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**2nd Sunday**

**of Easter**

“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!’” *John 20:27-28*

**AS WE GATHER**

Though Easter is a season and not merely a Sunday, it can be hard to sustain the enthusiasm when attendance drops on “low Sunday.” That said, the source of our joy is not in the size of the crowd but the greatness of the gift that Christ has given us. We have the forgiveness of sins, and where there is forgiveness for our sins, there is also life and salvation. We are held captive to fear, to the guilt of our sin, and to the power of death until Christ enters our locked rooms, shows Himself to us, and we, by the power of the Holy Spirit, rejoice in our Lord and God.

**PSALM** 148

(*LSB*, Divine Service, Setting Five, pg. 213)

**HYMN** *“The Strife Is O’er, the Battle Done”* (*LSB* 464)

*(Chorus)* Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The strife is o’er, the battle done; now is the victor’s triumph won;

now be the song of praise begun. Alleluia!

The pow’rs of death have done their worst, but Christ their legions hath dispersed.

Let shouts of holy joy outburst. Alleluia!

The three sad days have quickly sped, He rises glorious from the dead.

All glory to our risen Head! Alleluia!

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!

Lord, by the stripes which wounded Thee, from death’s dread sting Thy servants free

that we may live and sing to Thee. Alleluia!

*(Chorus)*

**FIRST READING** Acts 4:32-35

**EPISTLE** 1 John 1:1—2:2

**HOLY GOSPEL** John 20:19-31

**HYMN** *“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”* (*LSB* 411)

I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus. *(Chorus)*

In Him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus. *(Chorus)*

I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.

Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father. *(Chorus)*

I’m looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.

When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus. *(Chorus)*

**SERMON *“Walk in the Light”***

**DISTRIBUTION**

*“O Sons and Daughters of the King”* (*LSB* 470, vs. 1-4)

O sons and daughters of the King, whom heav’nly hosts in glory sing,

today the grave has lost its sting! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

That Easter morn, at break of day, the faithful women went their way

to seek the tomb where Jesus lay. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

An angel clad in white they see, who sits and speaks unto the three,

“your Lord will go to Galilee.” Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

That night the\_apostles met in fear; among them came their master dear

and said, “My peace be with you here.” Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**HYMN** *“O Sons and Daughters of the King”* (*LSB* 470, vs. 5-9)

When Thomas first the tidings heard that they had seen the risen Lord,

he doubted the disciples’ word. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

“My piercèd side, O Thomas, see, and look upon My hands, My feet;

not faithless but believing be.” Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

No longer Thomas then denied; he saw the feet, the hands, the side;

“You are my Lord and God!” he cried. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

How blest are they who have not seen and yet whose faith has constant been,

for they eternal life shall win. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

On this most holy day of days be laud and jubilee and praise:

to God your hearts and voices raise. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!