

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 7 & 8, 2018 5:00 pm & 8:15 am



AS WE GATHER

Thomas is seldom remembered for anything other than his doubt. In our quest to find relatable biblical characters, we often leave Thomas as a man who needed evidence—proof. We may miss his bold confession: “My Lord and my God!” While the other ten disciples had seen Jesus eight days earlier, none of them confessed as Thomas did. And none of them believed until Jesus appeared to them and spoke His Word to them. Focus today not on Thomas’s doubt but rather on his confession of faith.

PRELUDE

Organ

RINGING OF THE BELLS - *We Prepare our hearts and minds for worship*



WELCOME

OPENING HYMN “Come, You Faithful, Raise The Strain” *LSB 487*

**Come, you faithful, raise the strain Of triumphant gladness!
God has brought His Israel Into joy from sadness,
Loosed from Pharaoh’s bitter yoke Jacob’s sons and daughters,
Led them with unmoistened foot Through the Red Sea waters.**

**Tis the spring of souls today: Christ has burst His prison
And from three days sleep in death As a sun has risen;
All the winter of our sins, Long and dark, is flying
From His light, to whom is giv’n Laud and praise undying.**

**Now the queen of seasons, bright With the day of splendor,
With the royal feast of feasts Comes its joy to render;
Comes to gladden faithful hearts Which with true affection
Welcome in unwearied strain Jesus’ resurrection!**

**For today among His own Christ appeared, bestowing
His deep peace, which evermore Passes human knowing.
Neither could the gates of death Nor the tomb’s dark portal
Nor the watchers nor the seal Hold Him as a mortal.**

**Alleluia! Now we cry To our King immortal,
Who, triumphant, burst the bars Of the tomb's dark portal.
Come, you faithful, raise the strain Of triumphant gladness!
God has brought His Israel Into joy from sadness!**

(Please Stand)

EASTER PROCLAMATION

Pastor: Christ is risen!

People: **He is risen indeed!**

Pastor: Christ is risen!

Men: *He is risen indeed!*

Pastor: Christ is risen!

Women: *He is risen indeed!*

Pastor: Christ is risen!

People: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**



CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.** *Matthew 28:19b*

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

People: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** *1 John 1:8–9*

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: **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.

Pastor: 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.

[John 20:19–23]

People: Amen.

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

HYMN OF PRAISE “This Is The Feast”

LSB 155

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, Whose blood set us free to be people of God. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, And honor, blessing, and glory are His. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, And join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory, and might Be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God,

People 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;
Pastor through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
People: Amen.

(Please Be Seated)



FIRST READING Acts 4:32–35 (Great unity filled the Early Church as the apostles gave testimony to the resurrection of Jesus.)

Now 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. [33] And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. [34] 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 [35] and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.



EPISTLE 1 John 1:1–2:2 (God has come near to us with His light and life.)

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— [2] 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— [3] 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. [4] And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. [5] 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. [6] If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. [7] 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. [8] If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. [9] If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins

and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. [10] If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.[2:1] 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. [2] He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

(Please Stand)

GOSPEL VERSE “Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven” *LSB 477, v. 1*

**Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts to heav’n and voices raise:
Sing to God a hymn of gladness, Sing to God a hymn of praise;
He who on the cross a victim For the world’s salvation bled—
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, Now is risen from the dead.**



HOLY GOSPEL *John 20:19–31* (Jesus appears to a troubled Thomas.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

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." [20] When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. [21] Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." [22] And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. [23] If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld." [24] Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. [25] 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.**" [26] 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." [27] 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." [28] Thomas answered him, "**My Lord and my God!**" [29]

Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." [30] Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; [31] 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.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.



APOSTLES' CREED

LSB 159

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.

(Please Be Seated)



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE "Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia" *LSB 466, Refrain*

***Refrain:* Let us sing praise to Him with endless joy;
Death's fearful sting He has come to destroy.
Our sin forgiving, alleluia!
Jesus is living, alleluia!**

HYMN OF THE DAY "O Sons and Daughters of the King" *LSB 470*

**O sons and daughters of the King, Whom heav'nly hosts in glory sing,
Today the grave has lost its sting! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**That Easter morn, at break of day, The faithful women went their way
To seek the tomb where Jesus lay. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**An angel clad in white they see, Who sits and speaks unto the three,
“Your Lord will go to Galilee.” Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

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

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

**“My pierced side, O Thomas, see, And look upon My hands, My feet;
Not faithless but believing be.” Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

