

Family Worship for the Second Sunday of Easter – April 19, 2020

**CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

L: In the name of the Father, and of the Son+, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

L: Father of mercies and God of all consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may attend to your Word, confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord and our Redeemer. **Amen.**

L: Let us make our confession to God. **Almighty, God, merciful Father, I a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended you and for which I am sorry for them, and repent of them, and pray for your boundless mercy. For the sake of the suffering and death of your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being; forgive my sins, give me your Holy Spirit for the amendment of my sinful life, and bring me to life everlasting. Amen.**

L: 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. **Amen.**

**PSALM OF PRAISE – PSALM 148**

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights.

<sup>2</sup>**Praise him, all you angels of his; praise him, all his host.**

<sup>3</sup>Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars.

<sup>4</sup>**Praise him, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.**

<sup>5</sup>Let them praise the name of the LORD; for he commanded, and they were created.

<sup>6</sup>**He made them stand fast forever and ever; he gave them a law which shall not pass away.**

<sup>7</sup>Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps;

<sup>8</sup>**Fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing his will;**

<sup>9</sup>Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;

<sup>10</sup>**Wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and winged birds;**

<sup>11</sup>Kings of the earth | and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;

<sup>12</sup>**Young men and maidens, old and young together.**

<sup>13</sup>Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name only is exalted, his splendor is over earth and heaven.

<sup>14</sup>**He has raised up strength for his people and praise for all his loyal servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near him. Hallelujah!**

**HYMN** [God Himself is Present](#) (LBW #249, w/lyrics)

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

L: Living God, you are our life, our hope, our strength. Grant that we, who have not seen the Lord Jesus, may follow him in faith. Give us Christ's enduring peace through the power of his resurrection that we may serve in his kingdom all the days of our life; **through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**FIRST READING:** Acts 5:29-42

**SECOND READING:** 1 Peter 1:3-9

**GOSPEL VERSE** (Spoken/Sung; Stand for Gospel Reading if you can)

**Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

## GOSPEL READING

L: The Holy Gospel from St. Matthew, chapter 28. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

John 20:19-31

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## MESSAGE

**HYMN** [Good Christian Men, Rejoice and Sing!](#) *(LBW #144; Organ, w/Lyrics)*

## THE NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen**

**EASTER OFFERING** *(Spoken; LBW #405, st. 1)*

L: Lord of light, your name outshining all the stars and suns of space. Use our talents in your kingdom as the servants of your grace.

**R: Use us to fulfill your purpose in the gift of Christ your Son: Father, as in highest heaven, so on earth your will be done.**

**PRAYERS** *(See Prayer Sheet)*

## THE 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.

**AARONIC BLESSING** *(Numbers 6:24-26)*

L: The LORD bless you and keep you.

L: The LORD make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you

L: The LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

**R: And give you peace. Amen**

## CLOSING HYMN

[Leaning on the Everlasting Arms](#) *(With Lyrics)*

Extra

[Paul Harvey: An Easter Story](#)

## EASTER READINGS

### **Acts 5:29-42**

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

<sup>33</sup>When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. <sup>34</sup>But 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. <sup>35</sup>And he said to them, "Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. <sup>36</sup>For 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. <sup>37</sup>After 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. <sup>38</sup>So 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; <sup>39</sup>but 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, <sup>40</sup>and 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. <sup>41</sup>Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. <sup>42</sup>And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus.

### **1 Peter 1:3-9**

<sup>3</sup>Blessed 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, <sup>4</sup>to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup>who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup>In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, <sup>7</sup>so 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. <sup>8</sup>Though 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, <sup>9</sup>obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

### **John 20:19-31**

<sup>19</sup>On 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." <sup>20</sup>When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." <sup>22</sup>And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld."

<sup>24</sup>Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them 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 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."

<sup>26</sup>Eight 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." <sup>27</sup>Then 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." <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; <sup>31</sup>but 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.

## PRAYERS

- L: Let us pray to God in Easter confidence: Father, let the joy of the resurrection strengthen our hearts, increase our faith, and make our prayers bold;  
Lord in your mercy: **Hear our Prayer.**
- L: Hear our prayers for the world and it's leaders: Father, by your power to bring all things into line with your gracious and sovereign will, use the tribulations of these days to bend the path of the wayward back to you, and to humble the pride of those who rule until they acknowledge your eternal presence;  
Lord in your mercy: **Hear our Prayer.**
- L: Hear our prayers for farmers and all who work in agriculture: Father, in this time in which fields must be prepared and seed planted that we may have an abundant harvest later on, keep safe and bless well all those who labor to grow food for the nation. Grant good weather and great yields that the tables of all may be filled by your blessing.  
Lord in your mercy: **Hear our Prayer.**
- L: Hear our prayers for Food Pantries across the nation: Father, bless the efforts of the Manna House, the Filling Station, and other pantries in our County and around the nation. As they feed many during this difficult time, keep volunteers healthy, ensure a steady supply of food, and open the hearts of donors to give all that they can and then some;  
Lord in your mercy: **Hear our Prayer.**
- L: Hear our prayers for the poor among us: Father, there are many who live their lives hand to mouth and often go without food or shelter. Give them, with all of us, their fair share of life's necessities, and guard their mental health and soul's devotion in the current crisis;  
Lord in your mercy: **Hear our Prayer.**
- L: Hear our prayers to serve others with love: Father, help us recognize just how precious are the ones we love and to acknowledge them as gifts from your hand. Let your love so fill our hearts that it may spill over to others through our daily service.  
Lord in your mercy: **Hear our Prayer.**
- L: Hear our prayers for the needs of others: Father, be with those who are sick or dying, especially those who are alone in their suffering. Give courage and patience to all who are anxious and overwhelmed by the current pandemic. Provide daily bread for all those who have lost employment. Give your holy help to... *[Prayer petitions may be added here.]*  
Lord in your mercy: **Hear our Prayer.**
- L: Merciful and gracious God, hear our prayers, grant us the joy of Your salvation, and uphold us with Your Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer