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**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
April 12, 2026

**Opening Hymn #192 (v. 1-4, 8)**

*He's Risen, He's Risen, Christ Jesus the Lord*

1. Awake, my heart, with gladness,  
See what today is done,  
Now after gloom and sadness  
Comes forth the glorious Sun!  
My Savior there was laid  
Where our bed must be made  
When to the realms of light  
Our spirit wings its flight.

2. The Foe in triumph shouted  
When Christ lay in the tomb,  
But, lo, he now is routed,  
His boast is turned to gloom.  
For Christ again is free;  
In glorious victory  
He who is strong to save  
Has triumphed o'er the grave.

3. This is a sight that gladdens;  
What peace it doth impart!  
Now nothing ever saddens  
The joy within my heart;  
No gloom shall ever shake,

No foe shall ever take,  
The hope which God's own Son  
In love for me hath won.

4. Now hell, its prince, the devil,  
Of all their power are shorn;  
Now I am safe from evil,  
And sin I laugh to scorn.

Grim death with all his might  
Cannot my soul affright;  
He is a powerless form,  
Howe'er he rave and storm.

8. He brings me to the portal  
That leads to bliss untold  
Whereon this rime immortal  
Is found in script of gold:  
"Who there My cross hath shared  
Finds here a crown prepared;  
Who there with Me has died  
Shall here be glorified."

### **Invocation**

P We worship today in the name of the Father and of the Son  
and of the Holy Spirit.

C **¶Amen.**

### **Confession & Absolution**

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and  
confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the  
name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C ♪ **Who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord

C ♪ **And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sins.**

P Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto Thee that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against Thee by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Thine infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Thy grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

P & C **O most merciful God, who has given Thine only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Thy Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of Thee and of Thy will and true obedience to Thy Word, to the end that by Thy grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, hath had mercy upon us and hath given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgiveth us all our sins. To them that believe on His name He giveth power to become the sons of God and hath promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C ♪ **Amen.**

**Gloria Patri**

**C ♪ Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

### **The Kyrie**

**C ♪ Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.**

### **Gloria in Excelsis – (Hymn #238 v.1)**

All glory be to God alone,  
Forevermore the Highest One,  
Who doth our sinful race befriend,  
And grace and peace to us extend.  
Among mankind may His good will  
All hearts with deep thanksgiving fill.

### **The Collect for the Day**

**P** Let us pray..... who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C ♪ Amen**

### **The First Lesson – Acts 5:29-42**

<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.

### **Psalm of the Day – Psalm 148**

*Antiphon – At the works of Your hands, O Lord, I lift up my voice in song; I sing for joy.*

- 1 Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the | heavens;\*  
**praise him | in the heights!**
- 2 Praise him, all his | angels;\*  
**praise him, | all his hosts!**
- 3 Praise him, | sun and moon,\*  
**praise him, all you | shining stars!**

4 Praise him, you highest | heavens,\*  
**and you waters above the | heavens!**

5 Let them praise the name | of the LORD!\*  
**For he commanded and they were cre- | ated.**

6 And he established them forever and | ever;\*  
**he gave a decree, and it shall not | pass away.**

7 Praise the LORD | from the earth,\*  
**you great sea creatures and | all deeps,**

8 fire and hail, | snow and mist,\*  
**stormy wind fulfill- | ing his word!**

9 Mountains and | all hills,\*  
**fruit trees and all | cedars!**

10 Beasts and all | livestock,\*  
**creeping things and | flying birds!**

11 Kings of the earth and all | peoples,\*  
**princes and all rulers | of the earth!**

12 Young men and maidens to- | gether,\*  
**old men and | children!**

13 Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone  
is ex- | alted;\*

**his majesty is above earth and | heaven.**

14 He has raised up a horn for his people, praise  
for | all his saints,\*

**for the people of Israel who are near to him. | Praise  
the LORD!**

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***  
**and to the Holy | Spirit;**  
**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***  
**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

*Antiphon – At the works of Your hands, O Lord, I lift up my voice in song; I sing for joy.*

### **The Second Lesson – 1 Peter 1:3-9**

<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.

### **Verse of the Day – 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.

### **The Gospel – John 20:19-31**

<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.

## **Confession of Faith**

### ***Apostle's Creed***

**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 Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Christian Church, the communion of saints The forgiveness of sins; The resurrection of the body; And the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Hymn of the Day #208 (v.1, 4-8)**  
***Ye Sons and Daughters of the King***

1. Ye sons and daughters of the King,  
Whom heavenly hosts in glory sing,  
Today the grave hath lost its sting:  
Alleluia!

