

...and does God not answer those who shout out with prayers of thanksgiving, praise and intercession?

Let us pray,

Holy God,  
you have raised Jesus to be with you, and we sing to you in joy.

Send your spirit, as promised, to take away our hatred and fear,  
and grant us the peace of Christ.

Help us not to dwell too much on the past, keeping you on the Galilean Hills  
and in the streets of Jerusalem, but to know you more and more as one who is present,  
risen, ascended, and will always be with us through the power of the Holy Spirit.

We have much to be thankful for, help us to remember the little things you have  
given us that make our life so rich. Sometimes they are right in front of us.  
Thank for the gift of the ascended Jesus. We know there is a room for us.

Let us hold up to God all those who Christ calls to follow in his footsteps  
when faith is great  
when faith is little  
when faith is sure  
when faith clings by a fingernail  
when faith sees clearly  
when faith stumbles in the dark  
when faith reassures  
when faith challenges  
when faith is easy  
when following brings conflict.  
And for those who follow Christ with determination, and those whose walk is unsteady.

Today we pray gun violence here in our communities, and all over the world, will  
come to an end. We pray for the families of loved ones who were killed inside a  
school in Kazan, Russia. Seven children and two adults died from gunfire. We pray  
you will bring understanding and peace to those who live with guns.

We pray today for those we know and love who seek the gentle touch of your healing hand.

We pray for all those who know the pain of losing a loved one.

We pray for those we love whose names are on our prayer list,  
we know some of the names, you know all of the names.

We offer our own personal prayers;

.....

We pray for the refugees. We pray for the lost and the lonely, the abandoned, the hungry. Those on the edge of society, the uncertain and the fragile.

Today we pray for, and celebrate, all new ministers and pastors who have graduated from places of learning, and now plan to serve you and the church wherever you call them. The celebrations won't be the same as in the past, but we pray they may celebrate your love in their hearts as they continue the journey you have sent them on.

We sing with joy as we think of all who are celebrating a birthday, anniversary, a graduation or the other occasions that bring happiness this week...and into next week...and into...!

We thank you for the many volunteers who are giving the Covid-vaccine to so many of us. Help us all to be patient while the world continues to receive their vaccine.

We pray all these things in the holy goodness of your names,  
saying the prayer Jesus taught us;

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy names.

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, and power, and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.