

# PRAYER IN THE HOME

## EASTER DAY

### GATHERING

Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Christ has ascended on high.

**He reigns for ever. Alleluia.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord. Alleluia.**

Let us light a candle to remember that God's light shines in the darkness and the darkness can never put it out.

**May the light of Christ, risen, ascended and glorified, banish all darkness from our hearts and minds.**

### PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

### COLLECT for Easter Day

Risen, ascended Lord,  
as we rejoice at your triumph,  
fill your Church on earth with power and compassion,  
that all who are estranged by sin  
may find forgiveness and know your peace,  
to the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

### PSALM 118:1-2, 14-24

<sup>1</sup> O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
his mercy endures for ever.

<sup>2</sup> **Let Israel now proclaim,  
'His mercy endures for ever.'**

<sup>14</sup> The Lord is my strength and my song,  
and he has become my salvation.

<sup>15</sup> **Joyful shouts of salvation  
sound from the tents of the righteous:**

<sup>16</sup> 'The right hand of the Lord does mighty deeds;  
the right hand of the Lord raises up;  
the right hand of the Lord does mighty deeds.'

<sup>17</sup> **I shall not die, but live  
and declare the works of the Lord.**

<sup>18</sup> The Lord has punished me sorely,  
but he has not given me over to death.

<sup>19</sup> **Open to me the gates of righteousness,  
that I may enter and give thanks to the Lord.**

<sup>20</sup> This is the gate of the Lord;  
the righteous shall enter through it.

<sup>21</sup> **I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me  
and have become my salvation.**

<sup>22</sup> The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.

<sup>23</sup> **This is the Lord's doing,  
and it is marvellous in our eyes.**

<sup>24</sup> This is the day that the Lord has made;  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

### **BIBLE READING** - Matthew 28:1-10

<sup>1</sup> After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. <sup>2</sup> And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. <sup>3</sup> His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. <sup>4</sup> For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. <sup>5</sup> But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. <sup>6</sup> He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup> Then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him." This is my message for you.' <sup>8</sup> So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. <sup>9</sup> Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.'

### **INTERCESSIONS & CLOSING PRAYER**

Let us pray to Jesus who is present with us to eternity.

Jesus, light of the world,  
bring the light and peace of your gospel to the nations ...  
Jesus, Lord of life, **in your mercy, hear us.**

Jesus, bread of life,  
give food to the hungry ...  
and nourish us all with your word.  
Jesus, Lord of life, **in your mercy, hear us.**

Jesus, our way, our truth, our life,  
be with us and all who follow you in the way ...  
Deepen our appreciation of your truth  
and fill us with your life.

Jesus, Lord of life, **in your mercy, hear us.**

Jesus, Good Shepherd who gave your life for the sheep,  
recover the straggler,  
bind up the injured,  
strengthen the sick  
and lead the healthy and strong to new pastures.  
Jesus, Lord of life, **in your mercy, hear us.**

Jesus, the resurrection and the life,  
we give you thanks for all who have lived and believed in you ...  
Raise us with them to eternal life.  
Jesus, Lord of life, **in your mercy, hear us,  
accept our prayers, and be with us always.  
Amen.**

Trusting in the compassion of God,  
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**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.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**  
Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
**He has given us new life and hope.  
He has raised Jesus from the dead.**

God has claimed us as his own.

**He has brought us out of darkness.**

**He has made us light to the world.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

God, who through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
has given us the victory, give you joy and peace in your faith.