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PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
*Second Sunday of Easter*  
April 11, 2021

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## PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

**AS WE GATHER...** Thomas is seldom remembered for anything other than his doubt. In our quest to find relatable biblical characters, we often leave Thomas as a man who needed evidence—proof. We may miss his bold confession: “My Lord and my God!” While the other ten disciples had seen Jesus eight days earlier, none of them confessed as Thomas did. And none of them believed until Jesus appeared to them and spoke His Word to them. Focus today not on Thomas’ doubt but rather on his confession of faith.

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### **RINGING OF THE BELL**

*After the ringing of the bell, we take a few moments in silence to prepare our hearts and minds for today’s worship.*

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## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### OPENING SONG: “Blessed Assurance”

**TOSB 16**

*By: Fanny J Crosby & Mrs. J.F. Knapp © 1971 by William J. Gaither. The Fellowship Publications.*

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!  
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.  
This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long;  
This is my story, This is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight,  
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
Angels descending bring from above  
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.  
This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long;  
This is my story, This is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, all is at rest,  
I in my Savior am happy and blest;  
Watching and waiting, looking above,  
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.  
This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long;  
This is my story, This is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long.

## OPENING BLESSING

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

**People: Amen.**

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Leader: He brings us light

**People: that shines in our darkness.**

Leader: He brings us life

**People: that death cannot overcome**

Leader: God is light.

**People: In Him there is no darkness at all.**

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

## WE CONFESS OUR SINS

Leader: Psalm 28 says, "Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells." This passage reminds us that we are to revere God and His place of worship above all other things. A rightly prioritized life has God in the center. Let us now take some time to reflect upon the priorities we have chosen.

*Silence for Reflection*

Leader: We confess.

**People: We have to face it Lord, we are sinners in need of your grace. We have not made You the number one priority in our lives. Instead, we have valued those things that have little to do with you: comfort, fear of the unknown, work. For this reason, we come to you now, confessing our sin, asking for your forgiveness, and grace to reprioritize our lives.**

## **RECEIVE GOD'S FORGIVENESS**

Leader: Jesus' number one priority is us. There were no distractions that slowed Jesus down as he made his way to the cross. Jesus set aside earthly concern to make us his priority. Because of this, grace is ours. I announce this grace to you today in the forgiveness of sins. By the command of Jesus, your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: The Lord be with You!

**People: And also with you!**

Leader: We pray.

**People: O Lord, we are too easily captive to fear and the shadow of death. Break through the closed doors of our hearts and shine Your light into our darkness, that knowing the forgiveness of our sins, we may no longer be bound by any anxiety or afflicted by any doubt; through Jesus, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reign with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## SCRIPTURE LESSONS

### First Reading:

**Acts 4:32-35**

*Great unity filled the early church.*

Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. And with great power the apostles were giving 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 were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

### GOSPEL:

**John 20:19-31**

*Thomas needed to see Jesus to believe.*

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." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." And 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 withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld."

Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, 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 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."

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." 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." 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 believed.”

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

**SERMON HYMN: “All Creatures of Our God and King”**

**LBW 527 vs. 1,5-7**

*Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182-1226; tr. William H. Draper, 1855-1933, alt. Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Köln, 1623. ©1978 by Augsburg Publications, Minneapolis and The Board of Publications, Lutheran Church in America, Philadelphia*

All creatures of our God and King,  
Lift up your voice with us and Sing:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
O burning sun with golden beam  
And silver moon with softer gleam;

**CHORUS**

**Oh, praise him! Oh, praise him!  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

O ev'ryone of tender heart,  
Forgiving others, take your part,  
Oh, praise him! Alleluia!  
All you who pain and sorrow bear,  
Praise God and lay on him your care, **CHORUS**

And you, most kind and gentle death,  
Waiting to hush our final breath,  
Oh, praise him! Alleluia!  
You lead to heav'n the child of God,  
Where Christ our Lord the way has trod. - **CHORUS**

Let all things their Creator bless  
And worship God in humbleness.  
Oh, praise him! Alleluia!  
Oh, praise the Father, praise the Son,  
And praise the Spirit, Three in One, - **CHORUS**

**SERMON**

## APOSTLES' CREED

**ALL: I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
And was born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate.  
Was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
And is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again 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.**

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## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

*After each portion of the prayers, these words are spoken:*

**Leader:** Lord, in your mercy.

**People:** hear our prayer.

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## LORD'S PRAYER

## CLOSING BLESSING

## CLOSING SONG: "To God Be the Glory"

*By: Fanny J. Crosby & William H. Doane © 1971 by William J. Gaither, The Fellowship Publications, Edina, MN.*

**TOSB 241**

To God be the glory, great things He has done,  
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son.  
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,  
And opened the life gate that all may go in.

**CHORUS**

***Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,  
Let the earth hear His voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,  
Let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father,  
Thro' Jesus the Son,  
And give Him the glory,  
great things He has done.***

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,  
To ev'ry believer the promise of God;  
The vilest offender who truly believes,  
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

**CHORUS**

Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,  
And great our rejoicing thro' Jesus the Son;  
But purer, and higher, and greater will be  
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

**CHORUS**

**DISMISSAL**

Leader: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**POST-SERVICE MUSIC**

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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**Dementia Warriors** 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm in person

**Men's Bible Study** 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays 2pm ZOOM

**Women's Bible Study** 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays 2pm ZOOM

**Eat, Chat, Pray** – 7:30 AM every Wednesday.

**Volunteering** opportunity! Contact Callie at [peaceinphilomath@gmail.com](mailto:peaceinphilomath@gmail.com) or talk with her on Sunday to see how you can help!

**Help with a Blood Drive!** Talk with Ellen Holroyd or Lindy Young.