

The Lord is our light and our salvation – whom shall we fear? Let us go to God in prayer.

We give you thanks, great God, for the hope we have in Jesus, who died but is risen and rules over all. We praise you for his presence with us. Because he lives, we look for eternal life, knowing that nothing past, present, or yet to come can separate us from your great love made known in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

God, we thank you for this Holy Week of worship and of remembering the loving sacrifice of Jesus Christ for the salvation of the world. We thank you for hearing the story of his suffering and death on Maundy Thursday, and we thank you for this opportunity to worship in our homes and to watch this video together on Easter Sunday to rejoice in his resurrection. As we are physically apart, remind us of our unity in you, and our identity as brothers and sisters because we are adopted children of God.

Like the disciples on the first Easter, we stay in our own homes, and we are afraid. We are unsure of what is going on in the world around us, and it feels that death is all around. Like you did to those disciples, appear to us today, Lord Jesus. Appear to us through the Holy Spirit in our hearts, through the faces of those around us, through the mysterious ways that you still act in the world today. Show us the new life that you promise to bring. Show us your power over death.

To you, O Lord, as the giver of new life and renewed hope, we bring our prayers for those members of our congregation who are in need. Hear us as we pray.

God of peace, make known your resurrection power for new life around the world. We pray especially for places that experience violence, places where people live in fear. Hear us as we pray.

Lord, in a world of darkness, you are the one true light. Your resurrection gives us a hope that nothing else can give. In the beauty of this season and in the love of our family and friends, we see a glimpse of your coming kingdom, and we hope with gratitude and with joy.

God of our salvation, you have restored us to life, you have brought us back again into your love by the triumphant death and resurrection of Christ: continue to heal us as we live and work in the power of your Spirit, to your praise and glory. We pray this in the name of the risen one, Jesus Christ. Amen.