



Sunday 24 May, 2020
Seventh Sunday of Easter
The Sunday after Ascension

Prayer and worship at home

If a household are praying together, one person may act as leader and the others as the congregation and they join in the words in bold type.

If alone, read all the words aloud.

You may want to light a candle before you begin, and have a Bible, cross or crucifix to look at.

You might prepare for this act of worship by listening to some music, or by being still.



Preparation

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Seeing we have a great high priest who has passed through the heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us offer him the praise worthy of his name.

Prayers of Penitence

As we pray, we reflect on the week that has passed and ask the Lord for his forgiveness and healing.

Jesus Christ, risen Master and triumphant Lord, we come to you in sorrow for our sins, and confess to you our weakness and unbelief.

We have lived by our own strength, and not by the power of your resurrection.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived by the light of our own eyes, as faithless and not believing.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived for this world alone, and doubted our home in heaven.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

Words of forgiveness

May the God of love and power forgive us and free us from our sins, heal and strengthen us by his Spirit, and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Special Prayer for this week

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.**

The Word of the Lord

FIRST READING : Acts 1.6-14

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

THE GOSPEL : John 17. 1-11

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John
Glory to you, O Lord

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ.

Affirmation of faith

With our Christian brothers and sisters, we affirm our faith in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Christ died for our sins
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he was buried;
he was raised to life on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures;
afterwards he appeared to his followers,
and to all the apostles:
this we have received,
and this we believe. Amen.**

Prayers of intercession

*(Here you may wish to offer prayer in your own words,
or be prompted by the words here)*
*We pray for our world, especially at this time of anxiety
and fear...*

We pray for our nation and its well-being...

*We pray for neighbours, family and friends and we
remember all those self-isolating at the moment...*

*We pray for all who are sick, worried or anxious, and for
those concerned about a phased return to school...*

*We pray for those who have died in recent days, and all
whom we remember with love and affection....*

The Lord's Prayer

Being made one by the power of the Spirit, let us pray to the Father as Jesus taught us.

Our Father in heaven...

Or

Our Father, who art in heaven

The Grace

We conclude our prayers

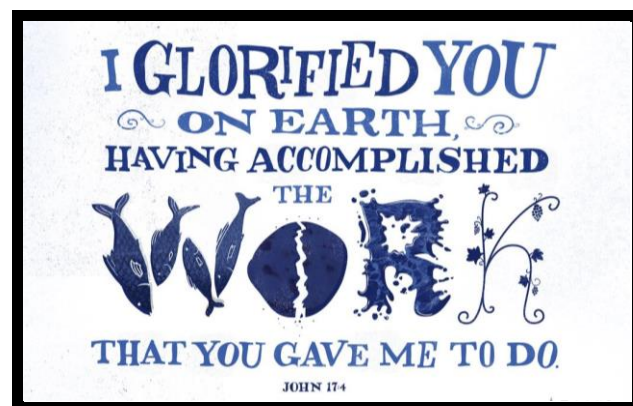
**The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy
Spirit, be with us all, evermore. Amen**

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Readings for the coming week:

Monday	Psalm 93	John 16.29-end
Tuesday	Psalm 99	John 17.1-11
Wednesday	Psalm 29	John 17.11-19
Thursday	Psalm 24.	John 17.20-end
Friday	Psalm 28	John 21.15-19
Saturday	Psalm 43	John 21.20-end



Collect for Thy Kingdom Come

Almighty God,
your ascended Son has sent us into the world to preach the good news of your kingdom: inspire us with your Spirit and fill our hearts with the fire of your love, that all who hear your Word may be drawn to you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**