## A Prayer for Easter Sunday

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** *source: Book of Common Prayer, 1979 version, Protestant Episcopal Church in the USA.* 

## Contemporary Easter Prayer

O Lord, How amazing is your love, A love that overcomes, endures and redeems. How astounding is your life, A life that sustains, heals and creates. How awesome is your hope, A hope that promises, restores and inspires. How absorbing is your truth, A truth that releases, changes and rebuilds.

How we worship you, as we remember the moment when your love conquered. When out of the cave of sorrow Jesus arose to release forgiveness to the world. And each time we encounter this resurrection day we are again lifted to an eternal place. Our sin, brokenness and darkness fall away and your light and peace flood our lives. How we thank you for this incredible celebration we call Easter. Amen.

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O Christ, the brightness of God's glory and express image of his person, whom death could not conquer, nor the tomb imprison; as you have shared our mortal frailty in the flesh, help us to share your immortal triumph in the spirit. Let no shadow of the grave affright us and no fear of darkness turn our hearts from you. Reveal yourself to us as the first and the last, the Living One, our immortal Savior and Lord. *Henry Van Dyke* 

Eternal God,

we praise you that your glory has dawned on us, and brought us into this Day of Resurrection. We rejoice that the grave could not hold your Son, and that he has conquered death, and risen to rule over all powers of this earth.

We praise you that he summons us into new life, to follow him with joy and gladness.

By your Spirit, lift us from doubt and despair, and set our feet in Christ's holy way,

that our lives may be signs of his life, and all we have may show forth his love.

Praise, glory, and thanksgiving to you, our God, forever and ever. Amen.

(Book of Common Worship, W/JKP, 1993, pp. 321-322)