

Prayers

Matthew 28 Easter Prayer (Lysa TerKeurst)

"Do not be afraid," - God, I hand over to You those things that make me so afraid.
Resurrect the parts of my faith squelched by fear.

"I know that you are looking for Jesus," - God, when my soul is searching, help me know
the answer to every longing can be found in You.

"He has risen," - God, the fact that Jesus is risen should lift my head, my heart and my
attitude. Help me to live today as if I really believe this with every part of my life.

"just as he said," - Jesus, You keep Your promises. Help me live as though I believe that
with every part of me. Help me trust You more, obey You more and resemble You more.

"Come and see," - Jesus, You had the angels invite the women in to see for themselves
that You had risen. You invite me into these personal revelations every day. Forgive me for
sometimes rushing about and forgetting to come and see for myself ... You, Your Word, Your
insights.

"Then go quickly and tell his disciples," - Jesus, I don't want to be a secret keeper with my
faith. I want to be a bold and gracious truth proclaimer. For You. With You. Because of You.
Me, the unwanted person whom You loved, redeemed and wanted.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Thank you, Lord, for those working in the front line during this crisis (Nick Fawcett)

Thank you, Lord, for those working in the front line during this crisis,
confronting the challenge of coronavirus head on.

Thank you for hospital staff –

doctors,

nurses,

consultants,

pharmacists,

support workers

and so many others behind the scenes –

caring,

treating,

comforting,

sustaining,

sometimes at real personal risk to themselves.

Thank you for GPs,

district nurses,

helpline staff,

and those working in the community,

offering guidance and support to those in special need.

Thank you for these people:

for their dedication,

professionalism,

compassion,
and giving of themselves above and beyond the call of duty.
Support them in all the pressures they face,
and help them to cope with the extra workload,
the limited resources,
the emotional and physical demands made upon them,
so that, through their work and skills,
you may show your love
and bring your healing.
Amen.

Responsive prayer – the world around

We give you thanks and praise, O God of creation, for the grandeur of all that you have made, saying

We thank you, Father God.

For the healing waters of creation, which bring pleasure and health, purity and life,

We thank you, Father God.

For the richness of the good Earth that brings forth fruits and flowers, a pleasure to taste and a joy to behold,

We thank you, Father God.

For the soaring birds of the air, the crawling creatures on the Earth, the gliding fishes in the seas, for all creatures great and small with whom we share this precious web of life,

We thank you, Father God.

For the invigorating sunlight of day, the deepening mystery of night, the wonder of the stars, and the call of the unknown in the universe,

We thank you, Father God.

From heedless misuse and dishonouring of the wonders of your hand,

Gracious Lord deliver us.

From squandering resources, abusing our companion species, and polluting the habitat we all share,

Gracious Lord deliver us.

From the folly of imagining ourselves free from the fate of your whole creation,

Gracious Lord deliver us.

For the courage and wisdom to confess how little we have cared for your gifts,

Strengthen us, O Spirit.

For the conviction that you have called us to love and restore the Earth,

Strengthen us, O Spirit.

For repentance and the determination to begin our stewardship anew,

Strengthen us, O Spirit.

O merciful Creator, your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature: Make us always thankful for your loving providence; and grant that we, remembering the account that we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your good gifts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever, Amen