

**SECOND SUNDAY
OF EASTER**

APRIL 19, 2020

**IMMANUEL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

Missouri Synod



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Sunday

9:00 AM

Worship Service

10:30 am

**Adult Bible Class &
Sunday School**

Holy Communion:

1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday

Website:

Misionemanuel.com

Office Hrs, M-F

8 am to 12 pm

CCLI # 2585510



**“And Thomas answered
and said to Him,
“My Lord and my God!”
(John 20:28)**

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
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WELCOME to IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

We wish to extend a warm welcome to all our visitors this morning. It is our prayer that you will be spiritually nourished through God's Word, and we look forward to seeing you in person when we gather together in God's house again.

A Prayer Upon Entering Church - O God, amid doubts and fears, Your gift of faith gives me the confidence that You are continually by my side because Jesus lives forevermore. As I wait until that day of unending glory with Him, teach me to live the life you've given as a reflection of Your love, that I serve You and others in truth and give honor to You; through Jesus Christ, my Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

AS WE GATHER WITH OUR FAMILIES

The word "peace" is central for God's people to hear time and again as part of worship. The peace of the Lord is exchanged between pastor and congregation and often also spoken among the people of the congregation. It is the last word in the Benediction and is therefore the most frequently used word to close the service. In the era of the Reformation and the decades following, the hymn "Grant Peace, We Pray, in Mercy, Lord" was used immediately after the sermon as a reminder of how important the Lord's peace was in a world that knew unrest and challenges. It is our blessing to hear that word of peace from our Lord once again today in our world—which also has unrest and challenges.

PRELUDE The Strife is O'er, the Battle is Done (Handbells)
OPENING HYMN *The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done* **LSB 464**
ref Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

1 The strife is o'er, the battle done;
Now is the victor's triumph won;
Now be the song of praise begun.
Alleluia!

2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst,
But Christ their legions hath dispersed.
Let shouts of holy joy outburst.
Alleluia!

3 The three sad days have quickly sped,
He rises glorious from the dead.
All glory to our risen Head!
Alleluia!

4 He broke the age-bound chains of hell;
The bars from heav'n's high portals fell.
Let hymns of praise His triumph tell.
Alleluia!

5 Lord, by the stripes which wounded Thee,
From death's dread sting Thy servants free
That we may live and sing to Thee.
Alleluia!

ref Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

INVOCATION

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

All: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES Romans 6:9; John 20:29b

L: Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again;

A: death no longer has dominion over Him. Alleluia.

L: Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.

A: Alleluia, alleluia.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Leader: Let us come before God in true repentance, seeking His mercy and forgiveness.

L If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

A But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

L Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

A 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.

L "In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to Become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ."

A⁴ Amen.

RESPONSE

L Christ is risen!

A He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

L This is the day the Lord has made!

A Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

L Through Him we are risen to new life!

A We are and will be risen indeed!

L Because Jesus is alive forevermore,

A in Him we will live also!

INTROIT *Psalm 105:1–5, 8; antiphon: 1 Peter 2:2–3*

L as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

A Oh, give thanks to the Lord! Call upon His name; Make known His deeds among the peoples!

L Sing to Him, sing psalms to Him; Talk of all His wondrous works!

A Glory in His holy name; Let the hearts of those rejoice who seek the Lord!

L Seek the Lord and His strength; Seek His face evermore!

A Remember His marvelous works which He has done, His wonders, and the judgments of His mouth,

L as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

A Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

A Amen.

FIRST READING Acts 5:29–42

(The first Christians proclaim the Good News.)

29 Peter and the other apostles replied: "We must obey God rather than human beings! 30 The God of our ancestors raised Jesus from the dead—whom you killed by hanging him on a cross. 31 God exalted him to his own right hand as Prince and Savior that he might bring Israel to repentance and forgive their sins. 32 We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him." 33 When they heard this, they were furious and wanted to put them to death. 34 But a Pharisee named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law, who was honored by all the people, stood up in the Sanhedrin and ordered that the men be put outside for a little while. 35 Then he addressed the Sanhedrin: "Men of Israel, consider carefully what you intend to do to these men. 36 Some time ago Theudas appeared, claiming to be somebody, and about four hundred men rallied to him. He was killed, all his followers were dispersed, and it all came to nothing. 37 After him, Judas the Galilean appeared in the days of the census and led a band of people in revolt. He too was killed, and all his followers were scattered. 38 Therefore, in the present case I

advise you: Leave these men alone! Let them go! For if their purpose or activity is of human origin, it will fail. 39 But if it is from God, you will not be able to stop these men; you will only find yourselves fighting against God.”

40 His speech persuaded them. They called the apostles in and had them flogged. Then they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.

41 The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name. 42 Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

A Thanks be to God.

