Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Silence is kept

Merciful Father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd, and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again:

keep us always under his protection, and give us grace to follow in his steps;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Thine be the glory, risen conquering Son
Endless is the victory, thou o'er death hast won
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away
Kept the folded grave clothes where thy body lay
Thine be the glory, risen conquering Son
Endless is the victory, thou o'er death hast won

(Edmund Budry, Tr, Richard Hoyle)

May the risen Christ grant us the joys of eternal life. Amen

Let us bless the Lord Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

A Reflective Service for worship in isolation during the season of Easter

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Keep a short silence, still your heart. You may like to light a candle.



Lord God, as I come into your presence, still my body, open my heart and focus my mind, that I may know your Spirit drawing me closer to you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. (Mt 28:5f)

We come before God with honesty, and with confidence in his love and mercy. In a moment's silence, call to mind the things that are separating you from Him.

Words of confession

Lord Jesus you raise us to new life.

Lord have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you forgive our sins.

Christ have mercy.

Lord Jesus you are the living bread who satisfies our hunger. Lord have mercy.

Absolution

Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. You must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus

(Romans 6:4 &11)

The Word

Read some verses from a Psalm, take them slowly and take a moment to think about them before moving on.

Sundays: Psalm 150 Mondays: Psalm 67

Tuesdays: Psalm 9 verses 1-2 and 7-11

Wednesdays: Psalm 98

Thursdays (except Ascension Day): 100 Fridays: Psalm 102 verses 1-3 and 13

Saturdays: Psalm 122

For Ascension Day (21 May) Psalm 113

Now, a passage from the New Testament. Take a moment to reflect on what it might have meant to those who first wrote it and also what it says to you at this moment. (NB "1 John" means the First Letter of John, not John's Gospel)

> Sundays: Matthew 28:1-10 <u>or</u> John 20:1-18 Mondays: John 20:19-29 <u>or</u> Colossians 3:1-4 Tuesdays: John 21:15-19 or 1 Peter 1:3-9

Wednesdays: Matthew 28:16-20 or Revelation 21:1-6

Thursdays (except Ascension Day):

Luke 24:13-35 <u>or</u> 1 John 4:7-12

Fridays: Luke 24:36-49 or 1 John 5:1-6

Saturdays: John 21:15-19 <u>or</u> Acts of the Apostles 4:32-35 For Ascension Day (21 May) Acts of the Apostles 1:6-11

We affirm our faith in God.

Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures; he was buried; he was raised to life on the third day

in accordance with the Scriptures; afterwards he appeared to his followers, and to all the apostles: this we have received, and this we believe. Amen.

(These words are drawn from St.Paul's teaching about Resurrection in chapter 15 of his first letter to the Corinthians. You might like to try reading the whole chapter.)

Prayers: We give thanks to God for his goodness and intercede for others in the quiet of our hearts.

First take a few moments to call to mind some things for which you are thankful.

Risen Lord, we bless you. Alleluia!

Now, we turn our attention outwards to the needs of others

Lord, meet us in the silence and hear our prayer.

- Pray for renewal for places where there is violence, corruption or poverty
- Pray for your family and your neighbours; for a new sense of community among people
- Prayer for leaders everywhere, for a renewed sense of commitment to their most needy people
- Pray for those who work in the NHS; for all who are suffering from Covid19; for all who wait and watch with them, and all who are frightened or lonely
- Pray for yourself in your isolation, that you would know God is with you and let God minister to you