

Second Sunday of Easter

April 19, 2020



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EASTER IMPERATIVES: SEE!

AS WE GATHER

Sometimes the simplest of words carry the greatest of importance. As Jesus speaks with the doubting disciple Thomas gathered in a special room with the disciples a few days after the resurrection, He says simply, “See.” But that is all He needs to say. It confirms the powerful truth that He is indeed arisen from the dead. Today we are faithful people gathered in a different room—but also with those who are disciples of the Lord. And He has promised to be with us and among us in the upper room. As we worship, we will see signs of His abiding presence.

+ PREPARATION +

MEMORY VERSE OF THE MONTH

Jesus said: My sheep hear my voice, and I know them and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. *John 10:27-28*

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Romans 6:9; John 20:29b

P Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again;

C **death no longer has dominion over Him. Alleluia.**

P Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.

C **Alleluia, alleluia.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Psalms 85:1–2, 7

P Lord, You were favorable to Your land;

C **You restored the fortunes of Jacob.**

P You forgave the iniquity of Your people;

C **You covered all their sin.**

P Show us Your steadfast love, O Lord,

C **and grant us Your salvation.**

P Let us then confess our sins unto our gracious Lord.

C **Almighty God, in humility and with repentant hearts we come before You. With shame and regret we admit and confess our sinfulness. We have not lived up to our calling as Your peaceable people. We have not done the good You demand and have not been the people You would have us be. We do repent and are truly sorry for our sins in thought, word, and deed. Have mercy on us, merciful Father, for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your Son. Forgive us all that needs Your forgiving grace, and with the power of the Holy Spirit, direct us to serve You faithfully all our days through Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

P God has promised His merciful forgiveness to those who repent of their sins and turn to Him in confession. He will revive them and speak peace to His people. In His stead and by His command, therefore, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P God keep you in His grace by the Holy Spirit, lead you in ways of peace and joy, and finally bring you to live with Him forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

465 NOW ALL THE VAULT OF HEAVEN RESOUNDS

sts. 1–2

- 1 Now all the vault of heav'n resounds
In praise of love that still abounds:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!
Repeat their song of glory here:
"Christ has triumphed! Christ has triumphed!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 2 Eternal is the gift He brings,
Therefore our heart with rapture sings:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Now still He comes to give us life
And by His presence stills all strife.
Christ has triumphed! He is living!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

FIRST READING

Acts 5:29–42

²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. ³⁰The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

³³When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. ³⁴But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. ³⁵And he said to them, "Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. ³⁶For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. ³⁷After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered. ³⁸So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; ³⁹but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!" So they took his advice, ⁴⁰and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. ⁴¹Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. ⁴²And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalms 148

C Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the heights!

I *Praise Him all His angels; praise Him, all His hosts! Praise Him, sun and moon, praise Him, all you shining stars! Praise Him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!*

C Let them praise the name of the Lord! For He commanded and they were created. And He established them forever and ever; He gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.

II *Praise the Lord from the earth, you great sea creatures and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and mist, stormy wind fulfilling His word!*

I *Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! Beasts and all livestock, creeping things and flying birds!*

II *Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth! 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. 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!

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.

EPISTLE

1 Peter 1:3–9

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. ⁸Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, ⁹obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 20:19–31

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁹On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld."

²⁴Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe."

²⁶Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but these are written so 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 to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

658 PRESERVE YOUR WORD, O SAVIOR

- 1 Preserve Your Word, O Savior,
To us this latter day,
And let Your kingdom flourish;
Enlarge Your Church, we pray.
O keep our faith from failing;
Keep hope's bright star aglow.
Let nothing from truth turn us
While living here below.
- 2 Preserve, O Lord, Your honor,
The bold blasphemer smite;
Convince, convert, enlighten
The souls in error's night.
Reveal Your will, dear Savior,
To all who dwell below,
Great light of all the living,
That all Your name may know.
- 3 Preserve, O Lord, Your Zion,
Bought dearly with Your blood;
Protect what You have chosen
Against the hellish flood.
Be always our defender
When dangers gather round;
When all the earth is crumbling,
Safe may Your Church be found.
- 4 Preserve Your Word and preaching,
The truth that makes us whole,
The mirror of Your glory,
The pow'r that saves the soul.
Oh, may this living water,
This dew of heav'nly grace,
Sustain us while here living
Until we see Your face.
- 5 Preserve in wave and tempest
Your storm-tossed little flock;
Assailed by wind and weather,
May it endure each shock.
Stand at the helm, our pilot,
And set the course aright;
Then we will reach the harbor
In Your eternal light.

APOSTLES' CREED

C 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.

SOLO Karen Hassey "A Living Prayer" (Ron Block)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition, please respond with the following:

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

At the end of the prayer:

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

C 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.

BENEDICAMUS

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

P 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.

C Amen.

Congregation at Prayer and Devotions for the Week

Invocation In the name of the Father, and of the Son ✠ , and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Introit (found on front page)

Catechism Review (found on front page)

Meditation: Portals of Prayer, www.lhm.org/dailydevotions, Other

Daily Scripture Readings

Sunday: Exodus 20:1-24; Luke 4:1-15
Monday: Exodus 22:20-23:13; Luke 4:16-30
Tuesday: Exodus 23:14-33; Luke 4:31-44
Wednesday: Exodus 24:1-18; Luke 5:1-16
Thursday: Exodus 25:1-22; Luke 5:17-39
Friday: Exodus 31:1-18; Luke 6:1-19
Saturday: Exodus 32:1-14; Luke 6:20-38

In Our Prayers This Week (as of Thursday morning)

Doug, health issues	Al, health issues
Melissa	Dolf, cancer
Larry, heart issues	Terry, recovered from COVID-19
Bill	Jean, health issues
Camilla, 6-year-old with brain cancer	Chris, sick
Jack, ongoing health issues	Denise, addictions
Judy, cancer	Tim, recovering
Eunice, Health Issues	Terry, Lime's Disease
Karen	
John, recovering	
Ina Lee, sick	
Sidney, granddaughter of Steinkes with medical issues	

Andrew & Priscilla and their family at the passing family members this week.

For those in nursing homes, medical professionals, those whose employment is in question, and that the Lord would miraculously make all signs of this virus disappear so all may know it is by His merciful hand.

Our Savior Families: Gerhard & Hilde, Gary & Shele, Deborah, Nicolas, Nicolas, Alison, Donald & Kristy, Michael

Hymn of the Week “Preserve Your Word, O Savior” LSB 658

Collect (found on front page)

Apostles’ Creed, Lord’s Prayer, Benediction