

# ALONGSIDERS' PRAYERS FOR APRIL 2025

April 6, 2025

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

*All I care for is to know Christ and the power of His resurrection.      Philippians 3: 10*

## Scripture Readings:

- Isaiah 43: 16-21
- Psalm 126
- Philippians 3: 4b-14
- John 12: 1-8

The Lord tells us to move forward, not to dwell on the past. He will always provide for us. With Him at the forefront, who is always there, we can accomplish things we never thought possible. Trust in Him today to take that step you need to take.

**Collect:** Most merciful God, by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ, you created humanity anew. May the power of His victorious cross transform those who turn in faith to Him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

God is present with us now. Let us bring Him our prayers and concerns for the church and for the world.

Loving God, breathe your life in the church so that we speak your love to the world and are willing to suffer and prepared for sacrifice.

Lord, through your love: transform our lives.

Loving God, breathe your peace into the world so that we work together co-operatively, sensitive to one another's needs and differences.

Lord, through your love: transform our lives.

Loving God, breathe your patience and forgiveness into our homes and relationships so that we learn to cherish and respect one another and act with generosity.

Lord, through your love: transform our lives.

Loving God, breathe your encouragement into every suffering and every sadness so that the dark and painful times become places of strong spiritual growth.

Lord, through your love: transform our lives.

Loving God, breathe your welcome deep into the souls of the dying so that death is only the door leading to the joy of eternal life with you.

Lord, through your love: transform our lives.

Loving God, breathe your grace into our knowing and our feeling so that we rejoice each step of the way whatever the terrain. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

# **ALONGSIDERS' PRAYERS FOR APRIL 2025**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**The Grace**

# ALONGSIDERS' PRAYERS FOR APRIL 2025

April 13, 2025

Sunday of the Passion

*Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the Highest.*

Scripture Readings:

- Isaiah 50: 4-9a
- Psalm 31: 9-16
- Philippians 2: 5-11
- Luke 22: 14-23: 56

As Jesus rides into Jerusalem on a donkey and the crowds welcome Him, God is with Him upholding Him and He is trusting in the Father as the times are in His hands. He becomes obedient to God. We sense the joy of the Messiah being acclaimed and the heaviness of His suffering for us which follows. Jesus' mission is drawing to fulfillment. O what love the Father has for us!

Collect: Almighty and everliving God, in tender love for all our human race you sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take our flesh and suffer death upon a cruel cross. May we follow the example of His great humility, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

As we recall Jesus entering Jerusalem, let us gather our thoughts to pray. Father, as the crowds welcomed Jesus and sang your praises we pray that many more will welcome you into their hearts and lives over the coming year. We pray for opportunities to spread your good news and courage to take them.

You are our God: we welcome you!

Father, we recall the donkey Jesus rode on and we pray for that real humility in our hearts which treats status and image casually and truth and loving service seriously.

You are our God: we welcome you!

Father, the children sang and shouted your praise and we pray for the children in our homes, our community and our province. May we not fail them in the support and teaching they need.

You are our God: we welcome you!

Father, the crowds were responding to the healing love they had seen in action in Jesus. We bring to you in our love and imaginations how all those we would have brought to Jesus for healing and help. Give them comfort and reassurance, wholeness and hope.

You are our God: we welcome you!

Father, Jesus knew He was riding to His death. We pray for all on that last journey especially those burdened with fear and guilt. We commend to your eternal love all those who have died,

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thanking you for the blessings we have received and even for the grief which is part of the love we share.

You are our God: we welcome you!

Father, we too, spread our coats on the road as we express our thankfulness for all you have done for us and the amazing extent of your love. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

The Grace

# ALONGSIDERS' PRAYERS FOR APRIL 2025

April 20, 2025

The Sunday of the Resurrection

*Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us: therefore let us keep the feast.*

*1 Corinthians 5: 7-8*

## Scripture Readings:

- Acts 10: 34-43
- Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24
- 1 Corinthians 15: 19-26
- John 20: 1-18

God loves everyone. He is Lord over all. Peter and John witnessed this at the tomb and Mary's revelation talking with Jesus. All who believe in Him receive the forgiveness of sins through His name. It is true Jesus is alive for us for all time. The Lord of life cannot be held by death. God's victory over sin and death means that new life for us is a reality. God is so good!

