

# Service of Prayer and Proclamation

April 19, 2020 • The Second Sunday of Easter

Redeemer Lutheran Church-LCMS  
Charleston, WV

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INVOCATION

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

### LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

### CONFESSION OF SINS

LSB 291

*Brief time of silence to think on God's Word and the sin we need to confess*

**C** O almighty God, merciful Father, we poor miserable sinners, confess unto You all our sins and iniquities with which we have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But we are heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and we pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to us, poor, sinful beings.

### ABSOLUTION

LSB 291

**P** In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

### COLLECT OF THE DAY

Easter 2

**P** Almighty God, 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; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

### PSALM OF THE DAY

*Psalm 148*

Praise the LORD!  
Praise the LORD from the | heavens;\*  
praise him | in the heights!  
Praise him, all his | angels;\*  
praise him, | all his hosts!  
Praise him, | sun and moon,\*  
praise him, all you | shining stars!  
Praise him, you highest | heavens,\*  
and you waters above the | heavens!  
Let them praise the name | of the LORD!\*  
For he commanded and they were cre- | ated.  
And he established them forever and | ever;\*  
he gave a decree, and it shall not | pass away.  
Praise the LORD | from the earth,\*  
you great sea creatures and | all deeps,  
fire and hail, | snow and mist,\*  
stormy wind fulfill- | ing his word!  
Mountains and | all hills,\*  
fruit trees and all | cedars!  
Beasts and all | livestock,\*  
creeping things and | flying birds!  
Kings of the earth and all | peoples,\*  
princes and all rulers | of the earth!  
Young men and maidens to- | gether,\*  
old men and | children!  
Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
for his name alone is ex- | alted;\*  
his majesty is above earth and | heaven.  
He has raised up a horn for his people,  
praise for | all his saints,\*  
for the people of Israel who are near to him. | Praise the LORD!

### THE FIRST READING

*Acts 5:29–42*

**P** A reading from Acts, the fifth chapter.

But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men. The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. And he said to them, “Men of

Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered. So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!" So they took his advice, and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

### **THE SECOND READING**

*1 Peter 1:3–9*

**P** A reading from 1 Peter, the first chapter.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

### **COLLECT FOR THE WORD**

**P** Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **HOLY GOSPEL**

*John 20:19–31*

**P** The Gospel according to St. John the twentieth chapter.

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." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As

the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.”

Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. 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.”

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.” 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.” Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; 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.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

## SERMON

*The Voice of Peace*

## APOSTLES' CREED

**P** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

*What does this mean?*

Answer: I believe that God has made me and all creatures. He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my limbs, my reason, and all my senses, and still preserves them. In addition, He has given me clothing and shoes, meat and drink, house and home, wife and children, fields, cattle, and all my goods. He provides me richly and daily with all that I need to support this body and life. He protects me from all danger and guards me and preserves me from all evil. He does all this out of pure, fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this I ought to thank Him, praise Him, serve Him, and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

**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.**

*What does this mean?*

Answer: I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him. But the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise up me and all the dead and will give eternal life to me and to all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.

### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Hear us, merciful Father, as we pray for ourselves, for the Church, for our nation and for all conditions and manner of people. *Brief silence*

God of mercy, keep us from the doubts and fears that cripple us and prevent us from knowing the fullness of Your saving peace and gracious presence. Teach us to trust in Your Word and to believe with all our hearts, minds, bodies and strength in Jesus Christ, crucified for our sins and raised for our justification. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of grace, bestow upon Your Church Your Holy Spirit and all the gifts that come down from on high. Grant to us faithful pastors who will preach faithfully and ears to hear Your Word proclaimed. Give us boldness in our witness before the world and courage to speak Your name without fear. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of power, give courage and strength to those persecuted for the faith, and comfort the families of the martyrs. Keep Your Church from following the winds of change, and make her steadfast in the doctrine of the apostles and the faith once delivered to the saints. Help us to admonish those who have fallen away with Your Word and to restore with gentleness those who have wandered from the truth. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of might, counsel the nations and their leaders in the paths of peace and justice. Bless us with wise, faithful and just leaders who will protect the sanctity of life and defend us against all enemies, foreign and domestic. Make us wise and discerning citizens who use the gift of liberty for noble purpose. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of love, teach us to love one another as You have loved us. Guide us so that in our neighborhoods and communities we may manifest the love of Christ as well as His strength. Deliver us from all that would threaten our homes and families. Protect the police, firefighters, disaster-relief workers and medical personnel who attend to us, as well as the places where we live and work. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of comfort, give Your aid and relief to all who suffer want or need, to the sick in their afflictions, to those troubled in mind, and to those to whom death draws near. Heal and sustain

