

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.

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? Al - le -
lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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

Refrain

Sal - va - tion be - longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for -

ev - er and ev - er. 1 Great and won - der - ful are your deeds, O

God of the u - ni - verse; just and true are your ways, O

Rul - er of all the na - tions. Who can fail to hon - or you, Lord, and

Refrain

sing the glo - ry of your name? Sal - va - tion be - longs to our

God and to Christ the Lamb for - ev - er and ev - er.

2 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, and

bles - ed is the one whose name is the Word of God. All

Refrain

praise and thanks to you, ho - ly God! Sal - va - tion be - longs to our

God and to Christ the Lamb for - ev - er and ev - er.

THANKSGIVING 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!

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2012 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #21842.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.