

ALONGSIDERS' PRAYERS FOR MAY 2025

May 4, 2025

3rd Sunday of Easter

Lord Jesus, open to us the scriptures, make our hearts burn within us while you speak.

Luke 24: 32

Scripture Readings:

- Acts 9: 1-6 (7-20)
- Psalm 30
- Revelation 5: 11-24
- John 21: 1-19

Just as Saul (Paul) was touched by Jesus and afterwards baptized and preached the gospel, may our eyes be opened to see clearly the path that God wants us to be on. He wants us to share His love, forgiveness and healing to those in need and bring glory to His name.

Collect: O God, your Son made Himself known to His disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of faith, that we may see Him in His redeeming work, who is alive and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Let us pray before God who knows each one of us by name.

Father, we thank you that your church is made up of real people, that it is a school for sinners and that you can work with us and through us straight away.

Here I am, Lord: send me!

Father, we pray for the newly baptized and those who have recently returned to you. Help us as your church to support them well and delight in them as members together as the Body of Christ.

Here I am, Lord: send me!

Father, we pray for your strength and protection against all hypocrisy and double standards in our society. We pray for a spirit of genuine service among all who lead and in all areas where we have authority.

Here I am, Lord: send me!

Father, we pray that you will make our homes and our relationships places where people know by the way we look at them and treat them that they are valued and cherished and respected for who they are.

Here I am, Lord: send me!

ALONGSIDERS' PRAYERS FOR MAY 2025

Father, we call to mind all who have learned to regard themselves with contempt. Draw near to them and whisper their true name so that they discern the truth of your love and respect for them. Use our lives to affirm one another.

Here I am, Lord: send me!

We pray for the dying and those who have recently died, commending them to the joy and safekeeping of your love. We give thanks for all those who know and love us and help us grow in faith. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

The Grace

Meditation

"I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen: not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else."

~ C.S. Lewis

ALONGSIDERS' PRAYERS FOR MAY 2025

May 11, 2025

Mother's Day

4th Sunday of Easter

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord. I know my own and my own know me.

John 10: 14

Scripture Readings:

- Acts 9: 36-43
- Psalm 23
- Revelation 7: 9-17
- John 10: 23-30

God sent Jesus to be our Saviour, our peace, our salvation. He healed many people and showed love and kindness to all in His ministry here on earth. The Jews could not accept Him as the Messiah. When asked if He was the Christ, Jesus tells them to look at His life and see for themselves that He and the Father are one. The Jews continued to find ways to kill Him. Believe in Him today for He is our Good Shepherd, our gift of eternal life.

Collect: O God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make us perfect in every good work to do your will, and work in us that which is well-pleasing in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

As members together of the Body of Christ, let us pray to the true living God.

We pray for the nurture of each member of the church, for the newly baptized and confirmed and for all in ordained and lay ministry that our love for one another may show as we work for the coming of the Kingdom.

Direct our hearts, O Lord: to love you more and more.

We pray for the gift of discernment so that we recognize God's presence and reverence His face in the faces of those we meet.

Direct our hearts, O Lord: to love you more and more.

We hold before you King Charles, our prime minister and premier and all who govern our country and make its laws that we may act responsibly and with compassion, attentive to real needs and good values.

Direct our hearts, O Lord: to love you more and more.

We pray particularly for homes filled with suspicion and envy and ask for the healing of old hurts, together with hope and perseverance as people set out on paths of reconciliation.

Direct our hearts, O Lord: to love you more and more.

ALONGSIDERS' PRAYERS FOR MAY 2025

We pray for those whose capacity for trust and love has been damaged by other people's sin. We long for your healing so that all who are imprisoned by their past may walk freely into your future.

Direct our hearts, O Lord: to love you more and more.

We pray for those who have recently passed through death that you will judge them with mercy so that made whole in your love they may know the joy of your eternity.

Direct our hearts, O, Lord: to love you more and more.

We give you thanks and praise for the salvation and restoration that is now possible for us through Christ's victory over death.

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

The Lord's Prayer

The Grace

A Mother's Day Prayer

Loving God, we ask you to bless all mothers today.

May they feel the joys of motherhood everyday.

