



Table Reflections during the Easter Season

Light a candle each night to remember the light of the risen Christ, dwelling in your home.

First Week of Easter

Reader "Praise God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is so good, and by raising Jesus from death, he has given us new life and a hope that lives on." (1Peter 1:3)

Leader Glorious God, the darkness of Lent is over, and the light of Easter shines on us. We praise you because you have shown us your power in the resurrection. We rejoice in you because you have refreshed us in the waters of baptism. We glorify you because you have given us hope for eternal life. We love you because you have loved us.

Blessing over the Food

Loving God, bless those who gather around this table. Help us to spread the light of your son, Jesus, to those who are hungry today. Amen.

Second Week of Easter

Reader "You are my Lord and my God!" (John 20:28)

Leader Reassuring God, When we hear about the Resurrection, we are like the disciples. We believe. But when we feel pain and when we see suffering,

we are like Thomas. We have doubts, we wonder where you are.

Give new life to our faith. Help this family to trust in you. Help us to hear those who give witness to your love. Help us to believe in the Resurrection and become your presence for others.

Blessing over the Food

Loving God, bless those who gather around this table. Help us to reach out to the pain and suffering we see around us. Amen.

Third Week of Easter

Reader After Jesus sat down to eat, he took some bread. He blessed it and broke it. Then he gave it to them. At once they knew who he was, but he disappeared." (Luke 24:30-31)

Leader Dear God, the disciples did not recognize Jesus when they walked with him. How could they be so blind? They knew him. They had seen him with their own eyes. Sometimes I am blind. I know Jesus, but I fail to see him. Help me to see with the eyes of faith. Help me to recognize Jesus in my friends, my family, my co-workers.

Blessing over the Food

Loving God, bless us that we may recognize you. Bless too, this food

that it may nourish us to recognize you in the stranger, in the lonely, in the forgotten. May we reach out to them in love and service. Amen.

Fourth Week of Easter

Reader "I came so that everyone would have life, and have it in its fullest." (John 10:10)

Leader Dear Jesus, you are the gate and you are the shepherd. We come to new life through you. You are the one that we must follow. Find us when we are lost. Help us to hear your voice and to follow you. Help us to understand how much you love us. Bring us to new life.

Blessing over the Food

Wondrous God, you guide us always in the ways of love. You gently care for us and encourage us to follow your son, Jesus. Bless those who gather around our table. Help each one of us hear your voice and follow you. Help us too, to hear your voice in the hungry people of our community and world, and to reach out to them in love and service. Bring us all to new life. Amen.

Fifth Week of Easter

Reader "Have faith in me when I say that the Father is one with me and that I am one with the Father. Or else have faith in me simply because of the things I do. I tell you for certain that if you have faith in me, you will do the same things that I am doing." (John 14:11-12)

Leader Dear Jesus, you tell us that you are "the way, the truth, and the life." Help us to choose the roads in our lives that will lead to you. Help us to pursue truthfulness, help us to do all that is life-giving. Bless our faith in

you. Oh, how we want to do as you do!

Blessing over the Food

Dear Jesus, you say that if we have faith in you we will do the same things that you do. You forgave, you reached out to the lonely, the poor, the forgotten, the hungry. You brought peace to people's lives. Bless us that we too may do as you do. Bless this food that it strengthen us to be your presence in the world. Amen.

Sixth Week of Easter

Reader "If you love me, you will do as I command. Then I will ask the Father to send you the Holy Spirit who will help you and always be with you. The Spirit will show you what is true." (John 14:15-17)

Leader Dear Jesus, you prepared the disciples for the day you would leave. You promised to send them a helper. All you asked of them was that they remain faithful to you. All you ask of us is to remain faithful to you. Help us to understand all of what that means. Help us to be faithful in our work and our play. Help us to be faithful when we are with others and when we are alone. Let us never doubt your love for us.

Blessing over the Food

Holy God, your Spirit brings light to our world. Your Spirit renews and energizes us to carry on the work of your son in our family, in our neighborhood and in our world. Bless us as we gather to share food and companionship. Bless us for the work we continue to do in our faithfulness to your Son, Jesus. Amen.

Seventh Week of Easter

Reader "Eternal life is to know you, the one true God, and to know Jesus Christ, the one you sent." (John 17:3)

Leader Dear Jesus, you are one with your Father, and you tell us that we are one in you and the Father. You point us to the type of relationship we are to have with each other—"then they will be one with each other, just as you and I are one." Help us to bring glory to you by the life our family lives, together.

Blessing over the Food

Loving Lord, we belong to you. Bless our efforts to be a family of faith, bless our efforts to love as you love. Bless this food to strengthen us to live as one. Amen.

Pentecost Sunday

Reader "On the day of Pentecost all the Lord's followers were together in one place. Suddenly there was a noise from heaven like the sound of a

mighty wind! It filled the house where they were meeting."
(Acts 2:1-2)

Leader Dear God, you promised to send the world a savior, and you sent Jesus. Jesus promised to send the disciples a helper, and he sent the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit continues to be with us today. Thank you for keeping your promises. Help us to keep our promise to be faithful to you. Let us be open to the work of the Holy Spirit working within us. Help us to recognize our gifts and to use them to serve you.

Blessing over the Food

Come, Holy Spirit, and kindle in us the fire of your love. Holy God, send the blessing of your Spirit upon us as we break bread together. Strengthen and empower us to go forth from this table ready to praise and serve your Son, Jesus. Amen.

