



# Second Sunday of Easter

April 11, 2021

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church  
Prospect Heights, IL  
Office: 847-537-4430

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

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## Blessed Are Those Who Have Not Seen and Yet Have Believed

### As We Gather

We tend to look for things to make faith easier. Signs, wonders, or just little hints here and there would help. But the disciples had all these things and heard Jesus promise His resurrection, and still they gathered behind the locked doors of their fears. What we do have is Christ, His Word that bestows and sustains our faith, and His Holy Sacrament wherein He feeds us with His body and blood. Though we have not seen with our eyes, we see with faith and join with doubting Thomas to confess, “My Lord and my God!”

## + PREPARATION +

### Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

### Easter Acclamation

- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**C** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

### Confession and Absolution

*1 John 1:6–10*

- P** If we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness,  
**C** we lie and do not practice the truth.

- P** But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another,  
**C** and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.  
**C** If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

- P** If we say we have not sinned,  
**C** we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

- P** Almighty and everlasting God, for our many sins we justly deserve eternal condemnation. In Your mercy, You sent Your dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who won for us forgiveness of sins and everlasting salvation. Grant us a true confession that, dead to sin, we may be raised up by Your life-giving absolution. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we be ever watchful and live true and godly lives in Your service; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
**C** Amen.

*Silence for reflection.*

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.  
**C** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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 you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

**P** May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C** Amen.

## + WORD +

### Opening Hymn 464 The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done

Refrain: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

1 The strife is o'er, the battle done;  
Now is the victor's triumph won;  
Now be the song of praise begun.  
Alleluia!

2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst,  
But Christ their legions hath dispersed.  
Let shouts of holy joy outburst.  
Alleluia!

3 The three sad days have quickly sped,  
He rises glorious from the dead.  
All glory to our risen Head!  
Alleluia!

4 He broke the age-bound chains of hell;  
The bars from heav'n's high portals fell.  
Let hymns of praise His triumph tell.  
Alleluia!

5 Lord, by the stripes which wounded Thee,  
From death's dread sting Thy servants free  
That we may live and sing to Thee.  
Alleluia! Refrain

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### Kyrie

*LSB 152*

**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C** Amen.

### 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 4:32–35*

<sup>32</sup>The full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. <sup>33</sup>And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup>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 <sup>35</sup>and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

- P** Praise the LORD!
- C** Praise the LORD from the heavens;  
praise him in the heights!
- P** Praise him, all his angels;
- C** praise him, all his hosts!
- P** Praise him, sun and moon,
- C** praise him, all you shining stars!
- P** Praise him, you highest heavens,
- C** and you waters above the heavens!
- P** Let them praise the name of the LORD!
- C** For he commanded and they were created.
- P** And he established them forever and ever;
- C** he gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.
- P** Praise the LORD from the earth,
- C** you great sea creatures and all deeps,
- P** fire and hail, snow and mist,
- C** stormy wind fulfilling his word!
- P** Mountains and all hills,
- C** fruit trees and all cedars!
- P** Beasts and all livestock,
- C** creeping things and flying birds!
- P** Kings of the earth and all peoples,
- C** princes and all rulers of the earth!
- P** Young men and maidens together,
- C** old men and children!
- P** Let them praise the name of the LORD,
- C** for his name alone is exalted;  
his majesty is above earth and heaven.
- P** He has raised up a horn for his people,
- C** praise for all his saints,  
for the people of Israel who are near to him. Praise the LORD!

## Epistle

*1 John 1:1—2:2*

<sup>1</sup>That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—<sup>2</sup>the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us—<sup>3</sup>that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

<sup>5</sup>This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup>If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice 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 cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup>If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup>If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

<sup>1</sup>My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. <sup>2</sup>He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

- P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Alleluia.

## Holy Gospel

John 20:19–31

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

**G** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<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 anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, 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.

