**Times and Seasons**

**Part 2 – Lent, Holy Week and Easter**

**Section 5**

**Eastertide**

The Eucharist during Eastertide

***Greeting***

***I.***

From God our Father,

who in his great mercy has given us a new birth into a living hope

through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead:

grace and peace be with you.

**And also with you.**

***II.***

From God our Father, who raised Jesus from the dead and gave him glory:

grace, mercy and peace be with you.

**And also with you.**

***Penitential Rite***

*Invitation*

***I***

We have died and the life we now have is hidden with Christ in God.

Let our thoughts then be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth.

***II***.

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead! Let us walk in newness of life to live his risen life,

that dead to sin, we may live in his goodness.

***III.***

Since we have been brought back to true life with Christ,

we must look for the things that are in heaven,

where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand.

***IV.***

Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed.

Let us celebrate the feast, by discarding the old yeast of evil and wickedness,

having only the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

***V.***

God our Father, in his great mercy, has given us new birth as his children by raising Jesus Christ from the dead. So let us turn away from darkness and sin and walk as Children of Light.

***Invocations for the Penitential Rite***

***I.***

Lord Jesus, you are First and the Last, the Living One.

Lord, have mercy.  **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you were dead and now you are alive for ever.

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you hold the keys of death and reveal what is to come.

Lord, have mercy.  **Lord, have mercy.**

***II.***

Lord Jesus, you were sacrificed, and with your blood you bought a people for God

of every race and nation, language and people.

Lord, have mercy.  **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you have made us a kingdom of priests to serve you for ever,

a holy nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God.

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

You are the sacrificial Lamb, worthy to receive all power and riches,

wisdom and strength, honour, glory and blessing.

Lord, have mercy.  **Lord, have mercy.**

***III.***

Lord Jesus, you call all who are thirsty to come and drink of the water of life.

Lord, have mercy.  **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, from your heart flows streams of living water.

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, we have been brought to life with you and raised up.

Lord, have mercy.  **Lord, have mercy.**

***IV.***

Lord Jesus, you are the corner stone, rejected by mortals but chosen by God and precious to him.

Lord, have mercy.  **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you call us to be living stones making a spiritual house.

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you have called us out of darkness into your own wonderful light.

Lord, have mercy.  **Lord, have mercy.**

***Rite of Sprinkling***

*This may replace the Penitential Rite during Eastertide. Either a bowl containing water which has been blessed at the Easter Vigil is presented, or the rite may take place at the font.*

Dear brothers and sisters,

in the waters of baptism,

we died and rose with Christ,

so that we may live with him for ever.

May this water be for us a memorial of our baptism

and help us rejoice with our brothers and sisters

who at Easter have received their Baptism.

*If the water has already been blessed, the following proclamation is made:*

O God Most High,

through the death of your Son on the cross,

you have made spring up for us fountains of living water.

**Alleluia!**

O Christ, you have washed us clean from our former life

and found us worthy to rise with you as new-born children.

**Alleluia!**

O Spirit, you have raised us up from the waters of baptism,

to be the first fruits of a new humanity.

**Alleluia!**

*If water is to be blessed the following prayer may be used:*

Lord God,

as we recall the wonderful work of our creation

and the even greater work of our redemption

which you accomplished through

the death and resurrection of your Son,

bless this water

and renew the spring of your grace among us

so that we may approach you with pure hearts

and forever sing your praise;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***Intercessions for Easter Morning***

*Introduction*

On this day which the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad, praying for the Church and the world that the joy of the Risen Lord will fill the lives of all people.

*Petitions*

On this day which the Lord has made, let us rejoice with those who are happy,

and pray for all in despair and whose hearts are broken with disappointment.

Let the children of God say:

**His love has no end!**

On this day which the Lord has made, let us rejoice with all the newly baptised

and pray for all who do not know Christ's saving love.

On this day which the Lord has made, let us rejoice with those who are content and satisfied and pray for all who go hungry and in need.

On this day which the Lord has made, let us rejoice with the Church throughout the world

and pray for all the communities in which we serve.

