

FIRST READING. Acts 4:32-35

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

SECOND READING. 1 John 1:1-2:2

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

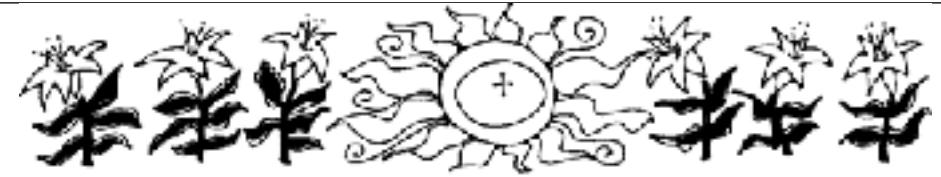
GOSPEL. John 20:19-31

When 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.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So 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.'

A 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.' Then 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.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

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



**Second Sunday of Easter
Sunday, April 7, 2024**

"In response to God's love, St. Matthew's is a faith community welcoming all to grow in faith, to worship Christ and to reach out to everyone."

Welcome!

We hope our worship will be a blessing to you. Our Lord's Supper is being celebrated today. Everyone is welcome to receive this Holy Sacrament.

Order of Worship

This morning's Order of Worship is located in the *Hymnal Supplement*, and the hymns are located in the *Hymnal Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW).

If you missed last week's sermon, it is available on our website.

St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church



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Thanksgiving for Baptism

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy. Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

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The lines of the Psalm printed in bold font are sung in unison to the tune of a familiar hymn. The lines in plain font are read by the leader.

Psalm 133 — Tune: 883 All People That on Earth Do Dwell

How good and pleasant it can be

When brethren dwell in unity.

Leader: It is like the precious anointing oil running down from Aaron's beard, down the collar of his robe. It is like the dew on Mount Hermon, falling on the hills of Zion.

Here God's great blessings wait in store,

Promise of life forevermore.

Sing Psalms! By Arden W. Mead. © Copyright 1999/2005 by Creative Communications for the Parish

Dates to Remember

Apr 14 Special Congregational Meeting after the service to review and discuss the proposed budget, followed by a ballot vote. Votes by email will be available.

GATHERING

Welcoming Song529, *sung twice*

Thanksgiving for BaptismPrinted

Gathering Song ...ELW 384 That Easter Day...

GreetingPage 2

KyriePage 3

Now the FeastPage 4

SalutationPage 7

Prayer of the Day

WORD

First Reading Acts 4:32-35

Psalm 133.....printed in bulletin

Second Reading1 John 1:1-2:2

Gospel Acclamation Page 8

“Glory to you, O Lord.”

GospelJohn 20:19-31

“Praise to you, O Christ.”

Sermon

Hymn of the DayELW 363 Come, You
Faithful, Raise the Strain

Nicene CreedPage 10

Prayers of Intercession

Prayer Response**“hear our prayer.”**

Peace

MEAL

Offertory PrayerPage 13

Great Thanksgiving.....Page 14

HolyPage 15

Eucharistic Prayer

Acclamations 2 and 3Page 16-17

Through Christ, With Christ.....Page 17

The Lord’s PrayerPage 18

Communion

Lamb of GodPage 18-19

Communion Hymns ELW 381, 390

Thanks Be To YouPage 20

Post-Communion Prayer

SENDING

Blessing

Sending SongELW 376 Thine Is the Glory

Dismissal:

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!