

# PRAYER IN THE HOME

## EASTER 7: SUNDAY 24 MAY

PLUS: EVENING ZOOM MEET UP 7.00PM 17 MAY

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### GATHERING

Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Christ has ascended on high.

**He reigns for ever. Alleluia.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord. Alleluia.**

Let us light a candle to remember that God's light shines in the darkness and the darkness can never put it out.

**May the light of Christ, risen, ascended and glorified, banish all darkness from our hearts and minds.**

### PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

### COLLECT for Easter 7

Risen, ascended Lord,  
as we rejoice at your triumph,  
fill your Church on earth with power and compassion,  
that all who are estranged by sin  
may find forgiveness and know your peace,  
to the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

### PSALM 47

<sup>1</sup> Clap your hands, all you peoples;  
shout to God with loud songs of joy.

<sup>2</sup> **For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome,  
a great king over all the earth.**

<sup>3</sup> He subdued peoples under us,  
and nations under our feet.

<sup>4</sup> **He chose our heritage for us,  
the pride of Jacob whom he loves.**

<sup>5</sup> God has gone up with a shout,  
the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

<sup>6</sup> **Sing praises to God, sing praises;  
sing praises to our King, sing praises.**

<sup>7</sup> For God is the king of all the earth;  
sing praises with a psalm.

<sup>8</sup> **God is king over the nations;  
God sits on his holy throne.**

<sup>9</sup> The princes of the peoples gather  
as the people of the God of Abraham.

<sup>10</sup> **For the shields of the earth belong to God;  
he is highly exalted.**

### HYMN

Hail the day that sees him rise

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mC06U0apiK8>

## **BIBLE READING** Acts 1.6-12

*<sup>6</sup> When the apostles had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” <sup>7</sup> He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” <sup>9</sup> When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup> While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup> They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.” <sup>12</sup> Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away.*

## **SERMON** Rev Ann Brodie: <https://stbcc.co.uk/sermons>

- 1 When has your faith in Jesus Christ been encouraged by the words of others?
- 2 Put yourself in the shoes of the apostles. How do you think you might feel on hearing Jesus’ words in verse 8?
- 3 How seriously do you take your own commission as a disciple of Christ in the present day?

## **INTERCESSIONS & CLOSING PRAYER**

Let us pray to the Lord,  
who is our refuge and stronghold.

For the health and well-being of our nation,  
that all who are fearful and anxious  
may be at peace and free from worry:  
Lord, hear us,  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

For the isolated and housebound,  
that we may be alert to their needs,  
and care for them in their vulnerability:  
Lord, hear us,  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

For our homes and families,  
our schools and young people,  
and all in any kind of need or distress:  
Lord, hear us,  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

For a blessing on our local community,  
that our neighbourhoods may be places of trust and friendship,  
where all are known and cared for:  
Lord, hear us,  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

We commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray,  
to the mercy and protection of God.  
Merciful Father,  
**accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

Trusting in the compassion of God,  
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:  
**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 for ever. Amen.**

The Spirit of truth lead you into all truth,  
give you grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
and strengthen you to proclaim the word and works of God.