



## CHURCH @ HOME SERVICE ORDER

Sunday, 19 April 2026  
Third Sunday of Easter



### A PRAYER FOR THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Holy Spirit of God, breathe life into this gathering.  
Move among us through Word and Sacrament,  
that faith may be kindled, hope renewed, and love made strong.  
Form us not only for this hour,  
but for lives of service and witness in the days ahead,  
to the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

### OPENING SENTENCES

*On the road of confusion and questions,  
when hope feels distant and hearts grow weary,  
Jesus draws near and walks with us.*  
*When the Scriptures are opened and God's promises are spoken,  
our hearts begin to burn within us.*  
*When the bread is broken and Christ makes himself known,  
our eyes are opened, and we see him.*

### INVOCATION

*In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.*  
Amen.

### GREETING ONE ANOTHER

**ABIDE, O DEAREST JESUS**

**O stay with us, Lord Jesus,  
among us with your grace,  
that Satan may not harm us,  
and we may live in peace.**

**Stay with us, our Redeemer,  
among us with your word,  
that we may know your goodness  
and faith in you be stirred.**

**Stay with your heavenly brightness  
among us, precious light;  
your truth keep us from error;  
surround us with your might.**

**Stay with your richest blessings  
among us, bounteous Lord;  
let us in grace and wisdom  
grow daily through your word.**

**Stay here with your protection  
among us, Lord our strength,  
and let the world and Satan  
be overcome at length.**

**O stay, our faithful Saviour  
among us with your love;  
grant steadfastness, and help us  
to reach our home above.**

Josua Stegmann 1588-1632, tr August Crull, rev  
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## **LORD HAVE MERCY**

*(spoken)*

*Lord, have mercy.*

**Lord, have mercy.**

*Christ, have mercy.*

**Christ, have mercy.**

*Lord, have mercy.*

**Lord, have mercy.**

## **YOU ARE GLORIOUS**

**You are glorious.**

**Ev'ry knee shall bow to one victorious,  
now exalted to the highest place of all,  
Every tongue confess that you are Lord of all,  
Lord of all.**

**And we belong to you,  
we love your name,  
the name above all other names  
and Your glory is upon us now  
as we worship you,  
King of Kings.**

**You are glorious.**

**Ev'ry knee shall bow to one victorious,  
now exalted to the highest place of all,  
Every tongue confess that you are Lord of all.  
Lord of all.**

Sharny Russel

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*The Lord be with you.*

**And also with you.**

*Let us pray.*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Lord Jesus Christ, you walk beside us on the road  
and open our hearts to the Scriptures.**

**Be known to us in Word and Meal,  
that our eyes may see you and our hearts burn with faith.  
Send us out in joy to tell the good news of your life and grace. Amen.**

## PSALM 116:1-4, 12-19

*I love the Lord, for he heard my voice;  
he heard my cry for mercy.*

*Because he turned his ear to me,  
I will call on him as long as I live.*

*The cords of death entangled me,  
the anguish of the grave came over me;  
I was overcome by distress and sorrow.*

*Then I called on the name of the Lord:  
‘Lord, save me!’*

*What shall I return to the Lord  
for all his goodness to me?*

*I will lift up the cup of salvation  
and call on the name of the Lord.*

*I will fulfil my vows to the Lord  
in the presence of all his people.*

*Precious in the sight of the Lord  
is the death of his faithful servants.*

*Truly I am your servant, Lord;  
I serve you just as my mother did;  
you have freed me from my chains.*

*I will sacrifice a thank-offering to you  
and call on the name of the Lord.*

*I will fulfil my vows to the Lord  
in the presence of all his people,  
in the courts of the house of the Lord –  
in your midst, Jerusalem.*

*Praise the Lord.*

**Glory to the Father and the Son  
and the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning, is now,  
and will be forever.  
Amen.**

**BIBLE READING**

**Acts 2:14a, 36-41:** Three thousand people repent and are baptised

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: ‘Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. ‘Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.’ When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, ‘Brothers, what shall we do?’ Peter replied, ‘Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off – for all whom the Lord our God will call.’ With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, ‘Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.’ Those who accepted his message were baptised, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

*After the reading*  
*This is the Word of the LORD.*  
**Thanks be to God.**

**1 Peter 1:17-23:** Set free by the sacrifice of Christ

Since you call on a Father who judges each person’s work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear. For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God. Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart. For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.

*After the reading*  
*This is the Word of the LORD.*  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Luke 24:13-35:** Jesus made known in the breaking of the bread

*Before the reading*

**Glory be to You, O LORD.**

Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; but they were kept from recognising him. He asked them, 'What are you discussing together as you walk along?' They stood still, their faces downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, 'Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?' 'What things?' he asked. 'About Jesus of Nazareth,' they replied. 'He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus.' He said to them, 'How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?' And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself. As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going further. But they urged him strongly, 'Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognised him, and he disappeared from their sight. They asked each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?' They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together and saying, 'It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognised by them when he broke the bread.