On this day which the Lord has made, let us rejoice with those whose hearts overflow with love and pray for all who feel lonely and unloved.

On this day which the Lord has made, let us rejoice with those who have received good news and pray for all who are waiting for healing and liberation.

On this day which the Lord has made, let us rejoice with those those who enjoy good health, and pray for all who experience sickness or illness.

On this day which the Lord has made, let us rejoice with all families united in love

and pray for those separated from their loved ones by distance or pain.

On this day which the Lord has made, let us rejoice with all the saints in heaven

and pray for all who have died.

*Concluding Prayer*

Your love, O God, knows no end,

and we rejoice on this day you have made.

May our prayers bring the gladness that fills our hearts

to the lives of all for whom we have prayed;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***Easter Preface***

*The Easter Preface from HE04 or the following may be used:*

Because in these days of Easter we praise you with joyful hearts

in thanksgiving for your saving works

since, in the paschal mystery of your Son,

you have brought light to your children through the hope of eternal life.

Through the one perfect sacrifice offered on the cross

he has restored us men and women to his own image,

opened the gate of heaven and regained for us the hope of glory.

***Introduction to the Lord’s Prayer***

***I.***

As we greet our risen Lord, let us pray as he taught us:

***II.***

We have received the Spirit of adoption, enabling us to cry out ‘*Abba,* Father!’

and so, as sons and daughters of God, we dare to pray:

***III.***

We believe in our hearts that God raised Jesus from the dead,

and so let us pray as Jesus taught us as we raise our hearts to heaven:

***IV.***

Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life.

No one can come to the Father except through him.

So, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

***V.***

Let us pray to the God of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of Glory,

who raised him from the dead,

that he may help us see what hope his call holds for us:

***VI.***

The Spirit of God has been poured into our hearts,

crying, 'Abba, Father!':

***Easter Fraction Prayers***

Alleluia! The bread which we break

is the communion of the body of Christ.

**The disciples knew the Lord Jesus**

**in the breaking of the bread.**

Alleluia! One body are we,

for, though many, we share one bread.

**The disciples knew the Lord Jesus**

**in the breaking of the bread.**

Alleluia! The bread which we break

is the communion of the body of Christ.

**Be known to us, Lord Jesus,**

**in the breaking of the bread.**

Alleluia! One body are we,

for though many, we share one bread.

**Be known to us, Lord Jesus,**

**in the breaking of the bread.**

*(Church of Canada, 227, adapted)*

***Easter Fraction Prayers: shorter version***

Alleluia! The bread which we break

is the communion of the body of Christ.

**The disciples knew the Lord Jesus**

**in the breaking of the bread.**

Alleluia! One body are we,

for though many, we share one bread.

**Be known to us, Lord Jesus,**

**in the breaking of the bread.**

**Invitation to Communion**

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!** *(HE04)*

***Blessing***

The God of peace who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the eternal covenant, make you perfect in every good deed to do his will, creating in you that which is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever ...

Almighty God, who through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ has given us the victory, give you joy and peace in believing ...

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life ... *(HE04)*

***Dismissal***

*The following dismissal is used through Easter season up to and including Pentecost:*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, alleluia, alleluia!

**In the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!**

Ascension Day

*The following are appropriate in addition to the resources provided for the Holy Eucharist during the Easter season.*

***Introduction to the Penitential Rite***

***I.***

May God enlighten the eyes of our minds so that we can see the hope we have in being called, what rich glories he has promised us and how great is his power by raising Christ from the dead to sit at his right hand.

***II.***

Let us be sincere in heart and filled with faith, our minds sprinkled and free from any trace of bad conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us keep firm in the hope we profess, because the one who made the promise is faithful.

***III.***

Since we have been raised up to be with Christ, we must look for the things that are above, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let our thoughts be on things above, for we have died and now the life we have is hidden with Christ in God.

***Penitential Invocations***

***I.***

Lord Jesus, all Sovereignty, Authority and Power belong to you.

Lord, have mercy.  **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are the head of the Church, which is your body.

Christ, have mercy.  **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are the fullness of God who fills the whole Creation.

Lord, have mercy.  **Lord, have mercy.**

***II.***

Lord Jesus, you descended to the depths of the earth.

