



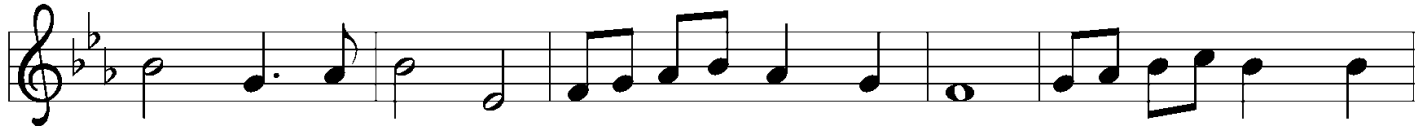
# Sunday, April 16, 2023

## Second Sunday of Easter

### **Introduction**

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.

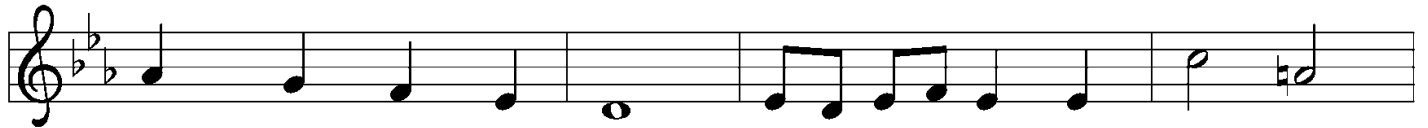
# Gathering Hymn..... "Thine Is the Glory"



1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the  
2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he  
3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-



vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment  
greet thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness  
out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con - qu'rors,



rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes  
hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;  
through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

## *Refrain*



where thy bod - y lay.  
death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring  
to thy home a - bove.



Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

## **Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the strength of our ancestors, the host of this meal, the builder of the city that is to come.

**Amen.**

If we have died with Christ, we will also live with Christ. Let us confess our sin to the one who is faithful.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God our helper,

**We confess the many ways**

**We have failed to live as your disciples.**

**We have not finished what we began.**

**We have feasted with friends but ignored strangers.**

**We have been captivated by our possessions.**

**Lift our burdens, gracious God.**

**Refresh our hearts and forgive our sin.**

**Raise us to the new life you have chosen for us**

**in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

There is rejoicing in heaven when sinners repent. Put your trust in these promises: God will never leave you or forsake you. You who were lost have been found. For the sake of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Rejoice with the angels at this good news.

**Amen.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

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.

**Amen.**

## **First Reading: 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."

**HERE ENDS THE READING.**

### **Second Reading: 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.

**HERE ENDS THE READING.**

# **Choral Anthem..... "Face to Face, We Shall Behold Him!"**

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

The Holy Gospel according to St. John

### **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*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.*

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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

### **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Sermon**

## Sermon Hymn..... "We Walk by Faith"



1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with  
2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor  
3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and  
4 For you, O res - ur - rec - ted Lord, are  
5 And when our life of faith is done, in



gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as  
fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise  
may our faith a - bound to call on you when  
found in means di - vine: be - neath the wa - ter  
realms of clear - er light may we be - hold you



none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."  
we re - jice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"  
you are near and seek where you are found:  
and the word, be - neath the bread and wine.  
as you are, with full and end - less sight.

Text: Henry Alford, 1810-1871, alt.

Music: SHANTI, Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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## The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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**

## Prayers of Intercession

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

God of rebirth, the good news of your resurrection brings refreshment to a weary world. Following the women at the tomb, empower us to boldly share your radical love through our words and our work. Lord, in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

As you breathed your Spirit into the disciples, breathe your spirit of healing upon all creation. Nourish the earth with sufficient rains. Strengthen us to counter the effects of pollution and destruction. Lord, in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

You prepared the disciples for their ministry by calming their fears and granting them your peace. Equip our communities' leaders. Give them a spirit of peace and hearts that burn for justice, that their leadership reflects your love. Lord, in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

You come among us in unexpected ways. Send us to those who hide in fear or question your love. Be a healing presence for any isolated by addiction, incarceration, mental illness, chronic pain, sickness, or grief (*especially Mary Ann, Don, Barbara, Christi, Sue, Michael, Jenna, Joe, Dave, Joy, Bill, Lori, Vicki, Steve, Tyler, Norm, Penny, Michael, Ron, Sandy, Michael, Pete, Hadlee, Maryann, Shirley, Trisha, Bonnie, Henry, Del, Ruth, Sarah, Gloria, Carl, Sumi, Celine, Jim, Jonathan, Michael, Darcie, Peter and Gavin*). Lord, in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

As you met the disciples on the road to Emmaus, show us your presence along our journeys. Bless our doubts and questions. Provide trusting and safe relationships for all ages, to nurture our connection to you and one another. Lord, in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

Resurrecting God, you bring us to new life every day. Thank you for blessing us with companions on our faith journey, especially those who now rest in your love (*especially Larry*). Strengthen us with the eternal peace of your promises. Lord, in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **Sharing of the Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

## **Offering**

### **Offering Prayer**

Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**



## **Thanksgiving at the Table**

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

## **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.**

## **Invitation to Communion**

Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

## **Distribution**

*We will be using the intinction method for distribution. You will be handed bread and asked to dip the bread in the chalice. Gluten-free bread and grape juice are available. Please make your way forward by the center aisle, returning down the side. If mobility is a problem for you, please notify an usher and you will be served at your seat.*

## **Special Music..... "I Will Wait for You" (Choir)**

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Contributors: Keith Getty, Jordan Kauflin, Matthew Sherman Merker

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## Post Communion Prayer

Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name.

**Amen.**

## Blessing

The God of all, who raised ✠ Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.

**Amen.**

## Sending Song..... "I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me"



1 I'm so glad I'm so glad  
2 Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me. Sa - tan had me bound,  
3 When I was in trou - ble, When I was in trou - ble,



Je - sus lift - ed me. I'm so glad  
Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me,  
When I was in trou - ble,



sing - ing glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Je - sus lift - ed me.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: JESUS LIFTED ME, African American spiritual

## Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

**Thanks be to God.**