

PRAYER IN THE HOME

EASTER DAY: SUNDAY 4 APRIL

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 47

- ¹ Clap your hands, all you peoples;
shout to God with loud songs of joy.
- ² For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome,
a great king over all the earth.
- ³ He subdued peoples under us,
and nations under our feet.
- ⁴ He chose our heritage for us,
the pride of Jacob whom he loves.
- ⁵ God has gone up with a shout,
the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.
- ⁶ Sing praises to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our King, sing praises.
- ⁷ For God is the king of all the earth;
sing praises with a psalm.
- ⁸ God is king over the nations;
God sits on his holy throne.
- ⁹ The princes of the peoples gather
as the people of the God of Abraham.
- ¹⁰ For the shields of the earth belong to God;
he is highly exalted.

BIBLE READING John 20:1-18

(See accompanying sheet).

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- Which word or phrase in this passage stands out for me?
- How does this reading encourage my Christian hope?
- How might I see the world differently because of this hope?

SERMON You can find this week's sermon at:

<https://stbcc.co.uk/sermons>

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.