Lord, have mercy.  **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you were raised above the heavens to fill all things.

Christ, have mercy.  **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you pour out your gifts on humanity

Lord, have mercy.  **Lord, have mercy.**

***Preface for Ascensiontide***

*The preface from HE04 or the following may be used:*

For he is our great high priest who has passed into the heavens;

born of a woman, he has conquered sin and death

and, by his resurrection, has opened the way to eternal life.

Through his ascension, he has passed from our sight

and, standing at the right hand of the Father, he intercedes for us

until the day when we shall come into that dwelling place

which he has prepared for us.

Pentecost Vigil

*This Vigil is provided for any time throughout the nine days from Ascension to Pentecost but is particularly appropriate for the eve of Pentecost.*

*The people gather in silence. Suitable songs, hymns or chants may be sung which are conducive to prayer and reflection.*

*The character of this vigil is not baptismal but one of fervent, common prayer modelled on Acts 1. It could be combined with Evening Prayer. There should be appropriate times of silence and reflection between the readings and throughout the vigil. Opportunities may be provided for those gathered to light candles or participate in other physical gestures of prayer.*

***Prayer***

All-Powerful God,

in the beginning your Spirit swept across the waters of chaos,

fashioning the world by the breath of your love.

In every generation your Spirit is poured afresh

making all things alive and directing your creation

according to your loving plan.

Fulfil the promise of these Fifty Days

with the abundant harvest of your Spirit's gifts.

May the fire of your Holy Spirit burn within us

and the breath of your power fill us with love and joy and peace,

so that the whole of creation may resound with the presence of your Son,

who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

***Collect for Unity***

Heavenly Father,

you have called us in the Body of your Son Jesus Christ

to continue his work of reconciliation

and reveal you to the world:

forgive us the sins which tear us apart,

give us the courage to overcome our fears

and to seek that unity which is your gift and your will;

through Jesus Christ our Lord,

who is alive and reigns

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

God for ever and ever. ***Amen.*** *(Church in Wales, 2003)*

***Invitation***

My dear friends,

following the example of the apostles and disciples,

and Mary, the mother of Jesus,

let us dedicate ourselves to prayer

and wait for the Lord's promise to be fulfilled.

Let us listen attentively to the word of God

and reflect on the wonderful things God has done for his people,

praying that the Spirit,

whom the Father sent in fulfilment of the promise of Jesus,

may fill the world with the good news of his Kingdom

and bring all people to know his saving love.

***Reading 1***

Genesis 11:1-9 *The Tower of Babel*

Psalm 33

***Prayer***

Almighty God,

in building our Babel Towers

we long to raise our lives to the life and glory of heaven

through our own efforts and energies

through our relentless building and selfish ambitions.

Dissipated and divided,

we babble, confused and chaotic,

wandering the world,

unwilling to listen, unable to understand.

Your Spirit's power alone brings all people into one family,

open to one another, open to change.

Filling our hearts with love,

he calls to you through us

with one voice and with one heart,

and proclaiming the good news of Jesus to a world, divided and unstable.

Through your Spirit's presence

may every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,

who lives and reigns forever and ever.  **Amen.**

***Reading 2***

Exodus 19: 3 -8, 16 -20 *The manifestation on Sinai*

Psalm 19

***Prayer***

Almighty God,

at your presence the whole world trembles,

the foundations shake,

our lives are shattered,

our hearts are filled with awe.

On Sinai's height your presence is revealed through smoke and sacred fire,

announced by lightning strikes and trumpet blast.

As we stand at the mountain's foot

to glimpse the glory of your might,

burn away our pride,

consume our hatred,

destroy our instruments of death,

and shatter our selfish desires.

Kindle, instead, within the whole human family,

the warmth of your love

and the flames of faith we need to be a holy nation,

a kingdom of priests to serve you,

to the glory of your name.

Grant this through Christ our Lord.  **Amen.**

***Reading 3***

Ezekiel 37: 1 -14 '*Let these dry bones live.'*

Psalm 126

***Prayer***

Come from the four winds, O breath of God,

and fill our parched and lifeless spirits,

lying hopeless in the land of death.

