

PRAYERS – SUNDAY 1th APRIL

Below are some prayer points you can use, whether you are alone, as a couple, or with your family. Feel free to add to them as you wish.

Or, of course, you can also come up with your own prayers.

Alternatively, you can use the full responsive prayer further below.

If there are several of you together you may wish to share the prayers. After each part the person praying may like to say; *Lord, in your mercy*, to which everyone else responds; **Hear our prayer**.

- Praise God that just as He revealed Himself to Thomas and the other disciples, that through His Word and our faith we are also now witnesses that Jesus is alive.
- Ask God to help us to live our lives as those who have seen Him, who do know Him, and who now want to live this out in all we do.
- Thank God for all the blessings we have. Think of the people in your life you are thankful for.
- Pray for anyone or anything you are concerned about: think of those people or nations struggling with COVID19, anyone you know who is going through a hard time, those who have lost their faith or are struggling with it.
- Pray for our leaders, and leaders everywhere, that they will provide wise and compassionate leadership during this crisis. Pray for all those on the frontline of protecting and treating us; doctors, nurses and other healthcare workers; police; etc.
- Thank God for the life we have and the life we can live!

A Responsive Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank you for the presence of your risen Son among us. Continue to send him by sending your word to convert hearts and minds to faith.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**.

Move all pastors to exercise the ministry of forgiveness with compassion and mercy. And move sinners to seek and benefit from your forgiveness through them. Make us all ready to comfort one another with the good news of the gospel.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**.

We pray for people in mental anguish and racked by doubt in themselves or in you. And we pray for those who find no purpose in life.

Give them peace, hope and confidence through the resurrection of Jesus.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Have mercy on those who live in areas where there is political or civil unrest, dear Father. Bring peace where there is war, and healing where there is hatred. And move us to help as we are able.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Watch over those who are unwell in mind, body and spirit: especially *(insert names here)*, and comfort those who mourn *(insert names here)*. Provide for all in need, including those known to us personally and whom we now name in our hearts... Be with all those who are struggling in any way with what is going on in our world at this time with COVID19.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

God of life, show us the risen Lord through your life-giving Spirit, so that we may be filled with faith to do the work you have given us to do. We ask this in the name of your Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**