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**Daily Prayer**  
**+ Tuesday, April 28, 2020 +**

## Invocation

L: Christ is risen!

**C: He is risen, indeed! Alleluia.**

## Psalmody

*Psalm 98:4-9*

L: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

**C: Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody!**

L: With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!

**C: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who dwell in it!**

L: Let the rivers clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together before the LORD, for he comes to judge the earth.

**C: He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.**

**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

#486

[1] If Christ had not been raised from death  
Our faith would be in vain,  
Our preaching but a waste of breath,  
Our sin and guilt remain.  
But now the Lord is ris'n indeed;  
He rules in earth and heav'n:  
His Gospel meets a world of need--  
In Christ we are forgiv'n.

[2] If Christ still lay within the tomb  
Then death would be the end,  
And we should face our final doom  
With neither guide nor friend.  
But now the Savior is raised up,  
So when a Christian dies  
We mourn, yet look to God in hope--  
In Christ the saints arise!

[3] If Christ had not been truly raised  
His Church would live a lie;  
His name should nevermore be praised,  
His words deserve to die.  
But now our great Redeemer lives;  
Through Him we are restored;  
His Word endures, His Church revives  
In Christ, our risen Lord.

## **Reading**

**John 20:1-10**

*Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, and the face*

*cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples went back to their homes.*

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **Devotional Message from Pastor Thompson**

In our reading today from John 20, we begin the resurrection account found in the Gospel of John.

In John's Gospel, Jesus was glorified through his suffering on the cross, which completed his work: *He said, "It is finished."* (John 19:30) Jesus was glorified on the cross and all of his work for mankind was finished and complete. Sinful humanity was now reconciled to God and peace between God and man was accomplished. The devil and all evil was routed and God's victory over sin and death was complete.

For Jesus, his work was finished. Only his reward awaited. And so, on the third day the Father raised his Son from the dead. His resurrection was a triumph and a victory over all evil and a reward from his Father for his work of salvation. And so Jesus, glorified through suffering, was raised by the Father on the third day.

Among the many women who were the first to witness the empty tomb, John takes special note of Mary Magdalene. Most likely this is because Mary Magdalene was the woman who spoke up for those who returned to tell Peter of the empty tomb: *So Mary ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him."* (John 20:1-2)

Mary Magdalene says "we" here because she was not alone. Mary Magdalene was one among a crowd of women who had gone to the tomb that morning and who returned to tell the disciples the amazing news of the resurrection.

And the news was amazing. Peter and the other men had difficulty believing the women and considered their words an *"idle tale"* (Luke 24:11) But not idle enough to ignore them! Instead, Peter and John set out on a run to the tomb.

The John here is the author of the Gospel of John, the Book of Revelation, and 1-3 John. He is the brother of James and a son of Zebedee. John the Apostle is the youngest of the twelve disciples and would live the longest, nearly to 100 A.D. John will take Mary the mother of Jesus with him to Ephesus where he will serve as pastor for many years and where he will write his Gospel. John is referred to as the *"disciple whom Jesus loved"*.

And John, because of his youth, is a fast runner; at least he is a faster runner than Peter. He arrives at the tomb first. But also because of his youth, John hesitates outside of the tomb and waits for Peter. When Peter arrives, because of his age and because of his boldness, Peter does not hesitate, but enters the tomb right away.

Then, when John finally enters to the tomb and sees that the tomb is empty he is rewarded with faith: *And he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples went back to their homes.* (John 20:8-10)

John the Apostle, the disciple whom Jesus loved, saw the empty tomb and believed. May his joy and may his faith, the joy and faith of that very first Easter, be ours today and always. 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: O God our Father, you raised your Son Jesus from the dead in glory. Raise us also through faith that we might know him to be our risen Savior; through the very same 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.**

## Hymn

# 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!