**Collect:** Lord of life and power, through the mighty resurrection of your Son, you have overcome the old order of sin and death and have made all things new in Him. May we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, reign with Him in glory, who with you and the Holy Spirit is alive, one God, now and for ever.

With joy in our hearts, come, let us pray together. We remember with gratitude the presence of the church in remote and highly populated areas all over the world. We pray for all other Christians rejoicing today in the wonder of the Resurrection.

Life giving God: give us new life in you.

We pray that we may recognize you as we walk through our days and we ask you to disturb any complacency which is blurring our spiritual vision.

Life giving God: give us new life in you.

We pray for the courage to speak out against injustice and oppression. We pray that our leaders may establish and uphold right values and sensitive legislation.

Life giving God: give us new life in you.

We pray that those of our families and friends who have not yet met you may be drawn into your company and introduced so that they can enjoy your faithfulness and love.

Life giving God: give us new life in you.

We remember those whose lives are filled with pain, anxiety or sorrow and ask you to come alongside them and speak their name.

Life giving God: give us new life in you.

# **ALONGSIDERS' PRAYERS FOR APRIL 2025**

With the words of Resurrection fresh in our minds we commend to your eternal love those who have died that they may live with you for ever.

Life giving God: give us new life in you.

Father, may our lips and our lives express our thanks and praise to you for rescuing us and setting us free to live. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.

**The Lord's Prayer**

**The Grace**

# ALONGSIDERS' PRAYERS FOR APRIL 2025

April 27, 2025

Second Sunday of Easter

*Have you believed, Thomas, because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.*  
*John 20: 29*

## Scripture Readings:

- Acts 5: 27-32
- Psalm 118: 14-29
- Revelations 1: 4-8
- John 20: 19-31

In Acts Peter was accused of teaching the truth, to obey God and not man. Are we ever accused of speaking God's truth? In Revelations John preaches peace to all from God who loves us and frees us from our sins. After His death on the cross Jesus came and stood among the disciples bringing them peace. He breathed on them the gift of the Holy Spirit to equip them in their teaching. Thomas, who wasn't there at the time, had doubted this, but Jesus appeared again a second time and Thomas saw and believed saying, "my Lord and my God." Jesus said to Thomas "blessed are those who have not seen yet believe." We have not visually seen God with our eyes but we know in our hearts that He is alive in each one of us. Don't be a doubter; claim the deep, deep love and peace of God this Easter and always.

**Collect:** Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Having seen Jesus in person, the disciples are convinced of the Resurrection. We, too, can meet Him personally. In the knowledge that God is here present with us let us pray.

Father, we thank you for the gifts of sight and insight and ask you to be there in all our looking. Help us always to see with eyes of faith, love and honesty.

Open our eyes: to see things your way, Lord.

We pray for our Bishop Sam Rose, our Rector, Rev. Sam Butler, Rev. Bill and Rev. Hobbs in their ministry of love that they may be given all the support, grace and anointing they need.

Open our eyes: to see things your way, Lord.

We pray for the gifts of discernment and integrity among all those who govern, advise and lead. Clear away all self-centered ambition to free our leaders to serve.

Open our eyes: to see things your way, Lord.

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Father, whenever we have eye contact with family, friends, neighbours or colleagues be there in that communication and remind us of our calling to love one another.

Open our eyes: to see things your way, Lord.

We call to mind those whose eyes are wet with tears or tense with pain. Help them to sense your reassuring love which can bring us through the darkest of valleys.

Open our eyes: to see things your way, Lord.

Jesus is the first fruit of the new and eternal life we are promised in you. We commend to your love those who have recently walked through death into that promise and thank you for the privilege of knowing them here on earth.

Open our eyes: to see things your way, Lord.

Father, we thank you for loving us right through death into life and we rejoice in your victory over evil. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.

**The Lord's Prayer**

**The Grace**