

Psalms, readings and collect

Date: 4th April – Easter Thursday

For the Easter Octave people will variously decide to use the Office or the form of Spiritual Communion or both. Readings &c are, therefore, provided for both. However, it is the philosophy of the provision that if you only celebrate the Office, you should use the Gospel reading from the Act of Spiritual Communion.*

Office

Psalm:

(114) WHEN Israel came out of Egypt : and the house of Jacob from among the strange people,
2 Judah was his sanctuary : and Israel his dominion.
3 The sea saw that, and fled : Jordan was driven back.
4 The mountains skipped like rams : and the little hills like young sheep.
5 What aileth thee, O thou sea, that thou fleddest : and thou Jordan, that thou wast driven back?
6 Ye mountains, that ye skipped like rams : and ye little hills, like young sheep?
7 Tremble, thou earth, at the presence of the Lord : at the presence of the God of Jacob;
8 Who turned the hard rock into a standing water : and the flint-stone into a springing well.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

(148) O PRAISE the Lord of heaven : praise him in the height.
2 Praise him, all ye angels of his : praise him, all his host.
3 Praise him, sun and moon : praise him, all ye stars and light.
4 Praise him, all ye heavens : and ye waters that are above the heavens.
5 Let them praise the Name of the Lord : for he spake the word, and they were made; he commanded, and they were created.
6 He hath made them fast for ever and ever : he hath given them a law which shall not be broken.
7 Praise the Lord upon earth : ye dragons, and all deeps;
8 Fire and hail, snow and vapours : wind and storm, fulfilling his word;
9 Mountains and all hills : fruitful trees and all cedars;
10 Beasts and all cattle : worms and feathered fowls;
11 Kings of the earth and all people : princes and all judges of the world;
12 Young men and maidens, old men and children, praise the Name of the Lord : for his Name only is excellent, and his praise above heaven and earth.
13 He shall exalt the horn of his people; all his saints shall praise him : even the children of Israel, even the people that serveth him.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

Reading:

A Reading from the Book of the Apocalypse.

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the first-born of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, every one who pierced him; and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty. I John, your brother, who share with you in Jesus the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet saying, "Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea." Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden girdle round his breast; his head and his hair were white as white wool, white as snow; his eyes were like a flame of fire, his feet were like burnished bronze, refined as in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of many waters; in his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth issued a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength. When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand upon me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one; I died, and behold I am alive for evermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades. Now write what you see, what is and what is to take place hereafter. As for the mystery of the seven stars which you saw in my right hand, and the seven golden lampstands, the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

Collect of the day:

Almighty God, Who through Thine only-begotten Son Jesus Christ hast overcome death and opened unto us the gate of everlasting life: We humbly beseech Thee, that as by Thy special Grace preventing us Thou dost put into our minds good desires, so by Thy continual help we may bring the same to good effect; through Jesus Christ Thy Son our Lord; Who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God, throughout all ages world without end. Amen.

Act of Spiritual Communion

Collect:

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 all might, majesty, power and dominion now and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

First Reading:

A Reading from the Book of the Acts of the Apostles.

All the people ran together to Peter and John in the portico called Solomon's, astounded. And when Peter saw it he addressed the people, "Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham and of Isaac and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered up and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him. But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, and killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And his name, by faith in his name, has made this man strong whom you see and know; and the faith which is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all. "And now, brethren, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ should suffer, he thus fulfilled. Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, whom heaven must receive until the time for establishing all that God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old. Moses said, `The Lord God will raise up for you a prophet from your brethren as he raised me up. You shall listen to him in whatever he tells you. And it shall be that every soul that does not listen to that prophet shall be destroyed from the people.' And all the prophets who have spoken, from Samuel and those who came afterwards, also proclaimed these days. You are the sons of the prophets and of the covenant which God gave to your fathers, saying to Abraham, `And in your posterity shall all the families of the earth be blessed.' God, having raised up his servant, sent him to you first, to bless you in turning every one of you from your wickedness."

Psalm:

O Lord our governor, ♦ how glorious is your name in all the world!
What is man, that you should be mindful of him; ♦ the son of man, that you should seek him out?
You have made him little lower than the angels ♦ and crown him with glory and honour.
You have given him dominion over the works of your hands ♦ and put all things under his feet,
All sheep and oxen, ♦ even the wild beasts of the field,
The birds of the air, the fish of the sea ♦ and whatsoever moves in the paths of the sea.

*** Gospel:**

A Reading from the Gospel according to Saint Luke.

The disciples they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread. As they were saying this, Jesus himself stood among them. But they were startled and frightened, and supposed that they saw a spirit. And he said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do questionings rise in your hearts? See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself; handle me, and see; for a spirit has not flesh and bones as you see that I have." And while they still disbelieved for joy, and wondered, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate before them. Then he said to them, "These are my words which I spoke to you, while I was still

with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.