

# SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 7, 2024

8:15 A.M.

*(Divine Service Three, Beginning on Page 184 of the Hymnal)*

**PRE-SERVICE MUSIC**

**RINGING OF THE BELL**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**+ WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS +**

**OPENING HYMN**

“Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven”

#477

**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
**Hearts to heav’n and voices raise:**  
**Sing to God a hymn of gladness,**  
**Sing to God a hymn of praise;**  
**He who on the cross a victim**  
**For the world’s salvation bled –**  
**Jesus Christ, the King of Glory,**  
**Now is risen from the dead.**

**Alleluia, Christ is risen!**  
**Death at last has met defeat:**  
**See the ancient pow’rs of evil**  
**In confusion and retreat;**  
**Once He died, and once was buried:**  
**Now He lives forevermore,**  
**Jesus Christ, the world’s Redeemer,**  
**Whom we worship and adore.**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
**Glory be to God on high:**  
**Alleluia to the Savior**  
**Who has gained the victory;**  
**Alleluia to the Spirit,**  
**Fount of love and sanctity!**  
**Alleluia, alleluia**  
**To the triune Majesty!**

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## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

(p. 184)

- P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C: **Amen.**  
P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
C: **who made heaven and earth.**  
P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.  
C: **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)*

- P: O almighty God, merciful Father,  
C: **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**  
P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C: **Amen.**

## INTROIT

Psalm 105:1–5, 8; antiphon: 1 Peter 2:2–3

- P: Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation – if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.  
C: **Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples!**  
P: Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works!  
C: **Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!**  
P: Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually!  
C: **Remember the wondrous works that he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he uttered.**  
P: He remembers his covenant forever, the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.  
All: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**  
P: Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation – if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

## GLORIA PATRI

(p. 186)

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now,  
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

## KYRIE

(p. 186)

**Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

## GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

(p. 187)

**P:** Glory be to God on high;

**C:** **and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.**

**We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,  
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.**

**O Lord God, heav'nly King. God the Father Almighty,**

**O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ;**

**O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,**

**that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.**

**Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.**

**Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.**

**For Thou only art holy, Thou only art the Lord.**

**Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,**

**Art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

## SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

(p. 189)

*(Congregational responses are sung.)*

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

**C:** **And with thy spirit.**

**P:** Let us pray. Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** **Amen.**

## + WE HEAR GOD'S WORD +

## FIRST READING

Acts 4:32-35

(Page 1697 in the Pew Bible)

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. With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and much grace was upon them all. 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 and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

Psalm 148

L: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the heights!

C: **Praise Him, all His angels; praise Him, all His hosts!**

L: Praise Him, sun and moon, praise Him, all you shining stars!

C: **Praise Him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!**

L: Let them praise the name of the Lord!

C: **For He commanded and they were created.**

L: And He established them forever and ever; He gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.

C: **Praise the Lord from the earth, you great sea creatures and all deeps,**

L: fire and hail, snow and mist, stormy wind fulfilling His word!

C: **Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!**

L: Beasts and all livestock, creeping things and flying birds!

C: **Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!**

L: Young men and maidens together, old men and children!

C: **Let them praise the name of the Lord, for His name alone is exalted; His majesty is above earth and heaven.**

L: He has raised up a horn for His people, praise for all His saints, for the people of Israel who are near to Him. Praise the Lord!

## SECOND READING

1 John 1:1-2:2  
(Page 1898 in the Pew Bible)

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. 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. 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. We write this to make our joy complete. This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. 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. If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives. 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. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

**L:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

## **ALLELUIA AND VERSE**

(p. 190)

**Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**HOLY GOSPEL** (*Congregational responses are sung.*)

John 20:19-31

(Page 1686 in the Pew Bible)

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

**C:** **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

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!" After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. 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." 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!" 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." Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. 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.