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

**G** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## Hymn of the Day 470 O Sons and Daughters of the King

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>1 O sons and daughters of the King,<br/>Whom heav’nly hosts in glory sing,<br/>Today the grave has lost its sting!<br/>Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!</p>       | <p>6 “My piercèd side, O Thomas, see,<br/>And look upon My hands, My feet;<br/>Not faithless but believing be.”<br/>Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!</p>           |
| <p>2 That Easter morn, at break of day,<br/>The faithful women went their way<br/>To seek the tomb where Jesus lay.<br/>Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!</p>         | <p>7 No longer Thomas then denied;<br/>He saw the feet, the hands, the side;<br/>“You are my Lord and God!” he cried.<br/>Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!</p>     |
| <p>3 An angel clad in white they see,<br/>Who sits and speaks unto the three,<br/>“Your Lord will go to Galilee.”<br/>Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!</p>           | <p>8 How blest are they who have not seen<br/>And yet whose faith has constant been,<br/>For they eternal life shall win.<br/>Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!</p> |
| <p>4 That night the _apostles met in fear;<br/>Among them came their master dear<br/>And said, “My peace be with you here.”<br/>Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!</p> | <p>9 On this most holy day of days<br/>Be laud and jubilee and praise:<br/>To God your hearts and voices raise.<br/>Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!</p>           |
| <p>5 When Thomas first the tidings heard<br/>That they had seen the risen Lord,<br/>He doubted the disciples’ word.<br/>Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!</p>         |   |

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## Sermon - “That You May Believe”

## Nicene Creed

**C** I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.

## Prayer of the Church

**P** Merciful Father, at Your bidding we come to You in prayer, trusting in Your mercy to supply us with all that is needful and beneficial to us and for all for whom our prayers have been requested.

Silence the doubts that plague us and deliver us from fear, that believing in You we may know the full comfort of Your gracious presence. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer and grant our supplication.

**P** Deliver us from pride and humble us by Your Spirit so that, confessing all our sins, we know the peace of a clear conscience and serve You with all our heart, mind, body, and soul. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer and grant our supplication.

**P** Make Your Church bold in the confession of Your name before the world and give Your blessing to all pastors and church workers as they accomplish Your bidding in their service to us in Your name. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer and grant our supplication.

**P** Guard us from all enemies and bless our nation with good government and good leaders, that we enjoy justice before the law, equality of opportunity in the marketplace, and peace in our communities and between the nations. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer and grant our supplication.

**P** Restore those absent too long from the Church's sacramental life and bring to repentance those who have fallen into error and sin, that they may again be one with us at the Table of the Lord. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer and grant our supplication.

- P** Give comfort, healing, patience, and strength to the sick, to those suffering a troubled mind, and to those carrying the heavy burden of grief, that they may know Your presence in their hour of need, especially we lift up Hedy Beer, Kathleen, Alicia, Sallyann, Sheila, Kathie Kirschenmann, Lou, Jean Staffa, Dana, Kaylee, Leah, Terri, Rory, Jean, Annette Kirschenmann, Ray Wirsing, Rod Isaacson, Sharlene, Fran, Doug, Wally Olson, Janna, and Pastor Barber and his family. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer and grant our supplication.**
- P** Accept the praise and thanksgiving of our lips, the tithes and offerings we bring, and our labors for Your glory, that we not suffer from ingratitude or the pride that believes all we have is the fruit of our own work. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer and grant our supplication.**
- P** Remembering blessed Thomas and all the disciples, the saints and the martyrs, and those who taught us the faith and now rest from their labors, bring us with them through the day of trouble into the dawn of peace and the place of everlasting life and light through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer and grant our supplication.**
- P** Grant to us that we may worthily receive this blessed Sacrament of Your Son's body and blood and may confidently trust that You will both hear and answer the prayers of Your people and supply us with all good things according to Your merciful favor; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

## + SACRAMENT +

### Preface

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

### Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

### Sanctus

*LSB 161*

- C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:  
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

**P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** Amen.

## Words of Our Lord

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{†}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{†}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Proclamation of Christ

**P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**G** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

**P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

## Lord's Prayer

**G** 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.

## Pax Domini

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**G** Amen.

