

Eastertide - Growing In Grace

Eastertide is the peak of the Christian year, the season celebrating Jesus' death, resurrection and ascension.

Eastertide runs from Easter Day past Ascension Day to Whitsun Eve. It therefore contains six Sundays After Easter, and alone of all the seasons is free from the hassle of part-weeks.

Sentence for Season

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Creeds

I believe in God

I believe in an incarnate God

I do not believe in a God who avoids life

I do not believe in a God who avoids death

I do not believe in a God who avoids commitment

I believe in a crucified God

I do not believe in a God who doesn't interfere

I do not believe in a God who doesn't befriend

I do not believe in a God who doesn't care

I believe in a risen God

I do not believe in a God who is afraid to reveal himself

I do not believe in a God who is afraid to be vulnerable

I do not believe in a God who is afraid to love

I believe in an incarnate God

I believe in a crucified God

I believe in a risen God

I believe in God

By the side of the Cross I stand

On the battlefield where my Leader conquers I stand

By the empty tomb I stand

In the camp where my Leader returned I stand
By the power of God I stand
At my Leader's side I stand, in his victory and glory

I sign this place with the sign of the Wounds of Christ
With the sign of his washing me clean
With the sign of his conquest of death
With the sign of his opened road to God
With the sign of his buying us back
With the sign of his unbounded love
I sign this place with the sign of the Wounds of Christ

Prayers for Weeks

Easter Sunday

Christ is risen!
We proclaim it in the presence of God;
we proclaim it in the face of the world;
we proclaim it in the face of our own fears and doubts.
Risen and glorious Jesus Christ, lead us along the road you have
made for us to the glory of God, the resurrection of the world, and
our own resurrection and glory. Amen

First Sunday in Eastertide

Risen Saviour, the light of your resurrection shines in the darkest
places, the darkest hearts. May we believe in your light, and walk in
your light, even when doubt has closed our eyes to its glory. Amen

Second Sunday in Eastertide

Unknown and unrecognised, Lord, you walk alongside the suffering,
the bereaved and the despairing. May we walk with them, too, and
so learn to recognise you as you walk with us. Amen

Third Sunday in Eastertide

Jesus, faithful friend, who brings salvation to the doubting and the believing alike, help us to see every doubt as an opportunity to come to truth, every truth as an opportunity to learn, and everything learned as an opportunity to live out your salvation, that your truth and love may touch all whom we meet, for ever. Amen

Fourth Sunday in Eastertide

Christ Jesus, whose light can shine on the road of those who most hate you and persecute you, may we, who claim your name, shine your light on the road of all we meet, without judgement or distinction, trusting in your Cross that is lifted high above the end of every road, in this world and in all worlds, for ever. Amen

Fifth Sunday in Eastertide

Almighty God, before whose throne no sin can stain, no label adhere, no pretension survive, grant us the will to accept the righteousness of your Son, in whose light all labels are meaningless, in whose love all pretension is empty, and in whose blood all sins are washed away, that we may at the last stand before your throne and be accepted by the Father through the love of the Son and the power of the Spirit, for ever. Amen.

Sixth Sunday in Eastertide

O Rose of Sharon, whose left arm is under my head and whose right arm embraces me, you have led me into your banqueting house, and your banner over us both is love; refresh me with the apples of your paradise, quench my thirst with the fountain whose fourfold stream waters your frankincense trees, and be a seal on my arm, a seal on my heart, for your love is stronger than death, and burns like a blazing fire, like a mighty flame, in my heart and in every heart, in all eternity. Amen.

Days of the Week

Sunday

Shine from darkness, O Morning Star!
Dawn from night, O Sun of the Morning!
Walk from death, O Resurrected Saviour!
Shout from silence, O Lord of Prophecy!
Witness from war, O Prince of Peace!
Rule from chaos, O Creation's Architect!
Lead me, show me, teach me, O Risen King, Servant and Brother!

Monday

Morning Star
Who prophesies to the whole world
Unconquered Sun
Who brings new life to the whole world
Unwaning Moon
Who offers new hope to the whole world
We offer this world to you
Its nations, its rulers, its people
That they may shine with your light
That you may make it whole

Tuesday

Now the Lightbringer rises in the east, heralding a new dawn
Now the seed shoots from the earth, promising a great harvest
Now the rain falls from a clear sky, calling a new life
Now the hidden reveals himself, bringing a new hope
Now the conqueror holsters his gun, offering a new peace
Now the cinders burst into flame, commanding a new power
Now the crucified walks, now the destroyed stands, now the silenced talks
Now the dead lives, and we live
And we praise him.

Wednesday

Lord God and Father,
After day you appointed night
After work, rest
After love, union
After dark, dawn
After labour, birth
After rain, glory
After life, death
After sleep, morning.
After wonder, thankfulness.
Amen

Thursday

You have come to us and committed yourself to us,
in birth, in life, in death, in resurrection.
I come to you and begin to commit myself to you,
in new birth, in new life, in new death, in new resurrection.
Help me to finish what you have started in me

Friday

Lord, when I walk under the stars, or through the mountains, or
among the meadow flowers, I am lost in wonder at your power.
Help me to be lost in wonder at that same power in the city
underpasses, the public toilets, and among the discarded syringes
behind the shops.
I ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ the Crucified. Amen

Saturday

Lord, we pray for all those who have committed themselves to you;
we pray that they may not fail; we pray that we may not fail them.
For just as the only way for you to fulfil our true purpose was the
commitment of the cross to us and to all, so for us, the only way to
fulfil our true purpose is commitment to you and to our neighbour.

Close

Eternal and Unbounded God of Love, who gave your Son to save the whole world, help us so to trust in his Cross and Resurrection, that we may attain to the glory that he bought for us at such great cost, through that same Lord Jesus Christ who now reigns for ever at your right hand; Amen.

Ending Sentence

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

