

## **Resurrection Light**

Risen Christ, when darkness overwhelms us  
**may your dawn beckon.**

When fear paralyses us  
**may your touch release us.**

When grief torments us  
**may your peace enfold us.**

When memories haunt us  
**may your presence heal us.**

When justice fails us  
**may your anger ignite us.**

When apathy stagnates us  
**may your challenge renew us.**

When courage leaves us  
**may your spirit inspire us.**

When despair grips us  
**may your hope restore us.**

And when death threatens us  
**may your resurrection light lead us. Amen.**

*Annabel Shilson-Thomas/CAFOD*

## **Overcoming the Cross of hunger**

Risen Lord,  
shed your light on those who live in the shadow of death  
and warm the hearts of those who have lost hope,  
that they who daily bear the cross of hunger  
may find your Promised Land,  
and move from slavery to freedom.  
As we proclaim your Easter song  
help us to die to greed and rise to justice,  
to abandon apathy and take up action,  
that rich and poor together may travel the road to freedom,  
and be restored to your resurrection life.  
Amen.

*Annabel Shilson-Thomas/CAFOD*

## **A triumphant simplicity**

*"They took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloths with the spices". (John 19:40)*

Triumphant Jesus

You raised Lazarus from dead, saying

"Unbind him, let him go free."

You too were bound and laid to rest

in a cold tomb, freshened by myrrh and aloes.

***Unbind us so that we may also go free.***

In sorrow we left you as the dead Jesus

and in wonder you returned to us as the Risen Christ.

Untied from the strips of linen,

you offered us a new-found freedom.

***Raise us from the coldness of the tomb in which we are trapped.***

With this freedom we are empowered to make choices

about our lifestyle and attitudes,

But our human frailty prevents us from being courageous

by taking those first vital steps.

***Release us from the self-imposed exile of our prejudices.***

Amen.

*Tony Singleton/CAFOD*

## **Recreate the world**

Creator God,  
Because of your abundant love  
you chose to bring light and order into the formless void,  
to create a world of unsurpassed beauty  
and you saw that it was good.  
We ask that you continue to recreate the world  
with that same attentive love,  
to bring light into today's ever increasing chaos and darkness  
where we have failed to be stewards and carers of your creation.  
Replenish our hearts  
so that we too can renew the face of the earth.  
Amen.

*Kieran O'Brien/CAFOD*

## **Easter prayer**

**H**eaven and earth you made  
**A**lmighty Father, your only begotten Son you gave  
**P**riest and King, Lamb of God  
**P**assion and death on a cross  
**Y**ou, Lord Jesus, made us children of God.

**E**ternal Son of the Father, we praise you  
**A**risen Christ, we adore you  
**S**aviour of the world, we thank you  
**T**rue God and true man, we believe you  
**E**verlasting Lord, we adore you  
**R**esplendent Redeemer, we worship you.

Amen.

*Diana Sutherland/CAFOD*

## **Broken Bread**

God, whom we meet in bread and wine,  
in body broken and blood outpoured,  
fill us with your compassion,  
that we may hear the cries of the hungry  
and reach out to those in need.  
Engender in us a thirst for justice,  
that the hungry will be satisfied  
and the rich sent empty away.  
Roll away our apathy  
that, with arms outstretched,  
we may offer life in place of death  
and hope in the face of despair.  
Amen.

*Annabel Shilson-Thomas/CAFOD*

## **You are the resurrection**

How wonderful, Lord Jesus, you came back  
You suffered death but conquered it  
You laid in the tomb but on the third day  
You rose again  
O joyful day, Lord Jesus, when you returned  
You are the resurrection, our hope and our life  
O glorious and victorious Redeemer  
Help us not to be afraid of death  
For we must pass through it to see you face to face  
And on the last day we will rise again  
For you said so  
Let us rejoice and praise you  
Our Blessed and triumphant Lord  
On this happy, joyful feast.  
Amen.

*Diana Sutherland/CAFOD*