

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Toward the Forgiveness of Sin

April 11, 2021

AS WE GATHER



Though Easter is a season and not merely a Sunday, it can be hard to sustain the enthusiasm when attendance drops on “low Sunday.” That said, the source of our joy is not in the size of the crowd but the greatness of the gift that Christ has given us. We have the forgiveness of sins, and where there is forgiveness for our sins, there is also life and salvation. We are held captive to fear, to the guilt of our sin, and to the power of death until Christ enters our locked rooms, shows Himself to us, and we, by the power of the Holy Spirit, rejoice in our Lord and God.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

#457

INVOCATION

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

EASTER ACCLAMATION

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

1 John 1:6–10

Leader: If we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness,
People: we lie and do not practice the truth.

Leader: But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship
with one another,
People: and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

Leader: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not
in us.
**People: If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our
sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Leader: If we say we have not sinned,
People: we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

Leader: Almighty and everlasting God, for our many sins we justly deserve
eternal condemnation. In Your mercy, You sent Your dear Son, our
Lord Jesus Christ, who won for us forgiveness of sins and
everlasting salvation. Grant us a true confession that, dead to sin,
we may be raised up by Your life-giving absolution. Grant us Your
Holy Spirit that we be ever watchful and live true and godly lives in
Your service; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
People: Amen.

Silence for reflection.

Leader: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
**People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful
and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your
present and eternal punishment. 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.**

Leader: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Leader: May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

HYMN OF PRAISE “Crown Him with Many Crowns” #525 vs. 1,2,3

**Crown Him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns
All music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless king
Through all eternity.**

**Crown Him the virgin's Son,
The God incarnate born,
Whose arm those crimson trophies won
Which now His brow adorn:
Fruit of the mystic rose,
Yet of that rose the stem,
The root whence mercy ever flows,
The babe of Bethlehem.**

**Crown Him the Lord of love.
Behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above,
In beauty glorified.**

**No angels in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bend their wond'ring eyes
At mysteries so bright.**

SALUTATION

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Let us pray.

Lord, we are too easily captive to fear and the shadow of death. Break through the closed doors of our hearts and shine Your light into our darkness, that knowing the forgiveness of our sins, we may no longer be bound by any anxiety or afflicted by any doubt; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

FIRST READING *Acts 4:32–35* (The believers were of one heart and soul.)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM *Psalm 148; antiphon: v. 13*

EPISTLE *1 John 1:1–2:2*

(If we sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ.)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE *Romans 6:9; John 20:29b*

Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him. Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *John 20:19–31*

(Blessed are those who have not heard and yet believe.)

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

(The Gospel is read.)

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY “Crown Him with Many Crowns” #525 vs. 4,5

SERMON

CREED *Apostles’ Creed* *found in back of hymnal*

OFFERING & PRAYER

(Members and Visitors: We would appreciate it if you would please take this time to fill out and pass the “Who’s In The Pew” folders, located at the center aisle end of each pew.)

Leader: Gracious God, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – ourselves, our time, and our possessions, symbols of your gracious love.

People: **Receive them for the sake of Him who offered Himself for us, Jesus Christ, our brother and Lord.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Leader: Merciful Father, at Your bidding we come to You in prayer, trusting in Your mercy to supply us with all that is needful and beneficial to us and for all for whom our prayers have been requested.

Silence the doubts that plague us and deliver us from fear, that believing in You we may know the full comfort of Your gracious presence. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer and grant our supplication.

Leader: Deliver us from pride and humble us by Your Spirit so that, confessing all our sins, we know the peace of a clear conscience and serve You with all our heart, mind, body, and soul. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer and grant our supplication.

Leader: Make Your Church bold in the confession of Your name before the world and give Your blessing to all Leaders and church workers as they accomplish Your bidding in their service to us in Your name. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer and grant our supplication.

Leader: Guard us from all enemies and bless our nation with good government and good leaders, that we enjoy justice before the law, equality of opportunity in the marketplace, and peace in our communities and between the nations. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer and grant our supplication.

Leader: Restore those absent too long from the Church's sacramental life and bring to repentance those who have fallen into error and sin, that they may again be one with us at the Table of the Lord. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer and grant our supplication.

Leader: Give comfort, healing, patience, and strength to the sick, to those suffering a troubled mind, and to those carrying the heavy burden of grief, that they may know Your presence in their hour of need, [*especially . . .*]. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer and grant our supplication.

Leader: Grant to us that we may worthily receive this blessed Sacrament of Your Son's body and blood and may confidently trust that You will both hear and answer the prayers of Your people and supply us with all good things according to Your merciful favor; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

Leader: We sing our Lord's Prayer:

"Lord's Prayer"

HFG 440

**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 debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil,
For Thine is the Kingdom,
and the Power and the Glory forever. Amen.**

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Leader: 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.

People: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!
People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN "Go Therefore"

**Hiding somewhere in the world tonight
Is a boy who needs some comfort,
Is a girl who's hurt, alone and frightened.
Who will tell them of the love of Christ?
Do we understand what Jesus said?
Do we want to do what's right**

**Go therefore into all the world and share the love of Jesus
Till everyone on earth has heard it. Go tell them, tell them one by one
All that he's commanded you, all that he has done.
We are all his children and we want his love to show;
'Cause there are lost and dying people, and if we delay,
then how are they to know?**

**Go therefore into all the world and share the love of Jesus
Till everyone on earth has heard it.
Go tell them, tell them one by one all that he's commanded you.
Tell them all the good that God had done.
Tell them all that he's commanded you; Just tell them about his love.
"Go therefore," he said, "Go, therefore."
"Go, therefore." Go tell them about his love.**

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 2. Copyright © 2020 Concordia Publishing House.
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

**Worship Leader: Pastor Schroeder
Music Leader: Daniel M. Meyers
Organist: Sharilyn Rotta**

St. John's Lutheran Church
Ludington, Michigan 49431
<http://www.stjohnslutheranchurch.org>

231-843-9188
© 941096

Holy Communion is shared on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month.