



**St Edmunds Church Taverham
and St Peter's Church Ringland
12th April 2026**

Though the nations rage, kingdoms rise and fall

There is still one King reigning over all
So I will not fear for this truth remains
That my God is, the Ancient of Days

*None above Him, none before Him
All of time in His hands
For His throne it shall remain and ever stand
All the power, all the glory
I will trust in His name
For my God is, the Ancient of Days*

Though the dread of night overwhelms my soul
He is here with me, I am not alone
O His love is sure, and He knows my name
For my God is, the Ancient of Days

Though I may not see what the future brings
I will watch and wait for the Saviour King
Then my joy complete standing face to face
In the presence of the Ancient of Days
(CityAlight)

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

We have not seen the risen Christ,
**But we see him in the lives
of those transformed by grace.**
We have not seen Jesus face-to-face,

**But we have seen him in the faces
of everyone whose love encourages us.**

We have not touched the wounds from the cross,
**But we have been called
to bring healing to the scarred of the world.**

I serve a risen Saviour

He's in the world today
I know that He is living
Whatever men may say
I see His hand of mercy
I hear His voice of cheer
And just the time I need Him
He's always near

*He lives He lives
Christ Jesus lives today
He walks with me and talks with me
Along life's narrow way
He lives He lives
Salvation to impart
You ask me how I know He lives
He lives within my heart*

In all the world around me
I see His loving care
And though my heart grows weary
I never will despair
I know that He is leading
Through all the stormy blast
The day of His appearing
Will come at last

Rejoice rejoice O Christian
Lift up your voice and sing
Eternal hallelujahs
To Jesus Christ the King
The Hope of all who seek Him
The Help of all who find
None other is so loving
So good and kind
(Alfred Henry Ackley)

Prayer of the Day

Holy God, Lover of your children:
the tomb has been opened,
and we dance into your future.
Your life has dawned on us,
and we surround you with our praise.
You reach out your hand,
and lead us into joy.

Jesus Christ, Faithful Witness:
you pick open the locked doors of our hearts
and come in to be with us forever.

You breathe peace into our souls,
so we may bring healing
to a troubled world.

Holy Spirit, Breath of Peace:
you show us our hearts,
so we may give love to others.
You show us our hands,
sending us to serve the needy.
You show us your hope,
so we may live in your joy.
(Thom Shuman)

God in Community, Holy in One,
who is, who was, and who is to come,
hear us as we pray as you have taught us:

**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.**

Hear the echoes of our locked hearts, Path of Life. We cross the borders into temptation and never seem to find our way back. We multiply the sorrows of others by our hurtful words and the harmful deeds we do. We see the ones you would give us to serve, but believe we do not have the abilities to care for them.

Have mercy on us, God whose Breath gives us life. Walk through the closed doors of our worries and doubts to stand in our midst, offering us that grace which can heal us, that hope which can enliven us, and that faith which enables us to follow Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.

It is God's great mercy through the resurrection of Jesus which gives us that hope which lives within us.

Thanks be to God for this precious gift by which we are able to believe and rejoice in our inheritance. Amen.

(Thom Shuman)

Jesus, what a beautiful name

Son of God, son of man, Lamb that was slain
Joy and peace, strength and hope
Grace that blows all fear away
Jesus, what a beautiful name

Jesus, what a beautiful name
Truth revealed, my future sealed, healed my pain
Love and freedom, life and warmth
Grace that blows all fear away
Jesus, what a beautiful name

Jesus, what a beautiful name
Rescued my soul, my stronghold, lifts me from shame
Forgiveness, security, power and love
Grace that blows all fear away
Jesus, what a beautiful name

Jesus, what a beautiful name
Praise for Your love, in Heaven above, passions aflame
Beauty, tenderness, life in Your light
Grace that blows all fear away
Jesus, what a beautiful name
(Hillsong)

Keep me safe, O God,
for I come to you for refuge.
In your presence, O God, is joy and contentment.
Show me the path that leads to life.

You are my Lord.
Every good thing I have comes from you.
In your presence, O God, I find joy and contentment.
Show me the path that leads to life.