PSALM *Psalm 148*

L Praise the Lord from the heavens; Praise Him in the heights! Praise Him, all His angels; Praise Him, all His hosts! Praise Him, sun and moon; Praise Him, all you stars of light!

A Praise Him, you heavens of heavens, And you waters above the heavens! Let them praise the name of the Lord, For He commanded and they were created. He also established them forever and ever; He made a decree which shall not pass away.

L Praise the Lord from the earth, You great sea creatures and all the depths; Fire and hail, snow and clouds; Stormy wind, fulfilling His word; Mountains and all hills; Fruitful trees and all cedars;

A Beasts and all cattle; Creeping things and flying fowl; Kings of the earth and all peoples; Princes and all judges of the earth; Both young men and maidens; old men and children.

L Let them praise the name of the Lord, For His name alone is exalted; His glory is above the earth and heaven. And He has exalted the horn of His people, the praise of all His saints— of the children of Israel, a people near to Him.

ALL Praise the Lord!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

EPISTLE 1 Peter 1:3–9

(We have new hope through the resurrection of Christ.)

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, 5 who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, 7 that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, 8 whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, 9 receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of your souls.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

A Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA and VERSE

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL *John 20:19–31*

(Jesus appears to disciples hiding behind locked doors and brings peace by His resurrection.)

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

A Glory to You, O Lord.

19 Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "Peace be with you." 20 When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. 21 So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." 22 And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." 24 Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 25 The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord." So he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands

the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe.” 26 And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, “Peace to you!” 27 Then He said to Thomas, “Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing.” 28 And Thomas answered and said to Him, “My Lord and my God!” 29 Jesus said to him, “Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” 30 And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; 31 but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

L This is the Gospel of the Lord.

A Praise to You, O Christ

APOSTLES 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 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.

HYMN OF THE DAY *O Sons and Daughters of the King* **LSB 470**

1 O sons and daughters of the King,
Whom heav'nly hosts in glory sing,
Today the grave has lost its sting!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2 That Easter morn, at break of day,
The faithful women went their way
To seek the tomb where Jesus lay.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3 An angel clad in white they see,
Who sits and speaks unto the three,
"Your Lord will go to Galilee."

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4 That night the apostles met in fear;
Among them came their master dear
And said, "My peace be with you here."

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

5 When Thomas first the tidings heard
That they had seen the risen Lord,
He doubted the disciples' word.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

6 "My piercèd side, O Thomas, see,
And look upon My hands, My feet;
Not faithless but believing be."

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

7 No longer Thomas then denied;
He saw the feet, the hands, the side;
"You are my Lord and God!" he cried.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

[CONTINUED NEXT PAGE]₁

8 How blest are they who have not seen
And yet whose faith has constant been,
For they eternal life shall win.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

9 On this most holy day of days
Be laud and jubilee and praise:
To God your hearts and voices raise.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

SERMON “Clearing the Air of All Doubt!” (John 20:22)

HYMN Come, You Faithful Raise the Strain **LSB 487**

1 Come, you faithful, raise the strain

Of triumphant gladness!

God has brought His Israel

Into joy from sadness,

Loosed from Pharaoh’s bitter yoke

Jacob’s sons and daughters,

Led them with unmoistened foot

Through the Red Sea waters.

2 ’Tis the spring of souls today:

Christ has burst His prison

And from three days’ sleep in death

As a sun has risen;

All the winter of our sins,

Long and dark, is flying

From His light, to whom is giv’n

Laud and praise undying.

3 Now the queen of seasons, bright
With the day of splendor,
With the royal feast of feasts
Comes its joy to render;
Comes to gladden faithful hearts
Which with true affection
Welcome in unwearied strain
Jesus' resurrection!

4 For today among His own
Christ appeared, bestowing
His deep peace, which evermore
Passes human knowing.
Neither could the gates of death
Nor the tomb's dark portal
Nor the watchers nor the seal
Hold Him as a mortal.

5 Alleluia! Now we cry
To our King immortal,
Who, triumphant, burst the bars
Of the tomb's dark portal.
Come, you faithful, raise the strain
Of triumphant gladness!
God has brought His Israel
Into joy from sadness!

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PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

L Hear us, merciful Father, as we pray for ourselves, for the Church, for our nation and for all conditions and manner of people.

