counted worthy when Christ appears.**

O God, you have claimed us as your own

**and called us from out of the shadows into the light of your day.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

### **Poem or Song**

*A poem, song or hymn may be offered or sung.*

## **THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

### **The Psalm**

A Psalm from the Weekday Eucharistic Lectionary or the Revised Common is said or sung.

*At the end of the Psalm.*

...Glory to You, Source of all being, Incarnate Word and Holy Spirit:

**as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.**

**World without end. Amen.**

### **The Reading**

A Reading from the Weekday Eucharistic Lectionary is read.

*At the end of the reading,*

...The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Or*

... The gospel of Christ. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

*Bell. Silence. Bell..*

*A conversation about how the Spirit is speaking to us through the text(s) may now happen. The responsory and/or canticle may follow.*

### **The Responsory**

Death is swallowed up in victory. **Where, O death, is your sting?**

Christ is risen from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

**Death is swallowed up in victory.**

The trumpet will sound and the dead shall be raised.

**Where, O death, is your sting?**

We shall not all sleep, but we shall be changed.

**Death is swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your sting?**

### **The Canticle: A Song of the New Creation**

(Isaiah 43.15, 16, 18, 19, 20c, 21)

*May be said or chanted.*

I am the Lord, your Holy One, \*  
the Creator of Israel, your Sovereign.’  
Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, \*  
a path in the mighty waters,  
‘Remember not the former things, \*  
nor consider the things of old.  
Behold, I am doing a new thing; \*  
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?  
I will make a way in the wilderness  
and rivers in the desert, \*  
to give drink to my chosen people,  
the people whom I formed for myself, \*  
that they might declare my praise.’  
Glory to You, Source of all being, Incarnate Word and Holy Spirit:  
**as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.**  
**World without end. Amen.**

### **Affirmation of Faith**

*One of the following Affirmations of Faith may be said or sung.*

#### **The Apostles’ Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Or **A New Creed**

**We are not alone,  
we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God:  
who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus,  
the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others  
by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:  
to celebrate God's presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.**

**We are not alone.  
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY**

### **Our Prayers**

Let us offer our intercessions, petitions and thanksgivings, saying,  
*As we wrestle with you, God, hear our prayer.*

May we live as those who believe in the triumph of the cross.

**As we wrestle with you, God, hear our prayer.**

May all people receive the good news of Christ's victory.

**As we wrestle with you, God, hear our prayer.**

May those born to new life in the waters of baptism  
know the power of Christ's resurrection.

**As we wrestle with you, God, hear our prayer.**

May those who suffer pain and anguish  
find healing and peace in the compassion of Christ.

**As we wrestle with you, God, hear our prayer.**

May we be united in Christ's undying love  
with all who have passed through the gates of death.

**As we wrestle with you, God, hear our prayer.**

*Additional intercessions, petitions and thanksgivings may be offered in silence or aloud. Among these concerns it is appropriate to remember...*

- *the people of God that they might proclaim the risen Lord;*
- *God's creation that the peoples of the earth meet their responsibility to care*
- *those in despair and shadow that they may find the hope and light of Christ;*
- *those in fear of death that they may find faith through the resurrection and*
- *prisoners and captives.*

### **The Collect**

*After a period of silence either the Collect of the Day or one of the following collects may be said or sung.*

### **Week of Easter**

Living God, long ago, faithful women proclaimed the good news of Jesus' resurrection and the world was changed forever. Teach us to keep faith with them, so that our witness may be as bold, our love as deep and our faith as true. **Amen.**

### **Week of Easter 2**

O God, you raised up Jesus Christ as your faithful witness and the first-born of the dead. By your Holy Spirit, help us to witness to him so that those who have not yet seen may come to believe in him who is, and was, and is to come.

**Amen.**

### **Week of Easter 3**

Holy and righteous God, you raised Christ from the dead and glorified him at your right hand. Let the words of scripture, fulfilled in Jesus your Son, burn within our hearts and open our minds to recognize him in the breaking of bread. **Amen.**

### **Week of Easter 4**

Holy Shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, so that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, where we celebrate with you for ever. **Amen.**

### **Week of Easter 5**

God of life, you sent your Son into the world that we might live through him. May we abide in his risen life, so that we may bear the fruit of love for one another and know the fullness of joy. **Amen.**

### **Week of Easter 6**

Faithful God, make our hearts bold with love for one another. Pour out your Spirit upon all people, so that we may live your justice and sing in praise the new song of your marvellous victory. **Amen.**

*The Lord's Prayer is said in a language, paraphrase or translation of each persons' choosing.*

**The Lord's Prayer**

Rejoicing in God's new creation  
and gathering our prayers and praises into one,  
let us pray as our Saviour taught us:

**Our Father in heaven, (or Abba, Amma 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 SENDING FORTH OF THE COMMUNITY**

**Dismissal**

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

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

May the risen Christ grant us the joys of eternal life. **Amen.**

*Bell x 3*