



*“A Lighthouse Guiding
People to Christ”*



April 7, 2024

Second Sunday of Easter

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PRELUDE / COUNTDOWN

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor

WELCOMING OF GUESTS

Pastor

PASSING THE PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP (Inspired by John 20:24-29)

Liturgist

Liturgist: Thomas said:

Congregation: "Unless I see the mark of the nails and put my hand in his side, I will not believe."

Liturgist: We are often skeptical people, driven by our senses, relying on that which we can hear, see or prove.

Congregation: Our Lord asks us to see the invisible, to trust in the spirit, to have faith. Lord, give us faith!

Liturgist: Sometimes we get carried away by our emotions, by wishful thinking and by popular trends that pull us in.

Congregation: Lord, help us to be bold in our beliefs, but also careful as Thomas was. Move us beyond mere trust in ordinary things and open our eyes for spiritual realities.

Liturgist: Jesus said: "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Congregation: Amen.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (v.1-4)

UMH #384

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: An Easter

Affirmation

Liturgist

Your light is the only light we need as we travel through life's mystery. Your word is the only voice we hear. That still small voice that leads us to the place where we should be. Your presence is the only company we need as we walk this narrow road. Your fellowship is the warmth we crave to help us on our way. May the truth of

Easter, the joy of Easter, and the blessings of Easter be with us this day and all days. Amen

*GLORIA PATRI

See screen

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Psalm 13:1-3 NKJV

Liturgist

A Song of Ascents. Of David. Behold, how good and how pleasant *it is* For brethren to dwell together in unity! ² *It is* like the precious oil upon the head, Running down on the beard, The beard of Aaron, Running down on the edge of his garments. ³ *It is* like the dew of Hermon, Descending upon the mountains of Zion; For there the LORD commanded the blessing -- Life forevermore.

**Please stand as you are able.*

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor

CHILDREN'S PRAYER

Dear God, help us to believe in our heart the truths we find in Your Holy Word, even though we have not seen them with our own eyes. In Jesus' name, Amen.

GOSPEL READING John 20:19-31
(NKJV)

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.

MISSION MOMENT

PRESENTATION OF PRAYERS AND PRAISE

Pastor

If you have a prayer need or praise that you would like to share with the congregation, please fill out a card and pass it toward the center aisle of the congregation as we are singing the Hymn of

Preparation. The pastor will collect the cards during the song and pray over the cards at the chancel rail.

*HYMN OF PREPARATION
UMH #328

Surely the Presence of the Lord

PASTORAL PRAYER
SERMON

Pastor

Title: Living the Resurrection

Theme: Unless I See

Purpose: Blessed are those who haven't seen and yet believe.

RECEIVING OF TITHES AND SACRIFICES

OFFERTORY PRAYER (Based on John 20:19-31)

PASSING THE PLATE

*DOXOLOGY
UMH #94

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings

HOLY COMMUNION
See insert

*HYMN OF CELEBRATION
4) UMH #462

'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus (v. 1-

*COMMISION / BENEDICTION

(Inspired by John 20:21-22)

Pastor: Jesus said: "Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I am now sending you." He believes in you. The busy world awaits your compassion.

Congregation: God believes in us.

Pastor: Sometimes you will give your best yet fail.

Congregation: God believes in us.

Pastor: At other times you will succeed in spite of your stumbling.

Congregation: God believes in us.

Pastor: Go gladly, daring to succeed or fail to the glory of God, and then at the very end, nothing shall dismay you.

Congregation: God believes in us With Christ's own breath within us, we shall travel well.

Pastor: The help of the saving Christ, the wisdom of the Living God, and the support of the loving Spirit, will be with you every step of the way, now and always.

Congregation: Amen!

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

See screen

Love and Fellowship

POSTLUDE