4. That night the Apostles met in fear,  
Amidst them came their Lord most dear  
And said: "Peace be unto you here":  
Alleluia!

5. When Thomas afterwards had heard  
That Jesus had fulfilled His word,  
He doubted if it were the Lord:  
Alleluia!

6. "Thomas, behold My side," saith He,  
"My hands, My feet, My body, see;

"And doubt not, but believe in Me":  
Alleluia!

7. No longer Thomas then denied;  
He saw the feet, the hands, the side;  
"Thou art my Lord and God," he cried:  
Alleluia!

8. Blessed are they that have not seen  
And yet whose faith hath constant been,  
In life eternal they shall reign:  
Alleluia!

### **Sermon Text – 1 Peter 1:3-9**

#### **Sermon**

*Christ Jesus Breathes His Spirit and His Life into Us by  
the Ministry of the Gospel.*

#### **Offertory**

#### **Offering of Thankful Hearts**

#### **Prayer of the Church**

P: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus  
and for all people according to their needs.

P: Lord Jesus Christ, turn the enemies of Your Church, and  
bring their hearts to repentance. Strengthen all Christians in  
their faith and in their vocation of service as Your children, that  
we may be obedient to Your Word and receive the salvation of  
our souls.

**1. O Christ, our hope, our heart's desire,  
Creation's mighty Lord,**

**Redeemer of the fallen world,  
By holy love outpoured:**

P: Lord Jesus Christ, You did greet Your disciples with peace despite their sins against You. Make us confident in Your mercy toward us, and gladden our hearts as You come to us with forgiveness and renewal.

**2. How vast Your mercy to accept  
The burden of our sin  
And bow Your head in cruel death  
To make us clean within.**

P: Lord Jesus Christ, we praise You for Your resurrection from the dead and we draw strength from Your ascension before the Father, where You ever stand for us as our own High Priest. [*Show Your kindness to \_\_\_\_\_.*] Graciously receive our prayers of intercession for the sick and suffering.

**3. But now the bonds of death are burst,  
The ransom has been paid;  
You now ascend the Father's throne  
In robes of light arrayed.**

P: Lord Jesus Christ, build up the households of Your people, that Your holy children, begotten in Baptism, may grow in Your grace and share together in Your forgiveness and life.

**4. O let Your mighty love prevail  
To purge us of our pride  
That we may stand before Your throne  
By mercy purified.**

P: Lord Jesus Christ, you rose from the dead, and have bestowed the Holy Spirit on Your apostles. Help us to both believe and to proclaim the Ministry of the Keys, that You may be glorified.

**5. Christ Jesus, be our lasting joy,  
Our future great reward;  
Our only glory, may it be  
To glory in the Lord!**

P: Lord Jesus Christ, You appoint rulers and officials for the sake of order and peace. Bless those You have placed in authority in federal, state and local governments. Give to them the desire to serve with integrity and honor and to work for the benefit of all.

**6. All praise to You, ascended Lord;  
All glory ever be  
To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost  
Through all eternity!**

P: Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank You that out of Your indescribable grace, for the sake of Your Son, You have given us the Holy Gospel and instituted the blessed Sacraments, that through them we may have comfort and the forgiveness of sin. Grant us Your Holy Spirit, that we may heartily believe Your Word, and through the Holy Sacraments establish our faith day by day, until at last we obtain eternal salvation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who taught us to pray:

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

### **The Benediction**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you,

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you,

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C ♪ **Amen, Amen, Amen.**

### **Closing Hymn #264 (v. 1-2, 5-6)**

#### ***Preserve Thy Word, O Savior***

1. Preserve your Word, O Savior,  
To us this latter day,  
And let your kingdom flourish;  
Enlarge your Church, we pray.  
Oh, keep our faith from failing;  
Keep hope's bright star aglow.  
Let nothing from truth turn us  
While living here below.

2. Preserve, O Lord, your honor,  
The bold blasphemer smite;

Convince, convert, enlighten  
The souls in error's night.  
Reveal your will, dear Savior,  
To all who dwell below,  
Great light of all the living,  
That all your name may know.

5. Preserve your Word and preaching.  
The truth that makes us whole,  
The mirror of your glory,  
The power that saves the soul.  
Oh, may this living water,  
This dew of heavenly grace,  
Sustain us while here living  
Until we see your face.

6. Preserve in wave and tempest  
Your storm-tossed little flock;  
Assailed by wind and weather,  
May it endure each shock.  
Stand at the helm, our pilot,  
And set the course aright;  
Then we will reach the harbor  
In your eternal light.

## **Silent Prayer**

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