

DEVOTIONS FOR THURSDAY

The Resurrection of Christ: The Household of Faith, the Church

Opening Sentence

God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth. (John 4:24)

Opening Words

O Lord, open my lips
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Make me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence
and take not your holy spirit from me.

Give me again the joy of your salvation
and sustain me with your gracious spirit.

Canticle — Te Deum ('You Are God')

Part 1

- 1 We praise you, O God,
 we acclaim you as the Lord;
 all creation worships you,
 the Father everlasting.
- 2 To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,
 the cherubim and seraphim, sing in endless praise:
- 3 Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.
- 4 The glorious company of apostles praise you;
 the noble fellowship of prophets praise you.
- 5 The white-robed army of martyrs praise you;
 throughout the world, the holy Church acclaims you:
- 6 Father, of majesty unbounded,
 your true and only Son, worthy of all praise,
 the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

Part 2

- 7 You, Christ, are the King of glory,
 the eternal Son of the Father.
- 8 When you took our flesh to set us free,
 you humbly chose the Virgin's womb.

9 You overcame the sting of death
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.
10 You are seated at God's right hand in glory:
we believe that you will come to be our judge.
11 Come then, Lord, and help your people,
bought with the price of your own blood,
12 and bring us with your saints
to glory everlasting.

Reading — Romans 12:1-2

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Intercessions — The Resurrection of Christ: The Household of Faith, the Church

Eternal God,
you have raised Jesus Christ from the dead
and exalted him to your right hand in glory;
through him you have called your Church into being,
that your people might know you

and make your name known.

INTERCESSION

We pray for THE CHURCH
the Church universal, and local ...
the unity of the Church ...
the ministries of the Church ...
the mission of the Church ...
the renewal of the Church ...
all Christians in this place ...

THANKSGIVING

Eternal God, we give you thanks
for the apostolic gospel committed to your Church,
the continuing presence and power of your Spirit,
the ministry of Word, Sacrament and Prayer ...
for the mission in which you have called us to share,
the will to unity, and its fruit in common action,
the faithful witness of those who are true to Christ ...
for all works of compassion
and every service that proclaims your love.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

In peace and unity may your people offer the unfailing sacrifice of
praise, and make your glory known; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Collect

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light,
look favourably on your whole Church,
that wonderful and sacred mystery,
and by the tranquil operation of your perpetual providence
carry out the work of our salvation:
and let the whole world feel and see
that things which were cast down are being raised up
and things which had grown old are being made new
and that all things are returning to perfection
through him from whom they took their origin,
even Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

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.

Closing Words

To the King of Ages,
immortal, invisible, the only God,
be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen. (*1 Timothy 1:17*)