



Daily Prayer
+ Saturday, April 25, 2020 +

Invocation

L: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen, indeed! Alleluia.

Psalmody

Psalm 106:1-5

L: Praise the LORD!

C: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!

L: Who can utter the mighty deeds of the LORD, or declare all his praise?

C: Blessed are they who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times!

L: Remember me, O LORD, when you show favor to your people;

C: help me when you save them, that I may look upon the prosperity of your chosen ones,

L: that I may rejoice in the gladness of your nation, that I may glory with your inheritance.

C: Glory be to Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Hymn

#482

[1] This joyful Eastertide, Away with sin and sorrow!

My love, the Crucified,

Has sprung to life this morrow:

Had Christ, who once was slain,

Not burst his three-day prison,

Our faith had been in vain:

But now has Christ arisen, arisen, arisen;

But now has Christ arisen!

[2] Death's flood has lost its chill
Since Jesus crossed the river;
Lover of souls, from ill
My passing soul deliver:
Had Christ, who once was slain,
Not burst his three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain:
But now has Christ arisen, arisen, arisen;
But now has Christ arisen!

[3] My flesh in hope shall rest
And for a season slumber
Till trump from east to west
Shall wake the dead in number:
Had Christ, who once was slain,
Not burst his three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain:
But now has Christ arisen, arisen, arisen;
But now has Christ arisen!

Reading

Luke 24:1-12

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and

be crucified and on the third day rise." And they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles, but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home marveling at what had happened.

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

Devotional Message from Pastor Thompson

In our reading today from Luke 24, the women return from the empty tomb on Easter morning to tell the disciples that Jesus had risen from the dead.

According to Luke, the women who went to the tomb on Easter morning and who return to the disciples to give witness to the resurrection are: "*Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them.*" (Luke 24:10) In Mark's Gospel, the women are listed as "*Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome*". (Mark 16:1) Matthew's list is shorter: "*Mary Magdalene and the other Mary*". (Matthew 28:1) John only mentions Mary Magdalene.

Each of the Gospels provides a different list, but they consist of the same women: Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, Salome, the other Mary, and other unnamed women.

Of these women, Mary Magdalene is the most well known. Mary is featured throughout the Gospels as a faithful disciple of Jesus. She had been healed by Jesus and displayed a strong faith.

In Luke 8:3 we learn that Joanna was a wealthy woman from an important family: *"the wife of Chuza, Herod's household manager"*.

Mary the mother of James is named *"Mary the mother of James and Joseph"* in Matthew 27:56 and is thought to be Mary the mother of Jesus.

Salome is said to be the mother of James and John; the wife of Zebedee.

These women at the tomb are the very same women who followed and supported Jesus during his ministry: *"Soon afterward he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with him, and also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, and Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod's household manager, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their means."* (Luke 8:1-3)

They heard him preach. They witnessed his miracles. And they supported his ministry financially. They also witnessed his death on the cross and his burial in the tomb.

As Luke writes, *"And the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance watching these things."* (Luke 23:49) And, *"The women who had come with him from Galilee followed and saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned and prepared spices and ointments. On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment."* (Luke 23:55-56)

These women are, therefore, eyewitnesses to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. They were the first to learn of his resurrection on Easter morning and the first to proclaim the Gospel. Sadly, the men considered their testimony to be an *"idle tale"* and they would not believe them. At least at first. Soon Jesus would come to the men, as well, and together they would proclaim Jesus risen from the dead to all nations.

And so, today, we remember the women who went to the tomb early on Easter morning and who gave testimony to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. We are grateful for their witness and their example of faith. May we be as faithful as them. Amen.

Apostles' Creed

C: 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.

Lord's Prayer

C: 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.

Collect

L: Almighty God, in your mercy so guide the course of this world that we may forgive as we have been forgiven and joyfully serve you in godly peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Blessing

L: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

L: The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

C: Amen.

- [1] With high delight Let us unite
In songs of great jubilation.
Ye pure in heart, All bear your part,
Sing Jesus Christ, our salvation.
To set us free Forever He
Is ris'n and sends, To all earth's ends
Good news to save ev'ry nation.
- [2] True God, He first From death has burst
Forth into life, all subduing.
His enemy Doth vanquished lie;
His death has been death's undoing.
"And yours shall be Like victory
O'er death and grave," Saith He, who gave
His life for us, life renewing.
- [3] Let praises ring; Give thanks, and bring
To Christ our Lord adoration.
His honor speed By word and deed
To ev'ry land, ev'ry nation.
So shall His love Give us above,
From misery And death set free,
All joy and full consolation.