*After the reading*

*This is the gospel of the LORD.*

**Praise be to You, O Christ.**

## APOSTLE'S CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell.**

**The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven,  
and sits at the right hand of God, the Father almighty,  
from there He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

### OPEN THE EYES OF MY HEART

**Open the eyes of my heart Lord;  
open the eyes of my heart:  
I want to see You;  
I want to see You**

**Open the eyes of my heart Lord;  
open the eyes of my heart:  
I want to see You;  
I want to see You**

**To see You high and lifted up  
shining in the light of Your glory.  
Pour out Your power and love  
as we sing holy, holy, holy**

**Open the eyes of my heart Lord;  
open the eyes of my heart:  
I want to see You;  
I want to see You**

**Open the eyes of my heart Lord;  
open the eyes of my heart:  
I want to see You;  
I want to see You**

**To see You high and lifted up  
shining in the light of Your glory.  
Pour out Your power and love  
as we sing holy, holy, holy**

**Holy, holy, holy.  
Holy, holy, holy.  
Holy, holy, holy;  
I want to see You**

**Holy, holy, holy.  
Holy, holy, holy.  
Holy, holy, holy;  
I want to see You.**

**Open the eyes of my heart Lord;  
open the eyes of my heart:  
I want to see You;  
I want to see You**

**To see You high and lifted up  
shining in the light of Your glory.  
Pour out Your power and love  
as we sing holy, holy, holy**

**Holy, holy, holy.  
Holy, holy, holy.  
Holy, holy, holy;  
I want to see You**

**Paul Baloche  
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### **MESSAGE**

At this point you may wish to watch the Sermon.  
For Church YouTube Channel ([click here](#))  
For LCA Worship Resources ([click here](#))

## CONFESSION OF SINS

*Let us draw near to God our Father with a true heart to confess our sins,  
and ask Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.*

**Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor helpless sinner, confess to You all my sins,  
and repent of all the evil I have done. I have deeply displeased You and deserve Your  
punishment in time and in eternity. But I am sorry for my sins, and I ask You, for the  
sake of the holy innocent sufferings and death of Your dear Son Jesus Christ, to be  
gracious and merciful to me. Amen.**

*Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us, and has given His only Son to  
die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in His name He  
has given the right to become children of God, and has given them His Holy Spirit.  
Whoever believes and is baptised will be saved. Grant this, Lord, to us all. Amen.*

## JESUS, COME AND STAND AMONG US

**When disciples were frightened  
So confused that He was dead  
Jesus came and stood among them  
Peace be with you He said**

**He is risen risen  
He was dead but now He lives  
We were lost but He has found us  
With the life He gives**

**Can we see You can we touch You  
Like disciples long ago  
Would it make any diff'rence  
Do we doubt what we know**

**He is risen risen  
He was dead but now He lives  
We were lost but He has found us  
With the life He gives**

**Jesus come and stand among us  
Show Yourself to us again  
We will speak what You tell us  
We will go where You send**

**He is risen risen  
He was dead but now He lives  
We were lost but He has found us  
With the life He gives**

Robin Mann

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### **OFFERING PRAYER**

**Lord Jesus,  
you walk with us and make yourself known to us.  
Receive these gifts and our hearts,  
and use them to make your love known to others.  
Warm us by your Spirit to be witnesses of your resurrection. Amen.**

### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

*Our risen Lord Jesus revealed himself in the breaking of the bread. Let us pray that we may be fed with the bread of life.*

Gracious Heavenly Father, we thank and praise you for the incredible gift of your Son, and the life you give through your word and sacraments. We pray for all who hunger and thirst for righteousness and peace. Lead them to Jesus where true righteousness and peace may be found.

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

Risen Jesus, as we mark ANZAC Day this week, we remember, that like many of our Service men and women in the past, you laid down your life so that we might live. You have won the ultimate war and defeated our greatest enemy, death.

We give thanks for our country and the freedoms we enjoy. We remember those who died serving in the armed forces of our nation. Preserve our nation in peace, and in times of war, pandemic, oppression, economic hardship and health crisis. Give us the strength and courage to defend the cause of the vulnerable in our society, even at great personal cost.

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

We thank you for blessing us with your bountiful goodness. Help us all to share willingly of all which you have first given to us.

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

We pray for those with disabilities. Comfort and strengthen them and give fair and equal access to services for all who need them. Bless those who work with people with disabilities and give them strength, integrity and compassion in their work.

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

Help those around the world who are living in poverty and give them what they need. Fill us with generosity to give to people in need as we are able to.

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

Bless and protect all people who are sick and the dying and all who hunger for health. Bring your perfect healing to all who need it, and especially bring that ultimate healing of eternal life, through Jesus.

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

We pray for God's guidance and blessings for all members and friends of our congregation. Today we pray for Bevan; Keith & Bev; Judy; Anja; Malcolm & Esther. Please keep them strong in faith, active in love, and hopeful in all things.

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

Father, we thank and praise you that by the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, you have swallowed up death for ever and opened up the way for all people to sit with you at the feast of eternal life. Feed us now and always with the bread of life, our Lord Jesus Christ, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father in heaven,**

**hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come,**

**Your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins**

**as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours**

**now and forever. Amen.**

**BLESSING TO SHARE**

*May Jesus walk with you wherever you go.*

**May Jesus walk with you wherever you go.**

*May his Word warm your heart and give you hope.*

**May his Word warm your heart and give you hope.**

*May you go in joy, knowing he is alive and with you.*

**May you go in joy, knowing he is alive and with you. Amen.**

**FATHER, BLESS US**

**Father, bless us as we go.**

**Jesus, walk beside us.**

**Holy Spirit, guide us.**

**Father, bless us as we go.**

**Jesus, walk beside us.**

**Holy Spirit, guide us.**

**Father, bless us as we go.**

**Jesus, walk beside us.**

**Holy Spirit, guide us.**

Robin Mann