

Gospel: John 20:19-31

¹⁹On 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." ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld." ²⁴Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So 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." ²⁶Eight 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." ²⁷Then 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." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but 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.

Lessons for Next Week: Acts 3:11-21; Psalm 4;
1 John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36-49

The Word of God



Second Sunday of Easter

April 11, 2021

Prayer of the Day

Help us, almighty God, that our joyful celebration of the resurrection feast may be reflected in our daily work and conversation. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading: Acts 4:32-35

³²Now 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. ³³And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There 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 ³⁵and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Psalm 148

¹Hallelujah! Praise the LORD | from the heavens;*
praise him | in the heights.

²**Praise him, all you an- | gels of his;***
praise him, | all his host.

³Praise him, | sun and moon;*
praise him, all you | shining stars.

⁴**Praise him, heav- | en of heavens,***
and you waters a- | bove the heavens.

⁵Let them praise the name | of the LORD;*
for he commanded, and they | were created.

⁶**He made them stand fast forev- | er and ever;***
he gave them a law which shall not | pass away.

⁷Praise the LORD | from the earth,*
you sea monsters | and all deeps;

⁸**Fire and hail, | snow and fog,***
tempestuous wind, do- | ing his will;

⁹Mountains | and all hills,*
fruit trees | and all cedars;

¹⁰**Wild beasts | and all cattle,***
creeping things and | winged birds;

¹¹Kings of the earth | and all peoples,*
princes and all rulers | of the world;

¹²**Young | men and maidens,***
old and | young together.

¹³Let them praise the name | of the LORD,*
for his name only is exalted,
his splendor is over | earth and heaven.

¹⁴**He has raised up strength for his people**
and praise for all his | loyal servants,*
the children of Israel,
a people who are near him. | Hallelujah!

Second Reading: 1 John 1:1-2:2

¹That 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 — ²the 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 — ³that 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. ⁴And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. ⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. ⁷But 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. ⁸If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

¹My 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. ²He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.