them according to Your gracious will, and preserve them in faith to eternal life. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of hope, be with those who grieve the loss of those whom they love. Point them to the promise of the resurrection and the gift of everlasting life to all who die in Christ. Deliver us from the distractions of things that do not matter, that we may focus on the needful things of Your Word and Sacraments and so be found faithful when our Lord returns in His glory. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of compassion, bless us with the good gifts of the earth, with the fruits of our honest labors, and with a kind and generous heart. Accept the worship of our hearts and voices along with the tithes and offerings we bring as part of our gratitude and thanksgiving. Open our eyes and hearts to the needs of the poor, that we may serve them in Your name. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of peace, give harmony and unity to Your people, both in our various vocations before the world and in our common life at this altar. Help us to receive with repentance and joy the gift of Christ's body and blood in this blest communion, that we may be strengthened in faith and enjoy the gift of a clear conscience through the forgiveness of our sins. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O blessed God and Lord, hear the prayers of Your people and teach us to trust in Your will to answer our prayers with all that is needful and beneficial, both for us and for all for whom we have prayed; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Thus we pray, giving testimony of our confidence in Your gracious favor in Christ who taught us to pray:

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**☩ Our Father which 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.**

## **BENEDICTION (Aaronic)**

- ☐ 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. Amen

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

Service of Prayer and Preaching from Lutheran Service Book

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Quotes from Small Catechism: Paul Timothy McCain, ed., Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions (St. Louis, MO: Concordia Publishing House, 2005), 328, 330

## **PRAYER LIST**

**Charlotte** (toddler granddaughter of Angie and Don King) broke her clavicle and is having a hard time staying still and in a sling.

**Unidentified member of Redeemer suffering from severe depression.** Please pray for this person to experience a new desire for living.

**Betty and Bob** (former coworkers of Barb Toler) please pray for comfort, strength and healing as they deal with Bob's recent diagnosis of lung cancer in both lungs, radiation and chemotherapy.

**Teresa Cisco** (friend of Elaine Hackman) lost her mother, Melissa, and her home in a house fire. Additionally, her diabetes assistance dog is missing though it was thought to have escaped the fire.

**Harrison and Cindy Gapter** (friends of Elaine Hackman) Cindy was recently diagnosed with Stage 4 pancreatic cancer.

**Liz Albitz, Ed & Kim Booten, Billie Brisendine, Brodie, Nancy & Tim Calnon, Catherine, Father Chapin, Jeanne K Cochran, Linda Cooper, Susan and Skip Daly, Will Davis, Jamie Dickenson, Robbie Dickenson, Jackie Elston, Doris Gerke, Paula Hammond, Jim and Marlene Hanson, Aaron Harris, Jackie Hartley, Jo Hartley, Johnny, Josephine Care Community in Stanwood, WA, Selena Heise, Roy "Hutch" Hutchison, Tom Janicki, Linda, Roy and Betty Lindmark, Mariah, Marie Marcum, Deby, Jeanneane Maxon, Sandy McKinney, Phyllis Miscovich, Bob Mitchell, Lisa and John Nazzarro, Lori Nettles, Noah, Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Huntington, Kirsti Patzman, Herb & Marian Pauley, Harold Reed, Thresa Robinson, Donna Ruffatto, Stu and Marcia Schwalm, Betsy Shaak, Richard Selmon, Carmella Shaver, St. John's Lutheran Church, Megan Swartz, Taegan Witcher**

**All diagnosed with Covid-19;**

**All diagnosed with Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia, and their caregivers;**

**All diagnosed with any form of cancer;**

**All diagnosed with any incurable (even if treatable) disease.**

**For our congregation - that we would pursue God's will for us as His people gathered here to bring Him glory as we make disciples being help, hope, home in the body of Christ.**