

# Alongsiders' Prayers for April 2021

**April 04, 2021**

***Easter Sunday***

*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

Psalms 118: 1-2, 14-24

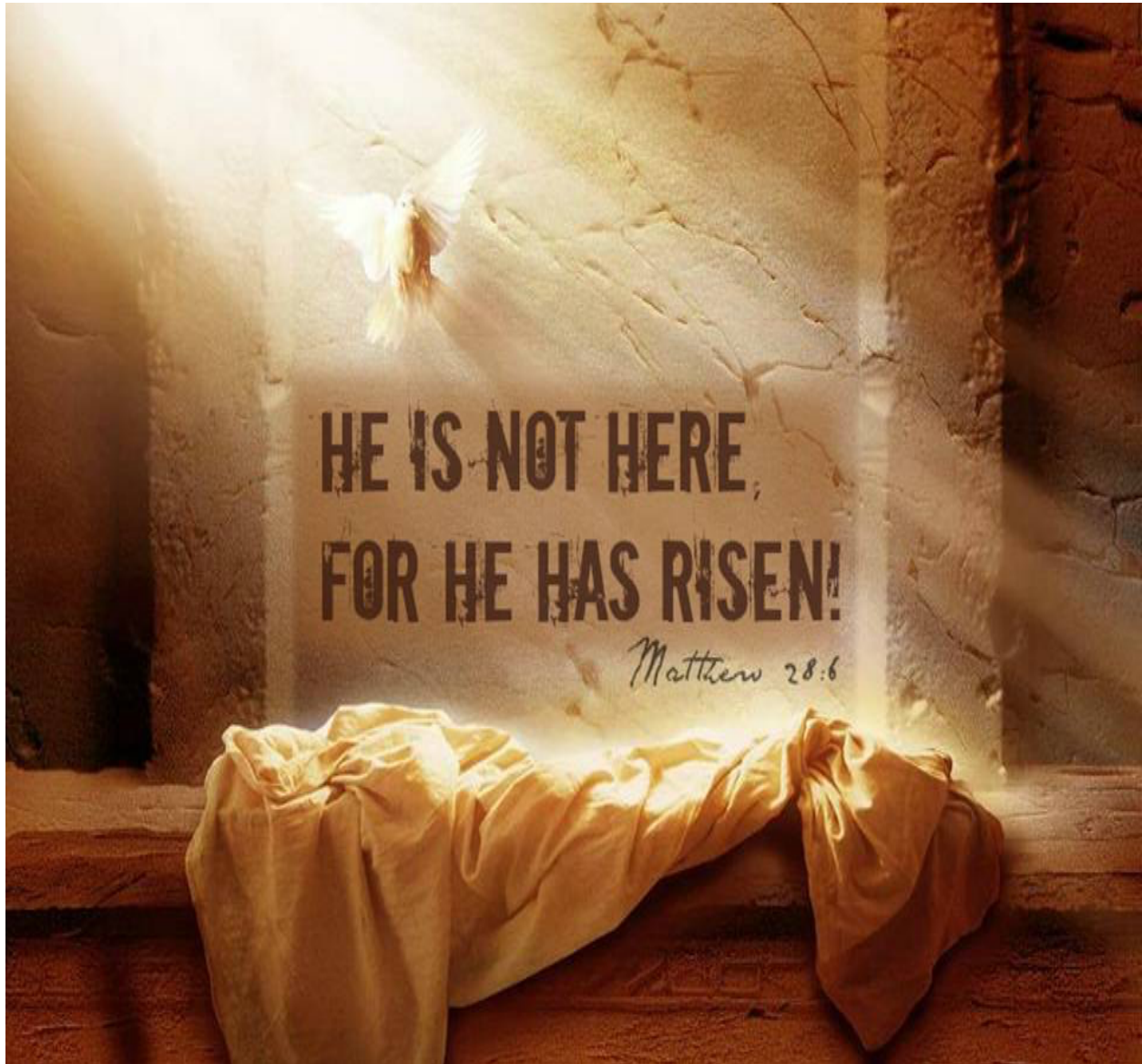
1 Corinthians 15: 1-11

John 20: 1-18

On this blessed Easter Day, we are rejoicing and are joyful after a long period of Lent. We have experienced tribulations on the way to the cross, and we now glory in the resurrection. We are redeemed and saved by the precious blood of Jesus. We give thanks for God's Holy Word and His gift of unconditional love to each and every one of us. God shows no partiality. He is the Lord of all, our strength and our salvation.

