

**Zion Lutheran Church
Glen Rock, PA
Second Sunday of Easter
LBW Setting Two
Sunday, April 19, 2020**

Introduction to the day

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. Throughout the coming Sundays of Easter the first two readings will be from the Acts of the Apostles and the first letter of Peter. Even as the early Christians proclaimed the resurrection, we rejoice in the new birth and living hope we receive in baptism.

***BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (LBW p. 77)**

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY (LBW p. 82)**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the festival of our Lord's resurrection. Graciously help us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

FIRST LESSON: Acts 2:14a, 22-32

After the Holy Spirit comes to the apostles on Pentecost, Peter preaches the gospel to the gathered crowd. He tells them that Jesus, who obediently went to his death according to God's plan, was raised from the dead by God. Finally, he appeals to scripture, quoting Psalm 16:8-11, to show that Jesus is the Messiah: though crucified, the risen Jesus is now enthroned.

^{14a}Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd],

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. ²⁴But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power.

²⁵For 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;

²⁶therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
moreover my flesh will live in hope.

²⁷For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
or let your Holy One experience corruption.

²⁸You 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. ³⁰Since 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. ³¹Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

‘He was not abandoned to Hades,
nor did his flesh experience corruption.’

³²This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 16

¹Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;

I have said to the LORD, “You are my Lord, my good above all
other.”

²**All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land,
upon those who are noble among the people.**

³But those who run after other gods
shall have their troubles multiplied.

⁴**Their libations of blood I will not offer,
nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.**

⁵O LORD, you are my portion and my cup;
it is you who uphold my lot.

⁶**My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.**

⁷I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me night after night.

⁸**I have set the LORD always before me;
because he is at my right hand, I shall not fall.**

⁹My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.

¹⁰**For you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor let your holy one see the pit.**

¹¹You will show me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are
pleasures forevermore.

SECOND LESSON: 1 Peter 1:3-9

This epistle was written to encourage Christians experiencing hardships and suffering because of their faith in Christ. The letter opens by blessing God for the living hope we have through Christ’s resurrection even amid difficult circumstances and surroundings.

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

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 20th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

¹⁹When 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.” ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²²When 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 retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, 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 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.”

²⁶A 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.” ²⁷Then 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.” 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 come to believe.”

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But 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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

***APOSTLES CREED (LBW p. 84)**

With the whole church, we confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.*

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

***THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (LBW p. 85)**

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.

A brief 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. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

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

hear our prayer.

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,

hear our prayer.

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*). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

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,

hear our prayer.

Open the way to eternal life, O God, as we remember those who have died in faith. Free us from the fear of death, that we embrace the peace you have promised. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

***PEACE (LBW p. 86)**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

***LORD'S PRAYER (LBW p. 91)**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

Our Father, who 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.

***BLESSING (LBW p. 94)**

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

***DISMISSAL (LBW p. 94)**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SCRIPTURE TEXT FOR SUNDAY 4/26/20

Acts 2:14a, 36-41, Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19, 1 Peter 1:17-23, Luke 24:13-35

PRAYER REQUESTS

Mary Bailey, Lee Cook, Brian Dell, Betty Gaither,
Shannon Hildebrand, Ann Krout, Karen Landis, Don Miller,
Jim Ream, Kenny Rohrbaugh, Susette Stallard, Karen Stine, Earl Williams

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Well, an outreach ministry of Immanuel UMC, Glen Rock, continues to offer “Grab & Go” meals, Monday – Friday from 11:30am-1:00pm for anyone in the local community. Due to the increase in the amount of meals they are preparing daily, volunteers from the ministry reached out to local churches and businesses to seek help with their efforts to continue to provide these daily meals. Last week, Zion’s council held a regularly scheduled council meeting virtually online. During this meeting, the council unanimously voted to donate \$1,000.00 to The Well to support this ministry. (The money donated by Zion was taken from an already existing dedicated fund set up for Community Outreach, not money given to support the yearly budget.) If you or someone you know could benefit from a “Grab & Go” meal, please do not hesitate to go to The Well at 32 Hanover St., Glen Rock.

Remote worship options are available in this time of physical separation from each other.

If you have an internet connection, click or copy the link provided below. Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/7527077666>
Meeting ID: 752 707 7666

The start time for the live streaming service on Sunday, 4/19, is 10am.

If you do NOT have internet connection, use the phone number provided below to join.

The new toll-free number for worship service on Sundays at 10 am is: (862) 799-9807

Recorded services are also available on Zion Lutheran Church's Facebook page.

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, York broadcasts their 11:00am Sunday service on FM 98.9 radio station. Some familiar names to many at Zion, Rev. Kevin Shively and Rev. Keith Fair, both serve at St. Matthew's.

The National Lutheran Choir is hosting a live, virtual event, How Can I Keep from Singing, on Sunday, April 19, at 4:45pm ET. Pastor Paul Hoffman will be participating in the introduction. Go to www.nlca.com on your computer, phone, or tablet. (Links are also available on Zion's website, under Remote Worship.) Audience members will be able to comment, interact and sing with us in real time.

Many of you are mailing or dropping off your regular church offering, and for that we are very thankful. Although the church building is closed to the public, Zion continues to have day to day expenses for providing ministry, and your contributions are used to make sure ministry continues at Zion. The church's mailing address is 47 Hanover St., Glen Rock, PA 17327.

To make remote giving even easier, Zion has recently set up E-giving. On Zion's home page of the website, there is an "Online Giving" button. You can make a one-time donation or set up reoccurring donations. You will also have the option to offset the processing fees. (If you choose to cover the fees of your transaction, your yearly contribution statement will reflect the fees paid, in addition to your contributions.) "Give Plus" mobile app by Vanco is also available for download to access online giving. At this time, online giving is only set up for regular contributions. In the future, you will be able to make online contributions for flowers, World Hunger, Memorial Gifts, and almost all other dedicated accounts.

If you desire pastoral care or conversation, please contact Pastor Katie Brantner at 717-420-0779.

Have ideas for Zion's worship service? Concerned about something that needs to be fixed? Got questions about Zion's day to day operations? We are here for you! Please reach out to Bill, Donna or Joy anytime with your ideas, concerns and questions. They will listen and work toward continuous improvement. Small changes make big impacts and your ideas are valuable.

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