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Prayer Made at Easter Sunrise Services.

Strom Thurmond

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PRAYER OF J. STROM THURMOND, GOVERNOR OF SOUTH CAROLINA,
AT SUNRISE SERVICES, EASTER MORNING, MARCH 28, 1948,
6:15 A.M.

O God, our Father; the God of all power, mercy, and love; thou
who art life and giveth life; we thank Thee for this day that is marked by the
testimony of every believing heart, Jesus lives. With reverent faith we thank
Thee that when Thou hadst made a world which was meant to be a tabernacle of
love and immortal life for man, and man by disobedience brought death upon it,
Thou didst not leave us desolate.

Thou didst come into the world in the mystery of the Incarnation. Thou didst speak
as never man spoke concerning eternal life. Thou didst go about doing good, healing
the sick, comforting the sorrowing, raising the dead. But above all Thou didst
mark upon Thyself our sins and bear them on Calvary's tree. Then, triumphant
over death, Thou didst come forth from the tomb to declare Thy victory. Thou art
now at the right hand of God interceding for us, the living Saviour, the very Son of God.

We pray that our world may be made to know the truth that Jesus
lives, the grave is not the end. Ours is a dead world. So long as men hate,
death is in their hearts. So long as nations seek to destroy one another, so
long wilt Thou be shut out. Help us by unselfish service to prove to our world
that Christ is alive. May we reaffirm again and again our confidence that our
Christ in His living power is the only hope for this or any day.

Fulfill in our hearts this morning the promise of Thy resurrection
life. Manifest Thyself unto us that we may rejoice in Thy presence and know
Thy nearness. As we consider loved ones who have walked the way of death, whose

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faith was in Thee, we whisper joyfully, they live.

As we gather here to worship, may the life that is in Thee, and from Thee in us, reach out to warm our world with the radiance of its love.

In Jesus name,

Amen.