

April 12, 2026: SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

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

Exhortation

203

- L** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C** who made heaven and earth.

- L** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- C** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

- L** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Kneel/Stand

Confession of Sins

203

- C** Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

Prayer for Forgiveness

- L** Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** Amen.

Stand

829 Christ the Eternal Lord



- 1 Christ the e - ter - nal Lord, Whose prom - ise here we claim,
- 2 Christ the un - chang - ing Word To ev - 'ry pass - ing age,
- 3 Christ the re - deem - ing Son, Who shares our hu - man birth,
- 4 Christ the un - fad - ing Light Of ev - er - last - ing day,
- 5 Christ the as - cend - ed King Ex - alt - ed high a - bove,



Whose gifts of grace are free-ly poured On all who name Your name;
Whose time-less teach-ings still are heard Set forth on Scrip-ture's page;
And by His death sal - va - tion won For ev - 'ry child of earth;
Our Morn-ing Star in splen-dor bright, The Life, the Truth, the Way;
Whose praise un - end - ing a - ges sing, Whom yet un - seen we love;



With thank - ful - ness and praise We stand be - fore Your throne,
 Trans - form our thought and mind, En - light - en all who read,
 In - spire our hearts, we pray, To tell Your love a - broad,
 That light of truth You give To ser - vants as to friends,
 When mor - tal life is past Your voice from heav - en's throne



In - tent to serve You all our days And make Your glo - ry known.
 With - in Your Word by faith to find The bread of life in - deed.
 That all may hon - or Christ to - day And fol - low Him as Lord.
 Your way to walk, Your life to live, Till earth's brief jour - ney ends.
 Shall call Your chil - dren home at last To know as we are known.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926–2024
 Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93
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Service of the Word

Kyrie

LSB 204

- C** Lord, have mercy;
- Christ, have mercy;
- Lord, have mercy.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- L** 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.

Sit

First Reading

Acts 5:29–42

- L** A reading from Acts, chapter 5.

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** O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 148; antiphon: v. 13

¹Praise the LORD!
Praise the LORD from the | heavens; *
praise him | in the heights!

²Praise him, all his | angels; *
praise him, | all his hosts!

³Praise him, | sun and moon, *
praise him, all you | shining stars!

⁴Praise him, you highest | heavens, *
and you waters above the | heavens!

⁵Let them praise the name | of the LORD! *
For he commanded and they were cre- | ated.

⁶And he established them forever and | ever; *
he gave a decree, and it shall not | pass away.

⁷Praise the LORD | from the earth, *
you great sea creatures and | all deeps,

⁸fire and hail, | snow and mist, *
stormy wind fulfill- | ing his word!

⁹Mountains and | all hills, *
fruit trees and all | cedars!

¹⁰Beasts and all | livestock, *
creeping things and | flying birds!

¹¹Kings of the earth and all | peoples, *
princes and all rulers | of the earth!

¹²Young men and maidens to- | gether, *
old men and | children!

¹³Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for his name alone is ex- | alted; *
his majesty is above earth and | heaven.

¹⁴He 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 be- | ginning,
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Epistle

1 Peter 1:3–9

L The Epistle is from 1 Peter, chapter 1.

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.

Stand

Holy Gospel

John 20:19–31

L 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.

L This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

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.


Sit

471 O Sons and Daughters of the King

Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!




1 O sons and daugh - ters of the King,
2 That Eas - ter morn, at break of day,
3 An an - gel clad in white they see,



Whom heav'n - ly hosts in glo - ry sing, To - day the
The faith - ful wom - en went their way To seek the
Who sits and speaks un - to the three, "Your Lord will

The Refrain is repeated after st. 9.



grave has lost its sting! Al - le - lu - ia!
tomb where Je - sus lay. Al - le - lu - ia!
go to Gal - i - lee." Al - le - lu - ia!

4 That night the apostles met in fear;
Among them came their master dear
And said, "My peace be with you here."
Alleluia!

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

6 "My piercèd side, O Thomas, see,
And look upon My hands, My feet;
Not faithless but believing be."
Alleluia!

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

8 How blest are they who have not seen
And yet whose faith has constant been,
For they eternal life shall win.
Alleluia!

9 On this most holy day of days
Be laud and jubilee and praise:

To God your hearts and voices raise.

Alleluia! Refrain

Text: attr. Jean Tisserand, d. 1494; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.
Tune: French, 15th cent.
Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

Prayer of the Church

L In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For God’s people, that we may shed our doubts and come joyfully before God like the apostle Thomas, who saw, believed and rejoiced in the power of Christ’s resurrection, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For all pastors as they preach and teach the Word, that all who hear may believe and that, believing, they may live in righteousness and godliness before the world until Christ returns, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For our homes, that Christ would give them peace and enliven them with His resurrected life; that He would cause the forgiveness of sins to reign among husbands and wives, parents and children; and that He would assure those who live alone that they, too, are His children, upheld by His right hand, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For the nations, that they would embrace the Gospel of the resurrected Christ; and that wicked power would be curbed and all rulers brought to the feet of Jesus in worship, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For the troubled in our midst, that Christ’s wounds would continue to bring His gladness, peace and comforting presence to His disciples [*especially* _____]; and for those who weep, [*especially* _____], that in the difficult night of this world they would confidently expect the blessed joy of Easter morning, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For all who commune today, that God would give us contrition and faith, unite us in our confession of His truth, and so bring us worthily to eat and to drink Christ’s body and blood for our forgiveness and life, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For patience and endurance in Christ, that we may have the privilege not only of believing in Him, but also of suffering for His sake, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L O Lord, heavenly Father, give us all things good and beneficial to us and to our salvation, and keep us from all things harmful; through Jesus Christ, our crucified and risen Savior, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, “Peace be with you,” as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).

Offering

783 Take My Life and Let It Be

sts. 1, 6



1 Take my life and let it be Con-se - crat - ed, Lord, to Thee;
6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour At Thy feet its trea - sure store;



Take my mo - ments and my days, Let them flow in cease - less praise.
Take my - self, and I will be Ev - er, on - ly, all for Thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-79
Tune: William H. Havergal, 1793-1870
Text and tune: Public domain

NO SACRAMENT (PASTOR NOT PRESENT)

Stand

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.

Stand

L Let us bless the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

L The almighty God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.
C Amen.

472 These Things Did Thomas Count as Real



1 These things did Thom - as count as real: The
2 The vi - sion of his skept - tic mind Was
3 His rea - soned cer - tain - ties de - nied That
4 May we, O God, by grace be - lieve And



warmth of blood, the chill of steel, The grain of wood, the
keen e-nough to make him blind To an - y un - ex -
one could live when one had died, Un - til his fin - gers
thus the ris - en Christ re - ceive, Whose raw im - print - ed



heft of stone, The last frail twitch of flesh and bone.
pect - ed act Too large for his small world of fact.
read like braille The mark - ings of the spear and nail.
palms reached out And beck - oned Thom - as from his doubt.

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