Leader Guide Template
Thursday Service of the Word--Easter

**INTRODUCTION** (optional): <*Name*>

**OPENING WORDS** based on Psalm 118

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.

I shall not die, but I shall live,

And proclaim what the Lord has done.

Open to me the gates of righteousness,

That I may enter and give thanks to the Lord.

The assembly stands.

**GATHERING SONG:** <*Number, Title>* 

**GREETING - <Name>** 

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY - < Name >

Before the prayer, say:

Let us pray.

At the conclusion of the prayer, the assembly responds:

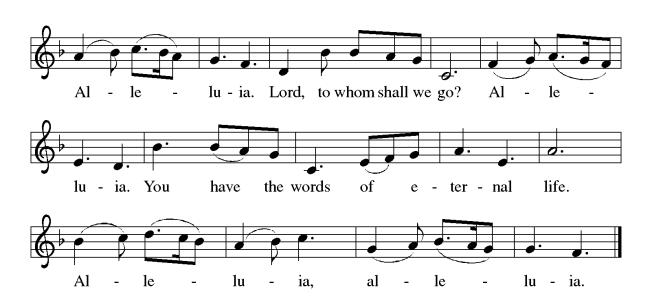
Amen.

The assembly is seated.

PSALM: <Psalm (and verses, if appropriate)> - <Name>

After the Psalm is finished, allow 10-15 seconds of silence.

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.



# The assembly is seated. **SERMON - <Name>**

GOSPEL - < Name >

The gospel is announced:

The holy gospel according to \_\_\_\_\_\_.
Glory to you, O Lord.

The gospel is proclaimed, concluding:

The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated. **SERMON** - <*Name*>

#### **OPTION 1**

*The assembly stands.* 

HYMN OF THE DAY: <Number, Title>

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION - < Name >

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation. (or similar introduction...)

A brief silence.

The prayers crafted for the day are read. Each portion of the prayers ends with:

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

OR

...let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

OR

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In lieu of an original concluding prayer within the Prayers of Intercession prepared by the worship leader, use the following prayer.

## **CONCLUDING PRAYER - <Name>**

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

Amen.

## **OPTION 2**

# The assembly stands

## **CANTICLE OF THANKSGIVING**



## THANKGIVING FOR THE WORD (long) < Name>

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God,

For by your Word you made all things;

You spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

We give you thanks and praise.

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts;

Freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

## We give you thanks and praise

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God

We give you thanks and praise.

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

Amen

## **OPTION 3**

**HYMN OF THE DAY: <Number, Title>** 

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (see above for instructions) < Name>

## THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD (short) < Name>

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

Amen.

# **LORD'S PRAYER (select Ecumenical or Traditional)**

## **Ecumenical**

"Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit let us pray as Jesus taught us..."

Our Father 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 forever. Amen

## **Traditional**

"Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray..."

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.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

#### **BLESSING**

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

## OR

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

#### OR

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The God of all grace + bless you now and forever.

Amen.

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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