

ANZAC DAY PRAYER

Saturday 25 April 2020

For Families and other
gatherings of the
Domestic Church



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Jesus himself stood
among them and
said to them,
'Peace be with
you!'

Lk 24:36

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Leader: We show our respect and acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land, of elders past and present, on which this gathering takes place.

OPENING PRAYER

Leader: Gracious and loving God,
the cross of Christ is the sign
of your desire for justice and peace for all.

Open our minds to your vision
as we remember all who suffered
through Australia and New Zealand's involvement
in wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations.

Grant all servicepersons
who sacrificed health and life for the good of all,
the gift of your deep peace.

May we who inherit the freedom for which they fought
become instruments of your peace
in our homes, workplaces and world.

We ask this prayer through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

GOSPEL *Lk 24:35-48*

Reader 1: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

The disciples told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised Jesus at the breaking of bread.

They were still talking about all this when Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you!' In a state of alarm and fright, they thought they were seeing a ghost. But he said, 'Why are you so agitated, and why are these doubts rising in your hearts? Look at my hands and feet; yes, it is I indeed. Touch me and see for yourselves; a ghost has no flesh and bones as you can see I have.' And as he said

this he showed them his hands and feet. Their joy was so great that they still could not believe it, and they stood there dumbfounded; so he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' And they offered him a piece of grilled fish, which he took and ate before their eyes.

Then he told them, 'This is what I meant when I said, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses, in the Prophets and in the Psalms, has to be fulfilled.' He then opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'So you see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.'

The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

REFLECTION

Please take a few moments to silently reflect upon the words attributed to Kemal Ataturk in 1934 as a tribute to the Anzacs killed at Gallipoli.

*Those heroes that shed their blood and lost their lives ...
You are now lying in the soil of a friendly country. Therefore
rest in peace. There is no difference between the Johnnies
and the Mehmetts to us where they lie side by side here in
this country of ours ... You, the mothers who sent their sons
from faraway countries, wipe away your tears; your sons are
now lying in our bosom and are in peace. After having lost
their lives on this land they have become our sons as well.*

Mustafa Kemal Ataturk (1881-1938).

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

Leader: Let us pray:

Reader: For the holy Church of God, that the Lord may graciously watch over us and care for us, *(pause)* God of peace ...

All: Hear our prayer.

Reader: For the peoples of all the world, that the Lord may graciously preserve harmony among them, especially those who are affected by tragedy, *(pause)* God of peace ...

All: Hear our prayer.

Reader: For all who are oppressed by any kind of need, that the Lord may graciously grant them relief, *(pause)* God of peace ...

All: Hear our prayer.

Reader: For all affected by the global coronavirus crisis, that the Spirit of peace will fill our locked rooms and hearts and heal our broken lives. *(pause)* God of peace ...

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: O God, our refuge and our strength, hear the prayers of your Church, for you yourself are the source of all devotion, and grant, we pray, that what we ask in faith we may truly obtain. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

ODE OF REMEMBRANCE

Reader: They went with songs to the battle
They were young, straight of limb,
True of eye, steady and aglow,
They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted,
They fell with their faces to the foe.
They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old,
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn,
At the going down of the sun, and in the morning,
We will remember them. *Laurence Binyon (1869–1943)*

All: We will remember them.

*We listen in silent contemplation to the playing of [♫The Last Post](#) after which **one minute's silence** is observed.*

Reader: Lest we forget.

All: Lest we forget.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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