Raise us up, revive us and enliven us

so that, refreshed and alive in Christ the Lord,

we may proclaim with a prophet's voice that you are God,

and, being led to Israel's lush and vibrant soil,

our hearts may live for ever in the Kingdom of your Son.

We ask this through Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

***Reading 4***

Joel 3:1-5 *I shall pour out my Spirit on all humanity*

Psalm 104

***Prayer***

Listen, O God, to your church

gathered in prayer to seek the outpouring of your Spirit's life.

May young and old embrace the dreams and visions

that your children dare to see,

and men and women throughout the world

be freed to call upon your name

and joyfully proclaim from Zion's mountain top

the saving love of Christ,

who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

***Gloria***

***Collect***

*If the Vigil is held on the Eve of Pentecost the Collect for Pentecost Sunday may be used. If not the following or some other suitable prayer may be used:*

Come Holy Spirit,

breath of life, fire of love,

comforter and consoler,

Wisdom from on High:

fill the hearts of your faithful

with the flames of your love.

Destroy our sin, burn up our evil desires,

direct our lives,

and open our eyes,

that firmly fixed on Jesus

we may live his risen life

and cry out with undivided voice and heart:

'Abba! Father!'

***Epistle***

Romans 8:22-27 *The Spirit helps us in our weakness*

***Gospel Acclamation***

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful people

and kindle in them the fire of your love.

**Alleluia!**

***Gospel***

*John 7: 37 – 39 Let anyone who is thirsty come to me!*

*The Vigil may continue with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. If not it concludes with the Lord's Prayer and Dismissal.*

***The Lord's Prayer***

The Spirit of God has been poured into our hearts crying, 'Abba! Father!'

**Our Father...**

***Dismissal***

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!

**In the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!**

Pentecost Sunday

*The following is appropriate in addition to the resources provided for the Holy Eucharist during the Easter season.*

***Preface for Pentecost Sunday***

*The preface from HE04 or the following may be used:*

Today we give you thanks

because you have brought to completion the paschal mystery.

You fulfil your promise by pouring out your Spirit on your people,

uniting many tongues into one confession of faith.

We rejoice as members of your Church

in which your Spirit inspires the proclamation of good news to all the nations

and gives your people grace to serve you

until your Son Jesus Christ will come to bring us all into your Kingdom.

The Procession of the Paschal Candle

on Pentecost Sunday

*Evening Prayer on Pentecost Sunday marks the formal end of Eastertide and the paschal candle, which has taken a place of honour in the liturgical space, may now be transferred to the font where it remains throughout the year, apart from funerals when it may be placed near the coffin. A procession may accompany the paschal candle as it is placed near the font. Just as the people followed the candle into church at the Easter Vigil so they now follow the candle to its place at the font, which should be filled with water, preferably the water that has remained in place since the Easter Vigil. Suitable songs of Alleluia may be sung. When all have gathered at the font, the people may be invited to sign themselves with the baptismal waters, or they may be sprinkled.*

*The following may take place at some appropriate time at the end of Evening Prayer or if Evening Prayer us not publicly celebrated, it may take place at the end of the final service of the day and may be accompanied by silence or an appropriate song.*

***Introduction***

My friends, our Easter celebrations come to a close and yet the joy of Easter always fills our hearts for we are an Easter people and Alleluia is our song.

As we thank God for the blessings we have received during this joyful season, let us remain faithful to our baptismal calling and, filled with the Spirit's power, dedicate ourselves to walk in the light of the Lord with the flame of faith alive in our hearts.

As we transfer this paschal candle to the baptismal font, may it serve as a constant reminder of the life to which we have been called in Christ.

***Prayer over the Water***

*An appropriate prayer of thanksgiving may be said over the water, such as:*

All powerful Father,

today the promise of Jesus is fulfilled:

in wind and fire, your Holy Spirit

is poured out upon your people,

filling them with power from on high.

Gathered at the water's edge

may we, your faithful people,

rejoice in the life to which we are called

and evermore proclaim you, God and Father of us all.

We ask this through Christ the Lord. **Amen.**