

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Worship Service – April 19, 2020  
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

WELCOME / INVOCATION-OPENING PRAYER

OPEN PSALM 115:1-8

P Not to us, O LORD, not to us, but to your name give glory,

**C for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness!**

P Why should the nations say,

**C “Where is their God?”**

P Our God is in the heavens;

**C he does all that he pleases.**

P Their idols are silver and gold,

**C the work of human hands.**

P They have mouths, but do not speak;

**C eyes, but do not see.**

P They have ears, but do not hear;

**C noses, but do not smell.**

P They have hands, but do not feel;

**C feet, but do not walk;  
and they do not make a sound in their throat.**

P Those who make them become like them;

**C so do all who trust in them.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Let us confess our sin to our Lord and Savior:

**C Almighty God, our creator and Savior, we confess**

that we are by nature sinful and unclean, we have sinned against you by our thought, word, and action. Therefore, we beg you to be merciful and grant us forgiveness of our sin through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

P 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.

**C Amen.**

PSALM OF PRAISE 115:9-11

P O Israel, trust in the LORD!

**C He is their help and their shield.**

P O house of Aaron, trust in the LORD!

**C He is their help and their shield.**

P You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD!

**C He is their help and their shield.**

CONFESSION OF FAITH – THE APOSTLES’ CREED

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

**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.**

#### **THE FIRST READING: Acts 5:29–42 (ESV)**

<sup>29</sup>But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men. <sup>30</sup>The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. <sup>31</sup>God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. <sup>32</sup>And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

<sup>33</sup>When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. <sup>34</sup>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. <sup>35</sup>And he said to them, “Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. <sup>36</sup>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. <sup>37</sup>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. <sup>38</sup>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; <sup>39</sup>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, <sup>40</sup>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. <sup>41</sup>Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. <sup>42</sup>And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

#### **PSALM 148**

P Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD from the heavens;

**C praise him in the heights!**

P Praise him, all his angels;

**C praise him, all his hosts!**

P Praise him, sun and moon,

**C praise him, all you shining stars!**

P Praise him, you highest heavens,

**C and you waters above the heavens!**

P Let them praise the name of the LORD!

**C For he commanded and they were created.**

P And he established them forever and ever;

**C he gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.**

P Praise the LORD from the earth,

**C you great sea creatures and all deeps,**

P fire and hail, snow and mist,

**C stormy wind fulfilling his word!**

P Mountains and all hills,

**C fruit trees and all cedars!**

P Beasts and all livestock,

**C creeping things and flying birds!**

P Kings of the earth and all peoples,

**C princes and all rulers of the earth!**

P Young men and maidens together,

**C old men and children!**

P Let them praise the name of the LORD,

**C for his name alone is exalted;  
his majesty is above earth and heaven.**

P He has raised up a horn for his people,

**C praise for all his saints,  
for the people of Israel who are near to him.  
Praise the LORD!**

#### **THE EPISTLE: 1 Peter 1:3–9 (ESV)**

<sup>3</sup>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, <sup>4</sup>to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup>who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup>In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, <sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>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, <sup>9</sup>obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

#### **THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 20:19–31 (ESV)**

<sup>19</sup>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." <sup>20</sup>When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." <sup>22</sup>And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld."

<sup>24</sup>Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>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."

<sup>26</sup>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." <sup>27</sup>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." <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, "Have you

believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; <sup>31</sup>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.

**C Praise to You, O Lord.**

#### MESSAGE

Rev. Dennis Wenholz

**“That You May Believe!” John 20:19-31**

#### PRAYERS

##### LORD’S PRAYER

**C 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.**

##### CLOSING PSALM 115:12-18

P The LORD has remembered us; he will bless us;

**C he will bless the house of Israel;  
he will bless the house of Aaron;**

P he will bless those who fear the LORD,  
**C both the small and the great.**

P May the LORD give you increase,  
**C you and your children!**

P May you be blessed by the LORD,  
**C who made heaven and earth!**

P The heavens are the LORD's heavens,  
**C but the earth he has given to the children of man.**

P The dead do not praise the LORD,  
**C nor do any who go down into silence.**

P But we will bless the LORD  
**C from this time forth and forevermore.  
Praise the LORD!**

##### BENEDICAMUS

A Let us bless the Lord.  
**C Thanks be to God.**

##### BENEDICTION

P 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.  
**C Amen.**