**We Receive the True Body & Blood of our Risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.**



## Post-Communion Thanksgiving

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, heavenly Father, by Your tender love toward us sinners, You have given us Your only Son, that believing in Him, we may have everlasting life. By Your Holy Spirit, give to us Your comfort in trouble and guard us against all doubt, that we remain steadfast in the faith and come, at last, to life eternal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** 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  $\text{✠}$  give you peace.

**C** Amen.

## Closing Hymn 603 We Know That Christ Is Raised

- 1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.  
Embraced by death, He broke its fearful hold;  
And our despair He turned to blazing joy.  
Alleluia!
- 2 We share by water in His saving death.  
Reborn, we share with Him an Easter life  
As living members of a living Christ.  
Alleluia!
- 3 The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life.  
The Spirit's power shakes the Church of God.  
Baptized, we live with God the Three in One.  
Alleluia!

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## Easter Acclamation

**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**C** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

## Dismissal

**P** Go in peace! Serve the Lord!  
**C** Thanks be to God.

## Acknowledgments

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### **Worship:**

If you are planning to attend in person worship, please register each week using the link below.

<https://rsvp.church/r/PsLbwYgP> Please dispose of your worship bulletin (and Communion supplies) or take them with you. We are not recycling them. We are resuming the use of the mailboxes upstairs, so please check yours today.

### **Altar Flowers:**

We have resumed our Altar Flower program. Anyone interested in ordering flowers for the Church Altar, please contact Laurie in the Church Office at 847/537-4430 or

[office@ourredeemerprospectheights.org](mailto:office@ourredeemerprospectheights.org)

### **Prayer Request Information:**

If you have a prayer request, please notify Jim Burmeister via text at (847) 343-3798, Phone: (847)934-5963 or via email: [elder@ourredeemerprospectheights.org](mailto:elder@ourredeemerprospectheights.org).

### **Online Giving:**

We are now set up for Online Giving on our website as well as in Breeze. If you haven't set up your personal Breeze account, please do so using the email invite that was sent out to you. Setting up your account allows you to update your personal contact information and allows access to online giving.

If you need another invitation or need help setting it up, please contact Jim Burmeister at [elder@ourredeemerprospectheights.org](mailto:elder@ourredeemerprospectheights.org) or (847) 934-5963.

### **Email address for Pastor Jim:**

If you would like to send an email to Pastor Jim, please use the following address:

[Pastor@ourredeemerprospectheights.org](mailto:Pastor@ourredeemerprospectheights.org)

### **Pastor-Led Bible Studies:**

Pastor-Led Bible Studies will resume on Wednesdays starting on April 21, 2021. More information coming soon.

### **Summer Suppers:**

Please watch for a special informational sheet to be handed out today.

### **Voter's Meeting:**

Please plan to attend the next Voter's Meeting on Sunday April 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:15 am in the Sanctuary. Registration information coming soon.

### **Wheeling Food Pantry Wish List:**

The Wheeling Township food pantry is in need of the following items: Beans (Cannellini, Northern, White, etc. green not needed) Canned Meat Products (Hash, Beef Stew, Ham, Ravioli, Spam etc.), Mayonnaise, Potato Products (Au Gratin, Instant Mashed, Scalloped, etc.) Vegetable Soup (no Broth please). Items can be dropped off at the Wheeling Township office located at 1616 N Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights. Questions can be directed to Julie Villarreal at 847-259-7730.

### **Are you a Thrivent Member?**

Have you directed your Choice Dollars? Please remember to check your Thrivent account at least on an annual basis and indicate where you would like to have them directed. Both Our Redeemer and Sonshine are included in the recognized recipients and would appreciate being designated. Thrivent provides this free of charge to members, so remember to take advantage of their generosity!