In all their struggle giving us a livelihood, may your love and compassion be with them for good.

May every mother feel today, the pride and beauty of the family they bear.

Through all pain and sorrow, Lord, deliver them.

In your strength and grace may they always stay.

ALONGSIDERS' PRAYERS FOR MAY 2025

ALONGSIDERS' PRAYERS FOR MAY 2025

May 18, 2025

5th Sunday of Easter

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another as I have loved you.

John 13: 34

Scripture Readings:

- Acts 11: 1-18
- Psalm 148
- Revelation: 21: 1-6
- John 13: 31-35

Jesus tells His disciples the Son of Man is glorified and God is glorified in Him. He has to go away but they cannot come. Jesus is the sacrificial Lamb who went to the cross for us all to take all our sins upon Him so that we could be free from death and receive the gift of eternal life with Him. Jesus also gave His disciples a new commandment that we love one another as He loved them. By doing this others will know they belong to Jesus just as we do! He broke through the barrier of sin and death which allows us to break into eternity and a new way of living in love with each other that continues into eternity.

Collect: Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another and walk in the way of commandments, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

It is God's love that has drawn us together here. Let us pray to Him now.

Father, wherever Christians are fussing and arguing, living outside your will or without the responsible love you teach, bring about deep cleansing, healing and renewal so that we can really be your body in our world.

Lord, you show us: what loving really means.

Father, whatever injustice stifles human growth and selfish ambition distorts leadership bring about right and good government throughout the world born of your wisdom and humility.

Lord, you show us: what loving really means.

Father, we watch our children growing, remind us of our calling to grow more loving in the ways we deal with conflict, approach difficulties and address the needs of those we meet.

Lord, you show us: what loving really means.

Father, in the places of long-term pain and sudden shock, of weariness, disappointments and fear bring about the peace which only you can give and comfort which speaks of hope.

Lord, you show us: what loving really means.

ALONGSIDERS' PRAYERS FOR MAY 2025

Father, may the physical death of those we now recall be nothing less than the gateway to a new and lasting life in your love and protection.

Lord, you show us: what loving really means.

Father, may the physical death of those we now recall be nothing less than the gateway to a new and lasting life in your love and protection.

Lord, you show us: what loving really means.

Heavenly Father, we offer you our hearts with all the love you find inside and thank you for putting it there. 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 MAY 2025

May 25, 2025

6th Sunday of Easter

If you love me, you will keep my word, and my Father will love you, and we will come to you.

John 14: 23

Scripture Readings:

- Acts: 16: 9-15
- Psalm 67
- Revelation 21: 10, 22:15
- John 14: 23-29

God says blessed are those who love me and listen to my teaching. He will make a home in our hearts and live there to guide us and show us the way. It is the Holy Spirit who will give us this and peace beyond our understanding. We will still have trials and upset but with the help of the Holy Spirit we will be able to bear all things because of this inner strength which comes from God.

Collect: Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you riches beyond imagination. Pour into our hearts such love toward you, that we, loving you above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Drawn by the Holy Spirit we have arrived at this moment when we can pray together for the church and for the world.

Lord God, as members of your church in this generation we ask your guidance and blessing for all our deacons, priests, bishops and all in training for lay ministry. As the people of God we ask for the gifts we need for the work you need us to do.

You are with us: every step of the way.

Lord God, this fragile, vulnerable planet is so beautiful and in such need of your guidance, we pray for deeper valuing of our universe and of one another for your kingdom to come on earth as in heaven.

You are with us: every step of the way.

Lord God, may our homes be centers of love, acceptance and welcome. We pray you will make your home among us in each room and each relationship.

You are with us: every step of the way.

Lord God, we pray for all who are weighed down with doubts, fears and misgivings and all who are haunted by the past or scared by the future. We ask for them awareness of your constant presence and courage to place their hand in yours.

ALONGSIDERS' PRAYERS FOR MAY 2025

You are with us: every step of the way.

Lord God, we remember those whose earthly life has come to an end. We pray that they and we in our turn may recognize you in heaven and live in your light for ever.

You are with us: every step of the way.

Lord God, we give you thanks for all the blessings you shower on us along the way of life and for the painstaking guidance you provide. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

The Grace