

Pastoral Prayer

April 5, 2026

God of life,

We thank you for the life of Jesus. We thank you for your incarnation among us from his birth, and we thank you for his life of teaching, healing, and faithfulness. We thank you that the threat of death could not sway him from his commitment to you, and we thank you that the power of death could not hold him in the grave. On this Easter morning, we celebrate the gift of Jesus, and the love you have poured over us through him.

On this Easter morning, we pray that the teachings of the Prince of Peace might find fertile ground in the hearts of human beings. May your children draw back from their wars, their greed, their arrogance, and their pride. May the sun rise over a world in which people do not need to worry about the bomb or the bullet, the club or the fist. May the sun set over a world in which all people have made it through the day without even the threat of violence.

We pray with gratitude for the safety of a rescued airman, and we pray for the safety of astronauts approaching the far side of the moon for the first time in many decades. We pray for those who will be coming to Hilo this week for the Merrie Monarch Festival. May they dance well, and may they share their love for the art well.

We ask your blessing upon us this morning, O God. Fill us with the wonder and joy of this day such that we carry it as a power of gladness and mercy into tomorrow. Not just tomorrow – into all the days of the week. Not just this week – but into all the days of our lives.

By your Holy Spirit, O God, make us joyful followers of the Crucified and Risen One.

In Jesus name we pray,

Amen.