

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Toward the Forgiveness of Sin

April 11, 2021

AS WE GATHER



Though Easter is a season and not merely a Sunday, it can be hard to sustain the enthusiasm when attendance drops on “low Sunday.” That said, the source of our joy is not in the size of the crowd but the greatness of the gift that Christ has given us. We have the forgiveness of sins, and where there is forgiveness for our sins, there is also life and salvation. We are held captive to fear, to the guilt of our sin, and to the power of death until Christ enters our locked rooms, shows Himself to us, and we, by the power of the Holy Spirit, rejoice in our Lord and God.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN LSB 477 “Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven”

INVOCATION

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

People: **Amen.**

EASTER ACCLAMATION

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *1 John 1:6–10*

Pastor: If we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness,

People: **we lie and do not practice the truth.**

Pastor: But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another,

People: **and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.**

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

People: **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Pastor: If we say we have not sinned,

People: **we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.**

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.

People: **Amen.**

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

People: **Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

HYMN LSB 474 "Alleluia! Jesus is Risen"

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Lord, we are too easily captive to fear and the shadow of death. Break through the closed doors of our hearts and shine Your light into our darkness, that knowing the forgiveness of our sins, we may no longer be bound by any anxiety or afflicted by any doubt; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

HYMN He Is Faithful

If we confess our sins, He is faithful;
If we confess our sins, He is just.
If we confess our sins, He is faithful,
He is faithful, He is faithful to forgive.

So call upon the Lord, He is faithful;
So call upon the Lord, He is just.
So call upon the Lord, He is faithful,
He is faithful, He is faithful to forgive.

FIRST READING *Acts 4:32–35*

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *1 John 1:1–2:2*

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

VERSE *Romans 6:9; John 20:29b*

Pastor: Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him. Alleluia.

People: Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *John 20:19–31*

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

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

(The Gospel is read.)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY LSB 470 vs 1-5 “O Sons and Daughters of the King”

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY LSB 470 vs 6-9 “O Sons and Daughters of the King”

CREED *Apostles Creed*

People: 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.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

People: 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.**

OFFERTORY LSB 795 tune 367 vs 1,2,5 “Voices Raised to You We Offer”

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

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.**

HYMN LSB 463 “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia”

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