

Faithful God, we praise you for the resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ from the dead. Shed his glorious light on all Christian people that we may live as those who believe in the triumph of the cross.

Almighty God we ask you to be a real and living presence in your church throughout the world. May our Church through its preaching and works of love continue to testify to our Lord's resurrection. Wherever we are lacking in faith and courage strengthen us with your Spirit.

Risen Christ, Easter has passed and so let us not forget the marvellous story as we return to mediocrity. We forget the breath taking message that you are risen and with us, our companion on all our journeys to Emmaus. We forget the new life available to us from that day on. Remind us daily that we are an Easter people, living in the light of the resurrection, enlivened by joy - empowered by love.

We have been raised with Christ and seek the things that are above.

Lord, in your mercy . . . .

Merciful God, we pray for peace in our troubled world. Wherever nations are at war and people are suffering we pray for true reconciliation. Protect all Christian people in the nations of the world, and help them to influence their country for the good of all.

Risen Christ, in the winter of this world's wraths and sorrows, come like spring to bring hope to the desperate nations of the world.

Our news reports are full of fighting. We often turn away in despair. But you O Christ, are our first glimpse of a new world. Keep our leaders hopeful and determined as they work for peace and plenty, often against huge odds. Plant Easter in their hearts.

Lord, in your mercy . . . .

Father God, we pray for all families whose homes are disrupted by anger and bitterness and where relationships are breaking up. We thank you for the gift of your Son, our saviour, who walks with us on our life's journey and, as he gladdened the hearts of his friends when they saw him raised from the dead, may he travel alongside all who are struggling with their family life.

Heavenly Father,

We come before you with grateful hearts, seeking your blessings upon Rev Christine and Dawn this afternoon. You have brought them together and we ask that you shower them with your love, grace, and favour.

May your guiding light illuminate their path, leading them towards happiness, fulfilment, and prosperity in all aspects of their lives. May they find joy and contentment in each other's company, and may their bond deepen with each passing day.

Let your blessings overflow in their lives, bringing them abundance, success, and boundless happiness.

Lord, in your mercy . . . .

Loving God comfort the sick and suffering with your living presence. Heal and strengthen weak bodies, calm confused minds and reassure the lonely with your company. Please let us raise before you now, in our hearts, those we know with particular needs,

Lord, in your mercy . . . .

Merciful God, we remember before you those who have died in the hope of the resurrection. Unite us with them in your undying love. Help us to always remember that death could not hold your Son Jesus Christ and that new life for him means new life for all who believe in Him, let us remember in a moment silence, anyone close to us . . . . .

Grant them your peace, let light perpetual shine upon them, May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

Lord, in your mercy . . . .

Gracious God, your Son Jesus Christ, stands among us, and we have seen the marks of your saving love. Breathe on us with the power of your Holy Spirit and send us out to share the peace of Christ with all who may cross our paths in the weeks ahead.

Risen Christ, may our church be an oasis of Easter in our community, a place of life, laughter, play and creativity. May it be a place where people let down their guard and know themselves to be gifted and valued. May it be a place where imaginations fly and hope sings. May it be a place where we do something beautiful for God each week, and then go out as Easter people to serve the community around us — because: We have been raised with Christ and seek the things that are above.

Merciful father,  
accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.