

COMPANIONS OF BROTHER LAWRENCE  
MONDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2021



God of new life, we praise you for the gift of this day.

We praise you for all green growing things and the joy jumps of lambs in the fields.

We praise you for lengthening days and the return of Spring.

We praise you for Spring sunshine warming our faces and lifting our spirits.

We praise you for the glory of golden daffodils in hedgerows and gardens trumpeting their own Easter hymns of praise.

**Hymn 268** – Jesus is Lord

**Companions Prayer**

O God, here we are, all devoted to you. Make us according to your heart.

In Christ make us one that the world may believe. Mould us according to your heart.

**Loving God,**

We come as your Easter people to praise you once more and give thanks for the Good news of Easter and the triumphant message of resurrection – new hope, new joy, new life!

Thank you for the wonderful truth revealed in the Easter stories – your love that couldn't be quenched, your purpose which couldn't be defeated and your goodness that couldn't be destroyed.

Reveal to us once more the truth that resurrection isn't just about life after death, but about constant new beginnings and the amazing way you in which you are able to transform every part of our lives, the way by your spirit, you are always bringing about renewal. Speak to us again today. Make your presence known in all we see and hear and do.

**Amen**

### **Reading - He is Risen!**

Fleeing from the garden, most struggled back to Bethany, Peter and John to Jerusalem. Now the Sabbath and the Passover were over it seemed safe to mingle with others in the streets; slowly and separately they came to Mary's house, still afraid that they might be arrested and suffer the same fate as their Master. Still in grief and shock, they shared the horror of what had happened on Friday and planned their return to Galilee.

Then Jesus came. Those wounds in his side, hands and feet, the scars where he had been flogged convinced them and they welcomed him with shamefaced joy.

He breathed peace over them: a peace dispelling doubt and fear, of knowing their betrayals were forgiven, peace binding them together and to him, nerving them for coming days.

### **Hymn 240 – Jesus, Lord, Redeemer**

#### **Pastoral Prayer by Susan Miller**

In the evening when the disciples meet  
Frightened behind locked doors  
You come to them with words of peace.  
For wicked plots have failed,  
And the cruelty of the world has come to nothing,

And the betrayal and the denial of friends have not prevailed.

Life-giving God,  
We give you thanks  
For Jesus has risen.  
He comes to us today with words of peace

In government rooms where politicians meet  
In city board rooms where executives plan  
In court rooms where lawyers debate  
**Come with your words of peace**

In hospital rooms where people are waiting  
In prison cells where people are afraid  
In homes where people struggle to make ends meet  
**Come with your words of peace**

Come to us whenever we are afraid  
whenever we are grieving.  
**Come with your words of peace**

Come to us now as we pray in silence  
for those we care for and are worried about  
**Come with your words of peace**

### **Prayers for our fellow Companions**

Speak out the names of each of our fellow Companions then use this prayer –

In this season of new life, new hope and new beginnings, we pray for those who are struggling with broken dreams and crushed hopes.

We pray for those who cannot see the way forward and who are weary and disheartened. Come in your resurrection power to strengthen, encourage and renew their faith.

Bring faith where there is doubt, peace of mind where there is confusion, hope where there is despair, wisdom where there is uncertainty and your gift of love.

Be near to them loving risen Lord, speak their name and make yourself known.

Come to us now and share with us all your resurrection life. Amen (Susan Miller)

### **Words from Brother Lawrence**

Walk with God in simple faith, with humility and with love, and try diligently to do nothing that would displease him.

Make it your goal to persevere simply and solely in his presence, maintaining habitual, silent and secret conversation of your soul with God,  
And trust that when you have done all you can, he will do what is best for you.

### **Blessing**

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all now and forever more Amen.



My peace I give you