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

**C:** **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

## **CONFESSION OF FAITH – APOSTLES' CREED**

(p. 192)

**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.**

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

**“O Sons and Daughters of the King”**

**#470 vv. 1, 3, 5**

**O sons and daughters of the King,  
Whom heav’nly hosts in glory sing,  
Today the grave has lost its sting!  
Alleluia!**

**An angel clad in white they see,  
Who sits and speaks unto the three,  
“Your Lord will go to Galilee.”  
Alleluia!**

**When Thomas first the tidings heard  
That they had seen the risen Lord,  
He doubted the disciples’ word.  
Alleluia!**

## **SERMON**

**+ WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD +**

## **HYMN OF RESPONSE**

**“O Sons and Daughters of the King”**

**#470 vv. 6-7**

**“My pierced side, O Thomas, see,  
And look upon My hands, My feet;  
Not faithless but believing be.”  
Alleluia!**

**No longer Thomas then denied;  
He saw the feet, the hands, the side;  
“You are my Lord and God!” he cried.  
Alleluia!**

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## **OFFERING**

## **OFFERTORY**

**“Create in Me”**

**(p. 192)**

**Create I me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from Thy presence,  
and take not Thy Holy Spirit From me.  
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation,  
and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: St. Luke records: "There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need."

Lord Jesus, we pray that You would use us and the gifts You have given to us to serve anyone in need. Open our eyes to see opportunities near and far in which we may serve Your gracious plans. All that we have and are belongs to You. Grant us to be of one heart and soul, sharing not only our common faith but all that we are and have. Lord in Your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

P: We pray for people who are homeless, hungry, captive, and in mourning. Surround them, heavenly Father, with people of faith in our risen Savior, brothers and sisters who will tend to them with compassion and love. We pray for those near and dear to us, especially Katie, Joan, Jean, MaryAnn, Duane, Ruby, Peg, Karen, Cohen, Dorothy, Cindy, Rick, Elizabeth, Walter, Tony, Craig, Julie, Larry, Jessica, Mary, Charlotte & Pam.

Wherever Your plans include us, O Lord, open our hearts and hands, voices and resources to share the difference Easter makes for all who trust in our risen Savior. Lord in your mercy ,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: We pray for those who are rich and those who are poor, those who influence our nation and those who live unnoticed. O Holy Spirit, be among our brothers and sisters – those who have vast resources; all who make, administer, and judge our laws; and parents, teachers, and counselors – all who know Christ as their living Lord. Give them courage and caring hearts so that through them Your will shall be done. Lord in your mercy ,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

### *Special Requests*

**Our Missionaries:** Pastor Shauen, Krista, Josiah, Elijah, Isaiah, Jeremiah and Esther Trump; **Our Seminary Student:** Ethan Hart

P: We pray for our congregation, its programs of outreach and growth, and all who worship here. Lord over all, be with us and enliven us to do Your will in Easter joy, guide and protect us that we may serve You and the people around us in the name of our risen Savior, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

(p. 196)

### + WE LEAVE GOD'S HOUSE +

## SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS

(p. 201)

*(Congregational responses are sung.)*

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And with thy spirit.**

P: Bless we the Lord.  
C: **Thanks be to God.**

**BENEDICTION** (*Congregational response is sung.*)

(p. 202)

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.  
C: **Amen, amen, amen.**

**SENDING**

P: Empowered by God, let us go and do the work He has given us to do. Our mission is...  
C: **To make known the love of Christ!**

**CLOSING HYMN**

“Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”

#849

**Praise the One who breaks the darkness  
With a liberating light;  
Praise the One who frees the pris’ners,  
Turning blindness into sight.  
Praise the One who preached the Gospel,  
Healing ev’ry dread disease,  
Calming storms, and feeding thousands  
With the very Bread of peace.**

**Praise the One who blessed the children  
With a strong, yet gentle, word;  
Praise the One who drove out demons  
With the piercing, two-edged sword.  
Praise the One who brings cool water  
To the desert’s burning sand;  
From this Well comes living water,  
Quenching thirst in ev’ry land.**

**Let us praise the Word Incarnate,  
Christ, who suffered in our place.  
Jesus died and rose victorious  
That we may know God by grace.  
Let us sing for joy and gladness,  
Seeing what our God has done;  
Let us praise the true Redeemer,  
Praise the One who makes us one.**

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