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

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

**On this most holy day of days Be laud and jubilee and praise:
To God your hearts and voices raise. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**



SERMON

(Please Stand)



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Pastor: Lord, we live in a world of death where threats of war, terrorism, disease, and disasters constantly abound. But You are the God of life. In the midst of all this death, bring the hope and comfort of Christ’s resurrection. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord, there are many who do not know the joy of Your light and life and many who refuse to believe the power of Your resurrection unless they can see or experience something profound. Lead them to confess alongside Thomas, “My Lord and my God!” Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, send healing and care to all who are sick, injured, and recovering, [*especially . . .*]. Strengthen them with Your healing hand, and bring them the joy of fellowship we have in the communion of saints. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, at one time Your Church was united so that the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul. Unite Your Church once again so that we enjoy fellowship rather than fractured division. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

(Special Petitions)

Pastor: Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

People: Amen.

(Please Be Seated)



GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

(Please Stand)

OFFERTORY “What Shall I Render to the Lord” *Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19 LSB 159*

What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?

I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.

I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,

In the courts of the Lord’s house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.



✠SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT✠

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, our duty, and our delight to give You thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty God, but chiefly do we praise You for the resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, whose death has paid the price of our sins and whose life bestows upon us everlasting life. With angels, archangels, and with all the saints in light, we join in praising Your name and singing their unending hymn:

SANCTUS *Holy, Holy, Holy* *Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9* *LSB 161*

**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.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *LSB 162*

LORD'S PRAYER *LSB 162*

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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. *Matthew 6:9–13*

PAX DOMINI *The Peace of the Lord John 20:19* *LSB 163*

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI *Lamb of God John 1:29* *LSB 163*

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

(Please Be Seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Praise The One Who Breaks The Darkness” *LSB 849*

**Praise the One who breaks the darkness With a liberating light;
Praise the One who frees the pris’ners, Turning blindness into sight.
Praise the One who preached the Gospel, Healing ev’ry dread disease,
Calming storms, and feeding thousands With the very Bread of peace.**

**Praise the One who blessed the children With a strong, yet gentle word;
Praise the One who drove out demons With the piercing, two-edged sword.
Praise the One who brings cool water To the desert’s burning sand;
From this Well comes living water, Quenching thirst in ev’ry land.**

**Let us praise the Word Incarnate, Christ, who suffered in our place.
Jesus died and rose victorious That we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness, Seeing what our God has done;
Let us praise the true Redeemer, Praise the One who makes us one.**

“Where Charity and Love Prevail” *LSB 845*

Where charity and love prevail There God is ever found;

Brought here together by Christ's love By love are we thus bound.

**With grateful joy and holy fear His charity we learn;
Let us with heart and mind and soul Now love Him in return.**

**Forgive we now each other's faults As we our faults confess,
And let us love each other well In Christian holiness.**

**Let strife among us be unknown; Let all contention cease;
Be God's the glory that we seek; Be ours His holy peace.**

**Let us recall that in our midst Dwells Christ, His only Son;
As members of His body joined We are in Him made one.**

**For love excludes no race or clan That names the Savior's name;
His family embraces all Whose Father is the same.**

"I Want To Walk As A Child of the Light"

LSB 411

**I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.**

***Refrain:* In Him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are
both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart,
Lord Jesus.**

**I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path, And show me the way to the
Father. *Refrain***

**I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race, We shall know the joy of Jesus.
*Refrain***

(Please Stand)

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

LSB 164

**Thank the Lord and sing His Praise, tell ev'ryone what He has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia!**



BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

LSB 166

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN "Lo, He Comes With Clouds Descending" LSB 336

**Lo! He Comes with clouds descending, Once for ev'ry sinner slain;
Thousand thousand saints attending Swell the triumph of His train:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Christ the Lord returns to reign.**

**Ev'ry eye shall now behold Him Robed in glorious majesty;
Those who set at naught and sold Him, Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,
Deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing, Shall their true Messiah see.**

**Those dear tokens of His passion Still His dazzling body bears,
Cause of endless exultation To His ransomed worshipers.
With what rapture, with what rapture, with what rapture Gaze we on those
glorious scars!**

**Yea, amen, let all adore Thee, High on Thine eternal throne;
Savior, take the pow'r and glory, Claim the kingdom as Thine own.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Thou shalt reign, and Thou alone!**

POSTLUDE

Organ

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