**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.

## Alongsiders' Prayers for April 2021



***He is Lord, He is Lord  
He has risen from the dead and He is Lord!  
Every Knee shall bow, every tongue confess  
That Jesus Christ is Lord!***

## **Alongsiders' Prayers for April 2021**

It is true Jesus is alive 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. With joy in our hearts, come let us pray together.

We remember with gratitude the presence of the Church all over the world. We pray for all 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. We ask you to come alongside them and make your presence known.

Life-giving God: give us new life in you.

## Alongsiders' Prayers for April 2021

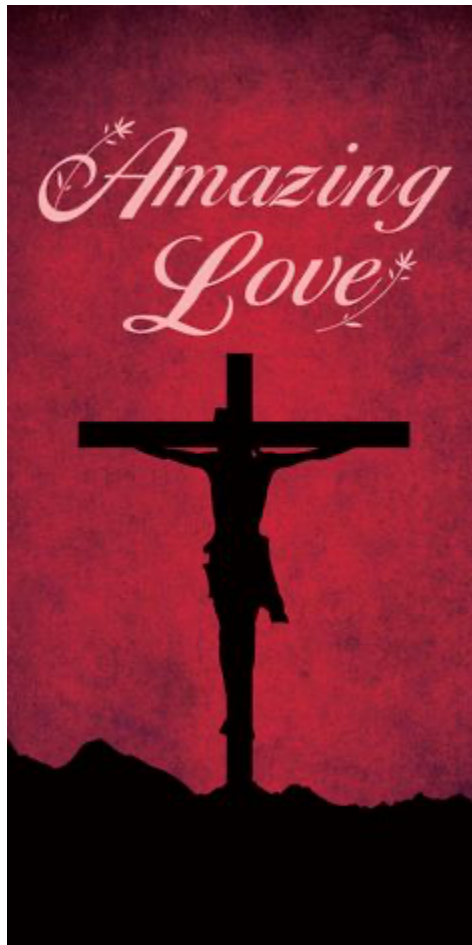
With the words of resurrection fresh in our minds, we commend to your eternal love those who have died that they may live with you for ever.

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. Amen

**The Lord's Prayer**

**The Grace**



# Alongsiders' Prayers for April 2021

April 11, 2021

2<sup>nd</sup> 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 4: 32-35

Psalms 133

1 John 1: 1 – 2: 2

John 20: 19-31

There is unity in believers sharing with one another in need. God abundantly blesses us. Worldly possessions are not important, only fleeting. The truth of God is everlasting. May it abide in us always. We must try to live in harmony with our brothers and sisters in the faith. We have been gifted with the Holy Spirit to help us with this, as it is impossible without God's help. Like Thomas, don't doubt because we have not seen Jesus face to face, but believe because we know the truth of the resurrection. He is alive and living in each one of our hearts.

**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 forever.

## **Alongsiders' Prayers for April 2021**

In the knowledge that God is present with us, let us pray.

Father, we thank you for the gifts of sight and insight, and ask you to be there is 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, for our priests, Rev. Wayne and Rev. Sam, in their demanding ministry of love, that they may be given all the support, grace and anointing they need.

Open our eyes: to see things in 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 so that our leaders may be free to serve.

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

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

Open our eyes: to see things in 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 them through the darkest of valleys.

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

## Alongsiders' Prayers for April 2021

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 we thank you for the privilege of knowing them here on earth.

