

# Second Sunday of Easter

April 8, 2018

8:30 a.m.

## AS WE GATHER

The stone has been rolled away! The women run away from the tomb frightened and amazed. Jesus appears to encourage the hearts of His disciples, confirming His resurrection and bringing peace. Even in the midst of these Easter events, doubts linger. Jesus says, "Blessed are those who have not seen, and yet have believed." In these words, Jesus speaks to the disciples and to each one of us! Therefore in liturgy, song, and prayer the Church echoes Easter's resurrection thrill to a world ensnared in fear and doubt. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

## PRELUDE

"Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain"

setting by David Cherwien

*The congregation turns and faces the cross as the procession approaches the altar reminding us that Christ leads us into the presence of God.*

## ✠ PREPARATION ✠

*Please stand*

## ENTRANCE HYMN

487 Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

## INVOCATION

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

*(continued on next page)*

Leader: Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
People: **who has given us new life and hope by raising Jesus from the dead.**

Leader: God has claimed us as His own.  
People: **He has called us from our darkness into the light of His day.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Leader: Let us confess our sins before God and in the presence of one another.  
Our unbelief, doubts and fears we confess to the Lord.

People: **Forgive us, Lord.**

Leader: Our failure to leave behind the way of sin and death and fully embrace  
our new life in Christ, we confess to the Lord.

People: **Forgive us, Lord.**

Leader: Our failure to proclaim the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection,  
we confess to the Lord.

People: **Forgive us, Lord.**

Leader: Our foolish and selfish use of the many gifts God has entrusted to us, we  
confess to the Lord.

People: **Forgive us, Lord.**

Leader: Our sinful thoughts, words, and deeds, and our failure to love God above  
all things and our neighbor as ourselves, we confess to the Lord.

People: **Forgive us, Lord. Merciful Father, we pray for pardon, peace, and  
forgiveness from our sin for the sake of Jesus Christ, who suffered and  
died for us to pay the penalty from sin and release us from its guilt.**

Leader: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and  
for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus  
Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on  
them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us,  
bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: **Amen. Thanks be to God!**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

488 He Is Arisen! Glorious Word

**He is arisen! Glorious Word! Now reconciled is God, my Lord;  
The gates of heav'n are open. My Jesus did triumphant die,  
And Satan's arrows broken lie, Destroyed hell's fiercest weapon.  
O hear what cheer! Christ victorious, Rising glorious, Life is giving.  
He was dead but now is living!**

*Public domain*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Leader:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

**Leader:** Let us pray.

**People:** Risen Lord, You are alive forevermore. Increase our faith and inspire our witness. Fill Your Church with the power of Your resurrection to labor faithfully in joy until every tongue confesses, "My Lord and my God"; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## EXCHANGE OF PEACE

## WELCOME

✘ WORD ✘

FIRST READING

Acts 4:32–35

*(Great unity filled the Early Church as the apostles gave testimony to the resurrection of Jesus.)*

<sup>32</sup> All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had. <sup>33</sup> With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and much grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup> There were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales <sup>35</sup> and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 148

Leader: Praise the LORD. Praise the LORD from the heavens, praise him in the heights above.

People: **Praise him, all his angels, praise him, all his heavenly hosts.**

Leader: Praise him, sun and moon, praise him, all you shining stars.

People: **Praise him, you highest heavens and you waters above the skies.**

Leader: Let them praise the name of the LORD, for he commanded and they were created.

People: **He set them in place for ever and ever; he gave a decree that will never pass away.**

Leader: Praise the LORD from the earth, you great sea creatures and all ocean depths,

People: **lightning and hail, snow and clouds, stormy winds that do his bidding,**

Leader: you mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars,

People: **wild animals and all cattle, small creatures and flying birds,**

Leader: kings of the earth and all nations, you princes and all rulers on earth,

People: **young men and maidens, old men and children.**

Leader: Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his splendor is above the earth and the heavens.

People: **He has raised up for his people a horn, the praise of all his saints, of Israel, the people close to his heart. Praise the LORD.**

## ANTHEM

“By Thee with Bliss” (from “The Creation”)

F. J. Haydn

*By thee with bliss, O bounteous Lord the heav'n and earth are stor'd;  
This world so great so wonderful thy mighty hand has fram'd.*

## EPISTLE

1 John 1:1–2:2

*(God has come near to us with His light and life.)*

<sup>1</sup> That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched--this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. <sup>2</sup> The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. <sup>3</sup> We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup> We write this to make our joy complete.

<sup>5</sup> This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup> If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. <sup>7</sup> But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

<sup>8</sup> If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup> If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives.

*(continued on next page)*

<sup>1</sup> My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense--Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.  
<sup>2</sup> He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.  
People: **Thanks be to God.**

## HYMN

**472** These Things Did Thomas Count as Real  
*(tune: "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word)*

**1** **These things did Thomas count as real:  
The warmth of blood, the chill of steel,  
The grain of wood, the heft of stone,  
The last frail twitch of flesh and bone.**

**2** **The vision of his skeptic mind  
Was keen enough to make him blind  
To any unexpected act  
Too large for his small world of fact.**

**3** **His reasoned certainties denied  
That one could live when one had died,  
Until his fingers read like braille  
The markings of the spear and nail.**

**4** **May we, O God, by grace believe  
And thus the risen Christ receive,  
Whose raw imprinted palms reached out  
And beckoned Thomas from his doubt.**

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*Please stand*

**Leader:** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

**People:** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

## **HOLY GOSPEL**

John 20:19–31

*(Jesus appears to a troubled Thomas.)*

<sup>19</sup> On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

<sup>21</sup> Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."

<sup>22</sup> And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

<sup>24</sup> Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it."

<sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them.

Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

<sup>28</sup> Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

<sup>29</sup> Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

<sup>30</sup> Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. <sup>31</sup> But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

**Leader:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People:** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## HYMN OF THE WORD

720 We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

## PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

*Please stand*

### APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## OFFERING

"Come, People of the Risen King"

Getty/Townend, arr. by Lloyd Larson

*Please stand*

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**Leader:** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

**+++ Special Intercessions +++**

**Each concluding:** **Leader:** Lord, in Your mercy, **People:** hear our prayer.

**Leader:** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People:** **Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

## BENEDICTION

Leader:           The Lord bless you and keep you.  
                      The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
                      The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.  
People:           **Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please turn towards the cross as it is carried out of the church, and remain facing it until the hymn is completed. This symbolizes our following Christ into the world as we leave.*

## RECESSIONAL HYMN

**475**    Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing

## POSTLUDE

“Fanfare in D Major”

Jacques Lemmens

Prepare for next weekend's worship by reading:

Acts 3:11-21; 1 John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36-49

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# Serving at Chapel

Preacher:	Theodore Laesch	
Liturgists:	5:00 p.m.	Theodore Laesch
	8:30 a.m.	David Shudy
	11:00 a.m.	Norman Meyer
Lectors:	8:30 a.m.	Bill Kooi
	11:00 a.m.	Ken Gerler
Acolytes:	5:00 p.m.	Jacob Laesch
	8:30 a.m.	Keeley Ambler
	11:00 a.m.	Jordan Moore
Soloists:	5:00 p.m.	Denise Koch
	11:00 a.m.	Matt McEuen
Duet:	8:30 a.m.	Lynda Christian & Mark Petersen
Organist & Accompanist:	Ryan Meyer	
Radio Announcer:	Steve Brutlag	
Elder of the Week:	George Tomazi	