

Order for Liturgy of the Word

Third Sunday of Easter

Entrance Antiphon:

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth;
O sing to the glory of his name,
O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

Cf. Ps 66 (65): 1-2



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

Sisters and Brothers, God invites us to hear his Word. Let us bless him for his goodness. Blessed be God forever. **Response:** Blessed be God forever.

Introduction:

We gather today to celebrate the Lord's Day. One with our sisters and brothers and with the entire Church, we will listen to God's Word and join in prayer. As we prepare to hear of God's love in Christ, let us acknowledge that the Lord is the source of pardon and strength.

All: *The Confiteor*

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

The Gloria

Glory to God in the highest. And on earth peace to men of good will. We praise You. We bless You. We adore you. We glorify You. We give You thanks for Your great glory. Lord God, heavenly King, O God the almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only-begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have

mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Let us pray:

May your people exult for ever, O God, in renewed youthfulness of spirit, so that, rejoicing now in the restored glory of our adoption, we may look forward in confident hope to the rejoicing of the day of resurrection. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

For today's scriptural readings go to: [usccb.org](http://usccb.org/calendar/index.cfm?showLit=1&action=month) or cut and paste:

<http://cms.usccb.org/calendar/index.cfm?showLit=1&action=month>

First reading

Responsorial Psalm

Second reading

Gospel acclamation:

R. Alleluia, alleluia

Lord Jesus, open the Scriptures to us; make our hearts burn while you speak to us.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel proclamation

Profession of Faith:

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit
was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate, he suffered
death and was buried, and rose
again on the third day in accordance
with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated
at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the
giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the
Son,

Who with the Father and the Son is
adored and glorified, who has spoken
through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and
apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism
for the forgiveness of sins and I look
forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the Faithful

Introduction: Jesus came into our world in order to bear witness before us of those things which are of heaven and of God. And so with confidence we pray:

Intentions: That the whole Church, suffering from isolation from one another and separation from the sacraments, will find comfort and strength in spiritual communion with Him; we pray to the Lord. **Response:** Lord, hear our prayer.

That God will guide religious and government leaders in developing safe and prudent methods for the reopening of society; we pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

That the reading and praying of scripture will deepen our love and hunger for the Word of God and, in so doing, our hearts be set on fire, and our commitment to God inflamed; we pray to the Lord. **Response:** Lord, hear our prayer.

That all of us gathered in our homes may know the peace of the Lord that banishes all doubt and fear; we pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

That the sick be revived by hope; and those who have died - rest in the peace of Christ and the promise of the resurrection; we pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, in the Eucharist we taste and see your goodness.

Unable to gather around the Eucharistic table at this time we thank you for feeding us with your Word. In it may we find strength and hope for you have promised that your Word does not go forth and return empty but accomplishes that which you intend and prospers in the thing for which you sent it.

Buoyed by this assurance we offer all our prayers to you, through Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer:

Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our Savior gave us:

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.

In the love of Christ, let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Communion Antiphon: The disciples recognized the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread, alleluia. Cf. Lk 24:35

Spiritual Communion:

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Prayer After Communion

Look with kindness upon your people, O Lord, and grant, we pray, that those you were pleased to renew by eternal mysteries may attain in their flesh the incorruptible glory of the resurrection. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing—making the sign of the cross:

May the Lord bless us, protect us, and bring us to everlasting life.

Response: Amen.

Let us go in peace, alleluia, alleluia.

Response: Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia.



The story of the disciples on the road to Emmaus presents a strange state of affairs indeed.

With the breaking of the bread, the two wayfarers are brought into communion, even though they have not fully acknowledged the mystery that beckons them.

Jesus was more with them on their journey, even in their doubt and unbelief, than when they actually saw and recognized him and finally believed.

"We had hoped," they said on the road to Emmaus. But even their sense of loss, their longing to hope, was hope. Even their desire to believe was believing. Even their longing to love was love.

And so, present with him at the table, they finally recognized the gift of the mutual presence that was there all along, walking, talking, wondering why, telling their woes, hearing his story once again.

On our own we cannot grasp the mystery of the resurrection. The two disciples on the road to Emmaus were "conversing and debating"; they could recount the facts but could not believe the mystery. Yet they greatly desired to move from disappointment and unbelief to hearts burning with life and belief—they invited Jesus to stay the night with them. Our own participation in Word and Sacrament must give rise to the same desire in us: to seek Life by journeying deeper into the Mystery.

An encounter with any kind of mystery always leaves us "conversing and debating." The nature of mystery is that it cannot be known through facts alone, but in "the beyond" that tantalizes us, draws us, and intrigues us. How much more so with the Mystery of risen Life!

