

Second Sunday of Easter, year A

April 19, 2020 ✝ Mount Olive Lutheran Church



Focus on the Season: Second Sunday of Easter, year A

Blessed are those who trust God's Easter life without seeing, Jesus tells Thomas, tells us. Breaking through locked doors of fear and anxiety, Jesus comes with the gift of peace, the gift of his presence among us, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. With these gifts, the disciples were emboldened to proclaim the Good News of the resurrection in the world, despite threats of imprisonment and punishment. So it is with we who meet the risen Lord Jesus here and are filled with the same gifts.

Keep this document open on the screen, to aid in your worship today. The links are embedded in this pdf, so you don't have to return to the email. However, you can also print these pages and use the links in the email.



Centering and Gathering

Light your candle.

PRELUDE: **Prayer of St. Gregory** Alan Hovhaness (1911-2000)

Recorded by Cantor Cherwien and Charles Lazarus on April 7, 2020. [Click the bold title to watch.](#)

HYMN: ELW 363, "Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain" [click the title to listen](#)

Sung at Mount Olive on the Second Sunday of Easter, year A, April 23, 2017.

EASTER GREETING

Greet one another with the good news!

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

Word

PRAYER OF THE DAY [click the bold title for the Prayer and the First Reading](#)

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; reader – assisting minister Kat Campbell-Johnson

[in Prayer of the Day video](#)

¹⁴Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the people: ²²“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—²³this 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. ²⁴ But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ²⁵ 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; ²⁶ therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope. ²⁷ For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. ²⁸ You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

²⁹ "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. ³⁰ 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. ³¹ Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, 'He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.' ³² This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

Sing or say the psalm together:

PSALM: Psalm 16



Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; * I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord,
my good above all other."

All my delight is in the godly that are | in the land, * upon those who are noble among the
people.

But those who run after | other gods * shall have their troubles | multiplied.

I will not pour out drink offerings | to such gods, * never take their names up- | on my lips.

O LORD, you are my portion | and my cup; * it is you who up- | hold my lot.

My boundaries enclose a | pleasant land; * indeed, I have a | rich inheritance.

I will bless the LORD who | gives me counsel; * my heart teaches me night | after night.

I have set the LORD al- | ways before me; * because God is at my right hand, I shall | not be shaken.

My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spir- | it rejoices; * my body also shall | rest in hope.

For you will not abandon me | to the grave, * nor let your holy one | see the pit.

You will show me the | path of life; * in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand
are pleasures for- | evermore.

READING: **I Peter 1:3-9**; reader – assisting minister Kat Campbell-Johnson [click I Peter to watch](#)

³ 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, ⁴ and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷ 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. ⁸ 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, ⁹ for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: **Be Not Afraid** [click on the bold title to listen](#)

Sung at Mount Olive on the Third Sunday of Easter, year A, May 4, 2014.

HOLY GOSPEL: **John 20:19-31** [click John to watch](#)

¹⁹ 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 authorities, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace

be with you.”²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, 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 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 trust.”

²⁶ 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.”²⁷ 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 trust.”²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you trusted because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to trust.”

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book.³¹ But these are written so that you may come to trust that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through that trust you may have life in his name.

SERMON

Easter

Pastor Joseph Crippen

Click on the title, “Easter,” to watch

HYMN: **ELW 386, “O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing”**

click on the bold title to listen

Sung at Mount Olive on the Second Sunday of Easter, year B, April 8, 2018.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

Our Assisting Minister for today, Kat Campbell-Johnson, has prepared intercessory prayers for us to pray this morning. As our prayers rise up from all over the metro area and beyond, once more we are joined together in Christ.

*Included in our prayers this morning are prayers for healing for **Gloria Johnson** (Doug Parish’s mother) and **Betty Amala** (Anders Amala’s mother). We also remember with the saints who have died these loved ones who died this past week: **Charlotte Koshiol** (Julie Erlandson’s mother), **Genevieve (Jenny) Olson** (Lisa Nordeen’s aunt), and **Pr. Craig Breimhorst** (Pr. Crippen’s friend, who died from COVID-19), and we pray for their families and friends that God’s peace and hope might come to them in their sorrow.*

Pray these aloud, perhaps with one as leader if there are more than one gathered, and add any you feel drawn to add.

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Silence.

Open the doors we close, O God, when we fear those who worship you in different ways. Guide us to unity and harmony so that we may come to respect and cherish our commonalities. *God, in your mercy . . .*

Open the paths we ignore, O God, when we prioritize financial gain and convenience over listening to the groaning of the earth or the weeping of the vulnerable. Inspire all to care for the world you have made so that all living things might thrive. *God, in your mercy . . .*

Open the rooms we lock, O God, to those who live without a homeland or place of safety. We pray that generous nations offer refuge and peace for all. *God, in your mercy . . .*

Open the hearts we close, O God, to the cries of those in pain. We pray for those isolated physically or emotionally through incarceration, addiction, mental illness, chronic suffering, grief, and all in need, especially Betty and Gloria. *God, in your mercy . . .*

Open the ways of love, O God, in the pursuit of peace throughout the world, and bless the efforts of missionaries, healthcare professionals, activists for women and children, and relief workers, especially those who find themselves in harm's way. We pray that our mission partners around the world and in our neighborhood continue your good work: Bethania Kids, Lake Street Council, and the Powderhorn Neighborhood Association. *God, in your mercy . . .*

Open the arms we cannot extend, O God, and rejoice with those celebrating their baptismal anniversaries: Ann, Linda, Michael, Julia, Jeffrey, Celia, Dixie, Mary, and Daniel. *God, in your mercy . . .*

Add any petitions you feel drawn to pray. Then:

Open the way to eternal life, O God, as we remember those who have died in faith, especially Olavus and Laurentius, renewers of the church, Charlotte, Genevieve, and Craig. Honor those now living in your glorious resurrection whom we name silently or aloud . . . Free us from the fear of death, that we embrace the peace you have promised. *God, in your mercy . . .*

Whatever else you see that we and the world need, grant us O God, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

OFFERING

There are ways to continue to give of your gifts to our shared work at Mount Olive during this time apart. The Olive Branch has suggested ways both electronic and by mail. See:

<https://www.mountolivechurch.org/resources/olive-branch-newsletter/>

PEACE

Please greet others with Christ's peace. If you haven't called someone to join this prayer together, perhaps you might take the time now to call another and wish them peace.

HYMN: **ELW 385, "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing"** *click on the bold title to listen*
Sung at Mount Olive on the Resurrection of Our Lord, year C, April 1, 2018.

CONCLUDING PRAYER AND BLESSING

Pray the Lord's Prayer together.

Someone may offer a blessing on behalf of all:

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, guard and keep our hearts and minds in + Christ Jesus. Amen.

🔊 Christ is risen! Alleluia! 🗣️ **Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

🔊 Go in peace to love and serve as Christ. 🗣️ **Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE: **Suite in D Major, movement I** George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

Video recorded Thursday, April 9, 2020 at Mount Olive Lutheran Church; Charles Lazarus, trumpet, and Cantor David Cherwien, organ. Click the bold title to watch.