

*Please respond with the words in bold*

## **Preparation**

*A bell is rung. The Paschal Candle may be lit.*

O Lord, open our lips  
and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

**Alleluia!**

Now is the time to wake out of sleep,  
for now our salvation is nearer than when we first  
believed. *Romans 13.11*

*The officiant welcomes the congregation, after which a hymn may be sung*

## **Penitential Rite**

When the Lord comes, he will bring to light the things  
now hidden in darkness, and will disclose the purposes  
of the heart. Therefore in the light of Christ let us  
confess our sins. *cf 1 Corinthians 4.5*

Lord God,  
we have sinned against you;  
we have done evil in your sight.  
We are sorry and repent.  
Have mercy on us according to your love.  
Wash away our wrongdoing  
and cleanse us from our sin.  
Renew a right spirit within us  
and restore us to the joy of your salvation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

May the Father of all mercies  
cleanse us from our sins,  
and restore us in his image  
to the praise and glory of his name,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

People of God: prepare!  
God, above all, maker of all, is one with us in Christ.  
Maranatha!  
Come, Lord Jesus!

God, the mighty God, bends down in love to earth.  
Maranatha!  
Come, Lord Jesus!

God with us, God beside us, comes soon to the world  
he has made. Maranatha!  
Come, Lord Jesus!

We are God's children, we seek the coming Christ.  
Maranatha!  
Come, Lord Jesus

*A hymn may be sung*

## **Psalms**

*The appointed psalmody is said from the Psalms sheet: the officiant says the off verses and the congregation respond together with the even verses, said slowly and with a small pause at the end of each line.*

*Each psalm ends with*

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

## **Old Testament Canticle**

*Ending with*

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

## **Scripture Reading**

*Either of the first or second readings may be used. The Gospel appointed for the Day is always read. At the end of each reading*

This is the word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

*The reader then leads with this responsory*

Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead.  
And Christ shall give you light.

You have died and your life is hid with Christ in God.  
Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead.

Set your minds on things that are above,  
not on things that are on the earth.  
And Christ shall give you light.

When Christ our life appears  
you will appear with him in glory.  
Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead,  
and Christ shall give you light.

## **Gospel Canticle: The Benedictus (Luke 1: 68-79)**

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel!  
He has visited his people and redeemed them.

He has raised up for us a mighty saviour in the house  
of David his servant,  
as he promised by the lips of holy people,  
those who were his prophets from of old.

A saviour who would free us from our foes,  
from the hands of all who hate us.  
So his love for our ancestors is fulfilled  
and his holy covenant remembered.

He swore to Abraham our father to grant us,  
that free from fear, and saved  
from the hands of our foes,  
we might serve him in holiness and justice  
all the days of our life in his presence.

As for you little child, you shall be called  
a prophet of God, the Most High.  
You shall go ahead of the Lord to prepare his ways  
before him,

To make known to his people their salvation  
through forgiveness of all their sins,  
the loving kindness of the heart of our God  
who visits us like the dawn from on high.

He will give light to those in darkness,  
those who dwell in the shadow of death,  
and guide us into the way of peace.

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

## **Sermon, Meditation or Reflection**

*This may be given by a member of the congregation, printed & shared or a recording/video may be played.*

