

Risen Christ,

We adore You!
For by Your cross, You have redeemed the world

Though we are in the midst of uncertain times, we celebrate Your resurrection!

Over this weekend, Your people everywhere lament that they cannot be together to praise You with collective voice for what You have done.

You are truly worthy of our praise! And though we do not raise our voices together in the same physical space, we *do* raise them together, wherever we are, to glorify Your holy NAME (יהוה) and to rejoice that You are alive, and that You are continuing to bring your kingdom.

So we cheer You on, as we pray anew - “Thy kingdom come, O LORD.” (יהוה)

Today, we reflect on the stories of Your resurrection...

Your Gospel writers tell us that, on resurrection morning, Mary went to Your tomb to attend to Your body. There she found that You were gone, and went immediately to inform Your friends.

May we live out Your resurrection to others. May others be blessed, changed, because we live life fully, and according to Your wisdom.

We read that, on hearing from Mary that she was at the tomb and did not find Your body, Your friends Peter and John ran to the tomb. They found You were not there, but they did not quite understand that Your absence from the tomb was the fulfillment of Your promise to rise!

Lord Christ, in these uncertain times, as we view the plight of Your world, we struggle to sense the hope of Your resurrection; the presence of Your rule. God, in Your loyal love and mercy (רחמים), attend to our anxieties, our fears, our doubts that You hold Your creation close to You, even now.

As your friends left the tomb, Mary stayed, weeping. With teary eyes, she turned and saw You, her Lord! At first, she did not recognize you. And then, hearing you speak her name brought Your being into focus

Living Christ, may we recognize You when you speak our names. May the world around us never be so in focus as when we turn and see You. When You speak, may we answer Your call to live out Your love in the midst of chaos. Grow in us the sense that we are all connected to each other, especially in these days of separation. And may we be helping hands, friendly words, and advocates for those who are in need; active with You, as You live for us.

From the tomb, Your servant Mary went straight to the disciples to tell them she had seen You!

May we know the Spirit's voice inside of us. And, with Mary, may our lives say to each other, to Your church, and to the world –

‘We have seen the Lord!’

You are alive!
And we live for You.

We adore You, Risen Christ,
For by Your cross, You have redeemed the world.

Amen