I bless the Lord,
whose wise teaching guides my days
and centres my mind at night.
God is always present with me.
I will not live in fear, or abandon my calling,
for his presence surrounds me wherever I go.
In your presence, O God, I find joy and contentment.
Show me the path that leads to life.

So my heart is glad,
my soul is full of joy and contentment,
and my body is at rest.
Who could ask for anything more?
In your presence, O God, I find joy and contentment.
Show me the path that leads to life. (based on Psalm 16)

A reading from the gospel according to John beginning at chapter 20 verse 19

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.'

After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!'

Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

We Believe

Faith demands choice.

By the grace of Christ, we can choose.

We choose to believe

that light is better than darkness,

sharing is better than hoarding,

truth is better than deceit,

mercy is better than revenge,

love is better than indifference,

God is stronger than chaos.

We choose to have faith in the God who is love
and choice will verify itself
on the long and narrow road of life.

By grace, we choose to choose faith.

Thanks be to God!

(Bruce Prewer)

All I once held dear, built my life upon

All this world reveres and wants to own
All I once thought gain, I have counted loss
Spent and worthless now, compared to this

*Knowing You, Jesus, knowing You
There is no greater thing
You're my all, You're the best
You're my joy, my righteousness
And I love You, Lord*

Now my heart's desire is to know You more
To be found in You and known as Yours
To possess by faith what I could not earn
All-surpassing gift of righteousness

Oh, to know the power of Your risen life
And to know You in Your sufferings
To become like You in Your death, oh Lord
So with You to live and never die
(Graham Kendrick)

Risen Christ,
for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:
open the doors of our hearts,
that we may seek the good of others
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace,
to the praise of God the Father. **Amen.**

See, what a morning, gloriously bright

With the dawning of hope in Jerusalem
Folded the grave clothes, tomb filled with light
As the angels announce Christ is risen!

See God's salvation plan
*Wrought in love, borne in pain, paid in sacrifice
Fulfilled in Christ, the Man
For He lives, Christ is risen from the dead*

See Mary weeping, "Where is He laid"?
As in sorrow she turns from the empty tomb
Hears a voice speaking, calling her name
It's the Master, the Lord raised to life again

*The voice that spans the years
Speaking life, stirring hope, bringing peace to us
Will sound till He appears
For He lives, Christ is risen from the dead*

One with the Father, Ancient of Days
Through the Spirit who clothes faith with certainty
Honour and blessing, glory and praise
To the King crowned with power and authority

*And we are raised with Him
Death is dead, love has won, Christ has conquered
And we shall reign with Him
For He lives, Christ is risen from the dead
(Stuart Townend / Keith Getty)*

Jesus said: "Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I am now sending you".

He believes in you. The busy world awaits your compassion.

God believes in us.

Sometimes you will give your best yet fail.

God believes in us

At other times you will succeed in spite of your stumbling.

God believes in us

Go gladly, daring to succeed or fail to the glory of God,
and then at the very end, nothing shall dismay you.

God believes in us

With Christ's own breath within us, we shall travel well.

The help of the saving Christ,
the wisdom of the Living God,
and the support of the loving Spirit,
 will be with you
every step of the way, now and always.
Amen! (Bruce Prewer)

O Lord, who made the world for all of us, hear my prayer

O Lord, guide my heart and walk with me, always, everywhere
Keep me safe as I venture far abroad
Hold me close, as the warrior, his sword
And Lord, let me see the path ahead, be my reward

*Always, everywhere, You are by my side
Through the storm and the night, in You I confide
Your light will lead me on, wherever I roam
Always, everywhere, You'll bring me home*

Through valleys low and mountains high, I go on
Your voice will call me where the rivers flow
And the blackbird sings his song
When shadows fall, doubts cloud my way
Your hands will lift me, keep my fears at bay
And I'll sing Your precious name out loud, every day

Always, always and everywhere
You guide me, You lead me, You hear my prayer
Long night, cold days, You warm my heart
Forever, always, never apart

In the quiet, in the night, in the light of dawn's first sight
Your love surrounds me, keeps my spirits high
Through the long and fearful fight
O I'm yours, you've always loved me so
You are the truth that my heart longs to know
And I'll sing this song of love wherever I go
(Nick Moore, March 2026)

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