L God of mercy, keep us from the doubts and fears that cripple us and prevent us from knowing the fullness of Your saving peace and gracious presence. Teach us to trust in Your Word and to believe with all our hearts, minds, bodies and strength in Jesus Christ, crucified for our sins and raised for our justification. Lord, in Your mercy,

A **Hear our prayer.**

L God of grace, bestow upon Your Church Your Holy Spirit and all the gifts that come down from on high. Grant to us faithful pastors who will preach faithfully, and give us ears to hear Your Word proclaimed. Sustain us while apart, and bring Your scattered Church together again quickly. Give us boldness in our witness before the world and courage to speak Your name without fear. Lord, in Your mercy,

A **Hear our prayer.**

L God of power, give courage and strength to those persecuted for the faith, and comfort the families of the martyrs. In uncertain times, keep Your Church from being tossed about by the winds of change. Keep her steadfast in the doctrine of the apostles and the faith once delivered to the saints. Help us to admonish those who have fallen away and to restore with gentleness those who have wandered from the truth. Lord, in Your mercy,

A **Hear our prayer.**

L God of might, counsel the nations and their leaders to act wisely in all matters. Bless us with faithful and just leaders who will protect the sanctity of life and defend us against all enemies, foreign and domestic. Make us wise and discerning citizens who use the gift of liberty for noble purpose. Lord, in Your mercy,

A Hear our prayer.

L God of love, teach us to love one another as You have loved us. Guide us to make manifest the love and strength of Christ to our troubled and fearful world. Deliver us from disease and everything else that would threaten our homes and families. Protect the police, firefighters, disaster-relief workers and medical personnel who attend to us, as well as the places where we live and work. Lord, in Your mercy,

A Hear our prayer.

L God of comfort, look with mercy upon all who suffer in this vale of tears; those isolated, ill or endangered from the coronavirus; and those we remember now [especially ____]. Provide them with loving and compassionate care, and comfort them with the reminder that everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world, and that, believing that Jesus is the Christ, they have life in His name. Lord, in Your mercy

A Hear our prayer.

L God of hope, be with those who grieve the loss of a loved one. Point them to the promise of the resurrection and the gift of everlasting life to all who die in Christ. Deliver us from distractions, that we may focus on Your needful Word and Sacraments and so be found faithful when our Lord returns in His glory. Lord, in Your mercy,

A Hear our prayer.

L God of compassion, bless us with the good gifts of the earth, with the fruits of our honest labors, and with kind and generous hearts. Accept the worship of our hearts and voices, along with the tithes and offerings we bring in gratitude and thanksgiving. Look with mercy on the unemployed, and open our eyes and hearts to the needs of the poor, that we may serve them in Your name. Lord, in Your mercy,

A Hear our prayer.

L O blessed God and Lord, hear the prayers of Your people and teach us to trust in Your will to answer our prayers with all that is needful and beneficial, both for us and for all for whom we pray; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

A Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (Matthew 6:9-13)

All 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.

BENEDICAMUS

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

L The Lord bless us and keep us,
The Lord make His face shine upon us and be gracious to us
The Lord lift His countenance upon us and grant us peace

A Amen

SENDING HYMN *Christ the Lord is Risen Today; Alleluia* **LSB 463**

- 1 Christ the Lord is ris'n today; Alleluia!
Christians, hasten on your way; Alleluia!
Offer praise with love replete, Alleluia!
At the paschal victim's feet. Alleluia!
- 2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Alleluia!
Sinless in the sinner's stead. Alleluia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!
Now He lives, no more to die. Alleluia!
- 3 Hail, the victim undefiled, Alleluia!
God and sinners reconciled, Alleluia!
When contending death and life, Alleluia!
Met in strange and awesome strife. Alleluia!
- 4 Christians, on this holy day, Alleluia!
All your grateful homage pay; Alleluia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!
Now He lives, no more to die. Alleluia!

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POSTLUDE *Christ the Lord is Risen Today (Handbells)*

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

Summary of the Bible Lessons for today

The crucified and risen Lord Jesus establishes the ministry of the Gospel in order to bestow His life-giving Holy Spirit and His peace upon the Church. To those who are called and ordained to this office, and to those they serve in His name, He grants the Holy Absolution of all sins. By the fruits of His cross, He replaces fear and doubt with peace and joy, and thus gives

“repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins” (Acts 5:31).

Through the preaching of His sent ones, He calls us to believe that He *“is the Christ, the Son of God,”* so that by such faith we *“may have life in his name”* (John 20:31). In His resurrection, we have the *“living hope”* to which we have been *“born again”* and by which we are guarded *“for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time”* (1 Peter 1:3, 5). Until then, *“though you have not seen him, you love him,”* and by the mercies of God *“you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory”* (1 Peter 1:8).

Memory Verse Challenge

The church confesses to Christ, “You have the words of eternal life” (John 6:68). And again, “these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.” (John 20:31) The church is encouraged to “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly ...” (Col. 3:16). Psalm 1 teaches us to meditate on God's Word day and night. It is our great opportunity and joy to read and study God's Word. One beneficial practice is to memorize the Scriptures, and in so doing to meditate on it. The LCMS invites everyone to join together memorizing a verse together each week.

This week's memory verse: **Ephesians 2:8-9**

“ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.”