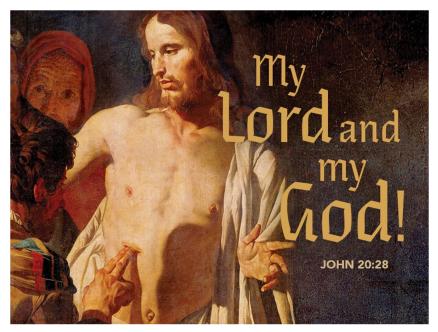
Second Sunday of Easter

Saturday April 19, 2020



TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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In today's gospel the risen Christ appears to the disciples and offers them the gift of peace. Even amid doubts and questions, we experience the resurrection in our Sunday gathering around word and meal, and in our everyday lives. Throughout the coming Sundays of Easter the first two readings will be from the Acts of the Apostles and the first letter of Peter. Even as the early Christians proclaimed the resurrection, we rejoice in the new birth and living hope we receive in baptism.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

| Every Member ·····Ministers |
|--|
| Elizabeth Hess ····· Pastor |
| Ralph Grove · · · · · Organist |
| Cindy Finnegan ····· Minister of Music |
| Lectors |
| 6:30 PM |
| ••••• 8:15 AM |
| 10:45 AM |
| Acolytes |
| 6:30 PM |
| 8:15 AM |
| 10:45 AM |
| Ushers |
| 6:30 PM |
| 8:15 AM |
| 10:45 AM |

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRE-WORSHIP MEDITATION

PASTOR: Let us read together Mark 12:28-31 (the Jesus Rule)

ALL: Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your mind and with all your strength. Love your neighbor as yourself.

PASTOR: Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

PRELUDE

*BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the Fon, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Most merciful God,

C we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Foon, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

ENTRANCE HYMN

*GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God. and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray....

C Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

FIRST LESSON Acts 2:14a, 22-32

After the Holy Spirit comes to the apostles on Pentecost, Peter preaches the gospel to the gathered crowd. He tells them that Jesus, who obediently went to his death according to God's plan, was raised from the dead by God. Finally, he appeals to scripture, quoting Psalm 16:8-11, to show that Jesus is the Messiah: though crucified, the risen Jesus is now enthroned.

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd], "You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know—this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him,

'I saw the Lord always before me,

for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;

therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;

moreover my flesh will live in hope.

For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,

or let your Holy One experience corruption.

You have made known to me the ways of life;

you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

"Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

'He was not abandoned to Hades,

nor did his flesh experience corruption.'

This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

L The word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God

PSALM Psalm 16

In your presence there is fullness of joy. (Ps. 16:11)

Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;

I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."

All my delight is in the godly that are in the land, upon those who are noble among the people.

But those who run after other gods shall have their troubles multiplied.

I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods, never take their names upon my lips. R

O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; it is you who uphold my lot.

My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a rich inheritance.

I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me night after night.

I have set the LORD always before me;

because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken. R

My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope.

For you will not abandon me to the grave, nor let your holy one see the pit.

You will show me the path of life;

in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore. ${\bf R}$

SECOND LESSON 1 Peter 1:3-9

This epistle was written to encourage Christians experiencing hardships and suffering because of their faith in Christ. The letter opens by blessing God for the living hope we have through Christ's resurrection even amid difficult circumstances and surroundings.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

- L The word of the Lord
- C Thanks be to God

GOSPEL John 20:19-31

The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. But one of their number is missing, and his unbelief prompts another visit from the Lord.

- P The Holy Gospel according to John Twentieth Chapter
- C Glory to you, O Lord

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were 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 his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

- P The Gospel of the Lord
- C Praise to you, O Lord

FOR THE CHILDREN

SERMON

*HYMN OF THE DAY

*APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.*

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven.

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen

*PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Each of you shall bring such a gift as he can in proportion to the blessing which the Lord your God has given you" Deuteronomy 16:17

OFFERING (PLEASE SIGN AND PASS THE PEW REGISTER)

THE PRAYERS

A Rejoicing in the risen life of Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

After each portion of the prayers:

- A Lord in your mercy
- C hear our prayers

The prayers conclude:

P Joining our voices with your faithful ones in every time and place, we offer our prayers in the name of the Risen One, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

*THE 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

*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



*CLOSING HYMN

*DISMISSAL

P: Mark 12:28-31

C Love God, Love others.

*POSTLUDE

 ${\bf *Congregation\ Stands}$



PRAYER LIST

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Ted Baird
Tyler Bennett
Tina Chestney
Church HealthTeam
Church Council
Don Corl
Gary Crownover
Sondra Deffibaugh
Jane Eamigh

Jim Gosnell
Debbie Gracey
Paul Hamilton
Ron Heiss
Kristina Henderson
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Steve Wood

A RIP IN THE SEAMS

Rather than saddling him with a disgraced reputation and besmirching his character by dubbing him "the great doubter," would it not be nearer the truth to reconsider and rightly recognize Thomas as a "most sincere believer"?

It was an easy and unsurprising move for Jesus' disciples to seize upon the idea that following their Nazarene teacher would make them great. After all, nothing and no one seemed able to put a stranglehold on his triumphs: not hunger, disease, or storm; neither demons not priests. He was God-sent, God-empowered, God-blessed.

But there was a rip in the seams that held all the pieces of those disciples' gathered hopes together: Jesus' unstoppable talk of least and last, served and suffering, freeing and forgiving, dying and departing.

So, when their imagination of who God is and how God acts failed them; when priests and courts condemned and soldiers killed their would-be king, Jesus; when Joseph and Nicodemus wrapped his body and buried his corpse, and Mary Magdalene's unimaginable announcement, "I have seen the Lord" (John 20:18), left them doubtful and frightened—they locked their doors. The Lord they imagined—the way of God they had hoped for—was dead.

If Jesus' miraculous entry somehow through closed and bolted doors and his spoken word first revived the doubting disciples' faith, it happened differently for Thomas, who was not with them. The disciples reported to him what had happened, choosing the same words spoken by Mary Magdalene that, just days before, had left them doubtful: "We have seen the Lord" (John 20:25). Courageously honest, inviting pious disrepute through the ages, Thomas dared to say that he believed Jesus' own predictive words about serving and suffering, dying and departing. Thomas trusted that the Christ would bear the marks, embody the scars, and retain the wounds of an unimaginable God. A week later, on seeing the risen Lord, Thomas's belief was confirmed. In sincere faith indeed he exclaimed, "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:28).



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