

## **saint benedict's table**

a liturgy of the resurrection for unusual times

*The sounding bowl is rung, to draw us into stillness*

### **Gathering**

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

**And also with you.**

We mark our Easter celebration in hope,  
**Longing for the day when we can break bread together.**

May Christ's resurrection light shine upon you.  
**May Christ fill our hearts with peace.**

*Come my way, my truth, my life  
Such a way as gives us breath  
Such a truth as ends all strife  
Such a life as killeth death*

*Come my joy, my love, my heart  
Such a joy as none can move  
Such a love as none can part  
Such a heart as joys in love*  
(George Herbert and Ralph Vaughan Williams)

Let us pray.

God of grace and glory,  
by the raising of your Son  
you have broken the chains of death.  
Fill your people with faith and hope;  
for in Christ a new day has dawned.  
Touch us with your peace in the midst of hard days,  
and give us the courage to hold firm to the hope of new life.  
This we pray in the name of the Risen One. **Amen.**

## **The Word**

Readings - Colossians 3:1-4 and Matthew 28:1-10

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon – Rachel Twigg

*Come to Me, you who are weary  
And I will give you rest  
Come to Me, you who are weary  
And I will give you rest*

*Take My yoke upon you  
For I am humble and gentle in heart  
And My burden is easy  
My burden is easy  
Take My yoke upon you  
And I will teach you  
The way you should go  
For My burden is easy  
My burden is easy*

*You will find rest, you will find rest  
You will find rest for your soul  
(Trish Vrolijk)*

Intercessory Prayers

Lord in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

Confession and Absolution

In this stillness, I invite you to speak to God of that in your own life that is born of sin, or of your fears, or of your wounds; things done better left undone, or the things we fail to do, the people we can't quite manage to be. I invite you to confess the shape of your life to an almighty yet merciful God.

*A time of silence is held*

As we speak the truth of our lives to God—God who is merciful and just—we are reconciled and drawn home again and again and again.

Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

And now as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold 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,  
the power, and the glory  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

*He is Lord (He is Lord)  
He is Lord (He is Lord)  
His is risen from the grave  
And He is Lord.*

*King of Kings (King of Kings)  
Lord of Lords (Lord of Lords)  
He is risen from the grave  
And He is Lord.*

*Every knee shall bow  
Every tongue confess  
That Jesus Christ is Lord.*

Almighty God,  
we give you thanks that when we were still far off  
you met us in your Son  
and you brought us home.  
Dying and living he restored us to life,  
and by his grace he opened the way of glory,  
and so we say,

**Glory to God  
whose power, working in us,  
can do infinitely more  
than we can ask or imagine.  
Glory to God from generation to generation,  
in the Church and in Christ Jesus,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Blessing

May God give you the grace never to sell yourself short;  
Grace to risk something big for something good;  
Grace to remember that the world is too dangerous  
for anything but truth,  
and too small for anything but love.  
And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit  
be upon you and remain with you now and always. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord, Alleluia.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia.**

*Amazing grace how sweet the sound  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost but now am found,  
was blind but now I see.*

*'twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed!*

*Through many dangers, toils, and snares  
I have already come;*

*'tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.*

*When we've been there ten thousand years,  
bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we'd first begun.*  
(John Newton)