

Readings + The Resurrection of Our Lord, year B + April 4, 2021

Prayer of the Day

God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

First Reading Isaiah 25:6-9

⁶ On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged
wines strained clear.

⁷ And God will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;
he will swallow up death forever.

⁸ Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears
from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away
from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.

⁹ It will be said on that day,
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so
that he might save us.
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Psalmody Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;
God's mercy endures forever.

Let Israel now declare, "God's mercy endures forever."

The LORD is my strength and my song, and has
become my salvation.

Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous: "The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"

The right hand of the LORD is exalted! The right
hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"

I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.

The LORD indeed punished me sorely, but did not hand me over to death.

Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.

"This is the gate of the LORD; here the righteous may enter."

I give thanks to you, for you have answered me and you have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

By the LORD has this been done; it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Second Reading Acts 10:34-43

³⁴ Peter began to speak to [the people]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Holy Gospel Mark 16:1-8

Each of the four Gospels has variations on how they tell this story. Mark's is unique in that he doesn't have a resurrection appearance. Like Luke, he calls the witness in white a "young man" (Luke has 2). Matthew and Mark are more alike than different. The significant difference for Mark is that the women "say nothing to anyone" out of fear. Matthew includes the fear, but adds "and great joy," and has them tell the others.

¹ When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ² And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³ They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the

entrance to the tomb?" ⁴ When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵ As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶ But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷ But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸ So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.