



“Blessed  
are those who  
have not seen  
and yet have  
come to  
BELIEVE.”

John 20:29, NRSV

April 19, 2020

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2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter  
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*In today's gospel the risen Christ appears to the disciples and offers them the gift of peace. Even amid doubts and questions, we experience the resurrection in our Sunday gathering around word and meal, and in our everyday lives.*

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## **GATHERING . . . WORD . . . MEAL . . . SENDING**

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**PRELUDE . . .** *"I Know that My Redeemer Lives"*  
– Leilani Camara

## **WELCOME**

## **SINGING BOWL**

During the ringing of the bowl, you are encouraged to center your thoughts on God the Creator, Christ the Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit our Comforter.

*P: Christ is risen.*

**All: Christ is risen indeed!**

*P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the life beyond all death, the joy beyond all sorrow, our everlasting home.*

**All: Amen.**

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: Look, life is here,

**All: even when the tomb is empty.**

L: Listen, love is calling,

**All: even when death is all around.**

L: Believe, for hope reigns victorious;

**All: this is the gift of resurrection.**

L: Come to us, God.

**All: Come to us, resurrected one.**

L: This is the miracle of Easter.

**All: Hallelujah! Amen.**

## **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

*P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.*

**All: Amen.**

*P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.*

**All: Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.**

*P: We give you thanks, O God, O Living One, for you have created all, and you water the earth abundantly.*

**All: Oceans and aquifers praise you. Rivers and streams bless you.**

*P: All life is sustained by you, our Source.*

**All: We praise you for Christ, the firstborn from the dead, who frees us from sin and raises us up to new life.**

*P: Here at this font we touch the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing through the city of God. Here, death is washed away forever.*

**All: Here, we are grafted into the tree of life, with leaves for the healing of the world.**

*P: Pour out your Holy Spirit on this assembly, into this community, and throughout all creation. Cleanse us from our fears and drown our divisions.*

**All: Grant that all may drink of your mercy and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## GREETING

*P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!*

**All: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

## INVOCATION

*P: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad. The God who created the world and fills it with life is with you all.*

**All: And also with you.**

## AN EASTER LITANY

L: God of signs and wonders, breathe new life into us this day,

**All: that our spirits may awaken to the joy and the hope of our glorious inheritance through the living Christ.**

L: Clear our vision, Holy One, that we may see the promise of Easter in the stirrings of this precious earth and in the life energy flowing through our bodies.

**All: Help us find the faith to believe where we have not seen, that others may see, in our living and our loving, the glory of the risen Christ. Amen.**

## THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt,

**All: 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.**

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GATHERING . . . **WORD** . . . MEAL . . . SENDING

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*P: God is stronger than death.*

**All: Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.**

*P: Christ is stronger than death!*

**All: God's steadfast love endures forever.**

*P: The Easter Gospel according to John the twentieth chapter.*

**All: Glory be to you, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL . . . John 20:19-31**

*The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. But one of their number is missing, and his unbelief prompts another visit from the Lord.*

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 Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, 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 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 believe."

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." 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 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 come to believe.”

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

*P: The Spirit is stronger than death.*

**All: Let everyone shout out: God’s steadfast love endures forever.**

*P: Give thanks to the Lord!*

**All: God is stronger than death.**

**CHILDREN’S TIME . . .** *Pastor Tim*

**HOMILY . . .** *Pastor Tim*

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GATHERING . . . WORD . . . MEAL . . . SENDING

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## **OFFERING**

### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

L: God of grace and God of glory, pour your power on your people this day,

**All: that our lives may reflect the gift we have received through the resurrection of your Son.**

L: Truly we see that you show no partiality offering abundance of life and fullness of grace to all who turn to you in their need.

**All: With deepest gratitude for your many gifts, particularly the gift of your Son, we offer you our tithes and offerings this day. In the name of the resurrected one, we pray. Amen.**

## **THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

L: 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. Lord, in your mercy,

**All: hear our prayer.**

L: 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. Lord, in your mercy,

**All: hear our prayer.**

L: 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. Lord, in your mercy,

**All: hear our prayer.**

L: 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. Lord, in your mercy,

**All: hear our prayer.**

L: Hear now the prayers of our hearts said silently or aloud.

Here other prayers may be offered.

L: Lord, in your mercy,

**All: hear our prayer.**

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in**

**heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

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### **BENEDICTION**

P: From darkness and despair, we find hope and joy.

**All: Christ is risen! We go forth in joy!**

P: From doubt and betrayal, we find trust and faith.

**All: Christ is risen! We go forth in faith!**

P: From suffering and death, we find healing and life.

**All: Christ is risen! We go forth to live!**

P: Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed.

**All: Alleluia.**

### **DISMISSAL**

L: You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go in peace. Share the good news.

**All: Alleluia! Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**POSTLUDE . . .** *“This Joyful Eastertide” – Leilani Camara*

### **SINGING BOWL**

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Pastor: Tim Huff

Lay Liturgist: Debbie Huff

Lector: Carmen Blair

Music: Leilani Camara

Video Editing: Carmen Blair