



April 19, 2020 SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Good morning – welcome to worship today on the Second Sunday of the Easter Season!

I hope you are able to gather everyone in your household together this morning. Perhaps around your kitchen or dining room table. If you are not alone - assign parts of this beforehand. If you don't have a Bible you can google the scripture readings and print them out too. Adjust

the font size for your use if you print this doc. out. This Liturgy is from Evangelical Lutheran Worship Book

You will need a bowl and a pitcher of water this morning for the gathering meditation.

Perhaps print out copies of this for everyone present. Shut off all the distractions in your home. Sit in the quiet for a bit – take some deep breaths

THE LORD BE WITH YOU and also with you

A GATHERING THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are raised with him to new life.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into a bowl.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you created us in your image and planted us in a well-watered garden.
In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched, and you gave us water from the rock.
When we did not know the way, you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.
At the cross, you watered us from Jesus' wounded side, and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.
We praise you for your salvation through water, for the water in this font, and for all water everywhere.
Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love.
Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the life only you can give.
To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

Hymn - Thine is The Glory ELW 376

(click the link below to listen)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zJB1reHQWxM>

The Prayer of the Day God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

THE WORD

Acts 2:14a, 22-32 Psalm 16 1 Peter 1:3-9 John 20:19-31

HOMILY

Canadians have marked 1 month of physically distancing from each other on April 15th. Many people and children are a little discouraged with how long this journey is taking. You remember travelling with others on a long trip and the proverbial question would come up. ***“Are we there yet?”*** well – not yet.

We have heard these words from Jesus before “Do not be afraid”; “I am with you” and “**Peace** be with you” We hear these words on one level and yet sometimes our hearts and souls don’t quite let the peace sit within us and we forget to show “fear” to the door and kick it out of our hearts.

In today’s gospel reading of which we call the story of doubting Thomas, Christ appears and says to his disciples, “Peace be with you”. **Peace** is usually defined as the absence of hostility and violence, and the presence of harmony and friendship. If we have a peaceful inner disposition - that inner tranquility does not depend on the uncertainties of daily life for its existence. If we have this type of peace then maybe we can contribute to resolving the competing interests that are going on in our minds. Peace means different things to different people. Here are three examples.

To one of our families in Renfrew, **peace** has come on hearing the news (after waiting 7 days) of a *negative COVID-19 test* for their daughter who had all of the listed symptoms.(with permission)

We pray for all the families who have loved ones living in retirement or nursing homes in our province and elsewhere. There have been 18 COVID-19 deaths at Almonte Country Haven, a local long term care facility. We pray that they may eventually have **peace** now that the provincial and federal governments have been alerted to the nursing and living conditions within these institutions. Our family was in this same situation during the SARS epidemic 17 years ago when my father died. We know what that is like. *The advocacy work in this area has to be on-going.* The grief work and guilt for families stays with them a long time.

On April 15th ,I read in the National Post section (NP2) of the Ottawa Citizen, **peace** is heard by seismologists as they listen to hear sounds from inside Mother Earth that *they could have never heard before* the stay-at-home-policy was implemented. Planes, trains and automobiles are not operating and it has reduced the noise pollution so much that this is now possible. (John Cassidy, a seismologist with Natural Resources Canada).

One evening Jesus appeared to his disciples in a locked house. The Resurrected One stood again in their midst. Twice Jesus gives the greeting “**Peace be with you**”. This peace is different than the one offered by this world. This peace comes from the knowledge that we are covered by the care and compassion of a loving

God. God's peace supplies us with courage and is not meant to discourage us. Thomas, the disciples, and all of us today need the assurance that He was the one who was crucified, died and was buried.

God's grace walked through the carefully locked house of the disciples and walks through our locked houses today. We may be able to keep other people at bay for many different reasons, but we cannot keep God's love and grace and peace from coming to us. **Amen**

I invite you and your children to enjoy this **PUPPET MESSAGE about Peace - see link . . .**

https://www.facebook.com/StPeters400SparksStreetOttawa/videos/269659207535886/?modal=admin_todo_tour

It is written, produced and portrayed by Rev. Elina Salonen - Pastor at St. Peter's Lutheran Church- Ottawa & (husband) Rev. Ed Bastian- Pastor at Resurrection Lutheran Church, Orleans, Ont. *Many thanks to Ed & Elina for including us on their link.*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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 those with COVID 19 and all in need especially all of our front line workers in every position and especially those we name in our hearts today from our parish and others. 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, Canadian Lutheran World Relief, healthcare professionals, Doctors without Borders, KAIROS, activists for women and children, and relief workers, especially those who find themselves in harm's way in the front lines of caring for all of us. 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.

The Lord's Prayer

BLESSING

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead
raise you to new life, fill you with hope,
and turn your mourning into dancing.

Almighty God, Father,  Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

HYMN NOW ALL THE VAULT OF HEAVEN RESOUNDS 143 LBW

(click the link below to listen)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lpArZ_eAMqM

DISMISSAL

Christ is risen, just as he said.

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Prayers from sundaysandseasons.com.c2019 augsburg fortress