

Prayer and worship at home

Easter Day 2021

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

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

May the light of Christ, rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds. **Alleluia!**

Prayers of penitence

Jesus Christ, risen Master and triumphant Lord, as we give thanks for your resurrection 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 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.

The special prayer for this week

God of glory,
by the raising of your Son
you have broken the chains of death and hell:
fill your Church with faith and hope;
for a new day has dawned
and the way to life stands open
in our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

The Easter Anthems

Christ our passover has been sacrificed for us: so let us celebrate the feast, not with the old leaven of corruption and wickedness: but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

1 Corinthians 5.7b, 8

Christ once raised from the dead dies no more: death has no more dominion over him. In dying he died to sin once for all: in living he lives to God.

See yourselves therefore as dead to sin: and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 6.9–11

Christ has been raised from the dead: the first fruits of those who sleep.

For as by man came death:

by man has come also the resurrection of the dead;

for as in Adam all die:

even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

1 Corinthians 15.20–22

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 28. 1-10

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. 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. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been

raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. 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.' So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.

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

Affirmation of faith

Let us declare 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 the Church of God throughout the world:
for the Diocese of Blackburn and for Julian, Philip
and Jill our bishops...*

*We give thanks for the resurrection of Jesus Christ
and for the hope and light He brings into the
world...*

*We pray for those who are longing to be baptised or
confirmed...*

*We pray for all living with Covid-19... for those
caring for them and for all who are anxious or
worried...*

*We pray for the health and well-being of our nation,
for Elizabeth our Queen; our Prime Minister and
Government...*

We pray for our NHS and all doctors and nurses...

*We remember those who have died in recent days,
and all whom we love but see no longer... may they
rest for ever in the light and peace of Christ.*

The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in the presence of the Risen Christ, let
us pray in faith and trust:

Our Father, who art in heaven...

(or)

Our Father in heaven...

Concluding Acclamation

Lord of life, you walk this journey with us and
through us;

Lead us Lord, lead on.

Journeying within, and wrestling with the world,
Lead us Lord, lead on.

Lead us to risk, to grow, and to tread the path you
have opened for us;

Lead us Lord, lead on.

And let us rejoice that every place is your place;
in the name of Christ, the Risen One.

Alleluia, amen!

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.**

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

Readings for the coming week:

Monday	Psalm 111	Matthew 28.8-15
Tuesday	Psalm 112	John 20. 11-18
Wednesday	Psalm 113	Luke 24.13-35
Thursday	Psalm 114	Luke 24. 35-48
Friday	Psalm 115	John 21.1-14
Saturday	Psalm 116	Mark 16.9-15