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

Father, we thank you for loving us right through death into new 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**



***Open our eyes, Lord, We want to see Jesus!***



# Alongsiders' Prayers for April 2021

April 18, 2021

3<sup>rd</sup> 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 3: 12-19

Psalm 4

1 John 3: 1-7

Luke 24: 36b-48

By faith in God, we believe and trust in His word. We believe if we confess and repent of our sins, our God will forgive us and we will be forgiven. He will be with us to guide us and be our light in times of darkness and trials. No one goes through this life without struggles, but God, in His mercy, will provide a peace for us. We are His children. Do not doubt His love for us. He gave His life so we could live life abundantly and eternally.

**Collect:** O God, your Son made Himself known to His disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our 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 for ever.

Those who know Jesus and recognize that He is the anointed Saviour are commissioned to go out as His witnesses to proclaim the good news. Let us gather with our prayers before God, who knows each one of by name.



## **Alongsiders' Prayers for April 2021**

Father, we pray for those who don't know you and those who recently returned to you. Help us, as your Church, to support them and delight in them as members together of 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, cherished and respected for who they are.

Here I am, Lord: send me.

Father, as 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 will know 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 safe keeping of your love. We give thanks for all those who know and love us and help us

## **Alongsiders' Prayers for April 2021**

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**

### ***I Cannot Tell***

I cannot tell how he whom angels worship  
should stoop to love the peoples of the earth,  
or why as shepherd he should seek the wanderers  
with his mysterious promise of new birth.  
But this I know, that he was born of Mary,  
when Bethlehem's manger was his only home,  
and that he lived at Nazareth and laboured,  
and so the saviour, saviour of the world, is come.

I cannot tell how silently he suffered,  
as with his peace he graced this place of tears,  
nor how his heart upon the cross was broken,  
the crown of pain to three and thirty years.  
But this I know, he heals the broken-hearted,  
and stays our sin, and calms our lurking fear,  
and lifts the burden from the heavy laden,  
for still the saviour, saviour of the world, is here.

## **Alongsiders' Prayers for April 2021**

I cannot tell how he will win the nations,  
how he will claim his earthly heritage,  
how satisfy the needs and aspirations  
of east and west, of sinner and of sage.  
But this I know, all flesh shall see his glory,  
and he shall reap the harvest he has sown,  
and some glad day his sun shall shine in splendour  
when he the saviour, saviour of the world, is known.

I cannot tell how all the lands shall worship,  
when, at his bidding, every storm is stilled,  
or who can say how great the jubilation  
when all our hearts with love for him are filled.  
But this I know, the skies will sound his praises,  
ten thousand thousand human voices sing,  
and earth to heaven, and heaven to earth, will answer:  
'At last the saviour, saviour of the world, is king!'

**Rev. W. Y. Fullerton**

# Alongsiders' Prayers for April 2021

April 25, 2021

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

*I am the good Shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me.*  
*John 10: 14*

## Scripture Readings:

Acts 4: 5-12

Psalms 23

1 John 3: 16-24

John 10: 11-18

In Acts, Peter had no doubt that Jesus was the Son of God. He was filled with the Holy Spirit as he proclaimed the healing power of Jesus and His resurrection. In the gospel message of John, Jesus clearly states He is the Good Shepherd, the gatekeeper, and we are His sheep. All who hear His voice come to Him and listen. Let us be open to hear His voice today and always, leading us on the right path. We must follow according to His plan for us.

**Collect:** O God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that 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.

## **Alongsiders' Prayers for April 2021**

When asked if He really is the Christ, Jesus directs His questioners to look at His life in action, and see for themselves that He and the Father are one. As members together of the Body of Christ, let us pray to the true and living God.

We pray for the nurture of each member of the Church, 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 up to you Elizabeth our Queen, Justin our Prime Minister and Andrew our Premier, and all who govern and compile legislation, 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 for homes that are filled with suspicion and envy. We 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 April 2021**

We pray for those whose capacity for trust and love has been damaged by other people's sins. We long for your healing so all that are imprisoned by the 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**

## Alongsiders' Prayers for April 2021

*I am the Good Shepherd. As the Father knows me and I know the Father, in the same way I know my sheep and they know me. And I am willing to die for them.* John 10: 14-15

