

A Service of Morning Prayer During Easter



GATHERING

Leader: +In the name of God, the Creator, the Christ, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

Leader: O Lord, open our lips

All: **and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Leader: As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your presence,
O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you; now and for ever.

All: **Amen.**

OPENING PRAYER

Leader: Love overcome

All: **Emerging from a cold tomb**

All the truth, majesty and creativity of a living God

Transforming a broken heart

Making a quiet return, in a still and sorrowful garden

The grave stone rolled away, to release redemptive love

Jesus resurrected and restored

Comforts a weeping woman

Speaks with travellers on a journey

Meets with his faithful friends

And they bow down before Christ alive

And acknowledge that the saviour has arrived

That the word of God has come alive

And that the extraordinary transformation of heaven and earth

Is complete

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LITURGY OF THE WORD

Leader: Wonderous God, you have brought us to this thin place where heaven and earth embrace.
Here we bask in your peace and grace

All: **and open our hearts to your holy Word.**

SCRIPTURE READING AND DISCUSSION

INTERCESSIONS

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, that our witness may be as bold, our love as deep, and our faith as true.

God of life,

Hear our prayer.

Living God, your Son remained with his disciples after his resurrection, teaching them to love all people as neighbours. As his disciples in this age, we pray for the world in which we are privileged to live and our neighbours with whom we share it.

God of life,

Hear our prayer.

**The Anglican Diocese of Niagara
Called to Life – Compelled to Love**

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Living God, open our hearts to your power moving around us, between us, and within us, until your glory is revealed in our love of both friend and enemy, in communities transformed by justice and compassion, and in the healing of all that is broken.

God of life,

Hear our prayer.

Living God, you made the world in beauty, and continually restore all things in glory. We pray that, wherever your image is still disfigured by poverty, sickness, selfishness, war, or greed, the new creation in Jesus the Christ may appear in justice, love, and peace to the glory of your name.

God of life,

Hear our prayer.

Sisters and brothers in Christ, God invites us to bring our doubts and fears, our joys and concerns, our petitions and praise, and offer them for the earth and all life.

(Intentions may be offered aloud or in the silence of our hearts.)

God of life,

Hear our prayer.

Receive these prayers, God of Life,

and transform us through them, that we may have eyes to see and hearts to understand not only what you do on our behalf, but what you call us to do so that your realm will come to fruition in glory. Amen.

Leader: Trusting in the compassion of God, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

All: Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,

Source of all that is and that shall be,

Father and Mother of us all,

Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and for ever.

Amen.

BLESSING

HYMN