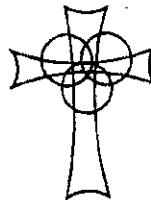
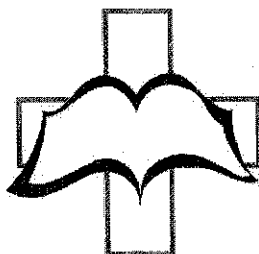


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**Midweek Devotions and Bible Study
Wednesday in the Third Week of Easter
April 29, 2020**

Service of the Word in Eastertide

✠ Christ Jesus, Victor! Christ Jesus, Ruler! Christ Jesus, Lord and Redeemer! ✠

The Opening Versicles:

*Psalms 70:1 and 139:7
and Liturgical Text*

- P** Make haste, O God, to deliver me.
C O Lord, make haste to help me!
- P** If I ascend to heaven, You are there!
C If I make my bed in Sheol, You are there!
- P** In Your resurrection, O Christ,
C let heaven and earth rejoice. Alleluia!

- P** ¹I love the LORD, because he has heard
my voice and my pleas for mercy.
- C** ²**Because he inclined his ear to me,
therefore I will call on him as long as I live.**
- P** ³The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;
I suffered distress and anguish.
- C** ⁴**Then I called on the name of the LORD:
“O LORD, I pray, deliver my soul!”**
- P** ⁵Gracious is the LORD, and righteous;
our God is merciful.
- C** ⁶**The LORD preserves the simple;
when I was brought low, he saved me.**
- P** ⁷Return, O my soul, to your rest;
for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you.
- C** ⁸**For you have delivered my soul from death,
my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling;**
- P** ⁹I will walk before the LORD
in the land of the living.
- C** ¹⁰**I believed, even when I spoke,
“I am greatly afflicted”;**
- P** ¹¹I said in my alarm,
“All mankind are liars.”
- C** ¹²**What shall I render to the LORD
for all his benefits to me?**
- P** ¹³I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD,
- C** ¹⁴**I will pay my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all his people.**
- P** ¹⁹in the courts of the house of the LORD,
in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the LORD!
- C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Alleluia!

¹⁴Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, . . .
³⁶Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”
³⁷Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” ³⁸And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.”
⁴⁰And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, “Save yourselves from this crooked generation.” ⁴¹So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

- P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Study 3

What Happened on the Evening of that First Day of the Week?



**“THESE ARE WRITTEN

so... that by
BELIEVING

you may have
LIFE

IN HIS NAME.”
JOHN 20:31, ESV**

356. Jesus Appears to His Disciples (Thomas being Absent)

Matt.	Mark	Luke 24.36-43	John 20.19-23
18.18; 16.19	16.14		(no. 353 20.14-18 p. 327)
		<p>36As they were saying this, Jesus himself stood among them^x [and said to them, "Peace to you!"] 37But they were startled and frightened, and supposed that they saw a spirit. 38And he said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do questionings rise in your hearts? 39See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself; handle me, and see; for a spirit has not flesh and bones as you see that I have." 40And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet.] 41And while they still disbelieved for joy, and wondered, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" 42They gave him a piece of broiled fish, 43and he took it and ate before them.</p>	<p>19On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."</p>
cp. 28.19 f. (no. 364, p. 335)	cp. 16.15 (no. 363, p. 334)	(no. 365 24.44-53 p. 335)	20When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.
			21Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." 22And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and said
Matt.	Mark	Luke	[John 20.19-23]
18.18 (no. 170, p. 161)		cp. 24.47 ff. (no. 365, p. 335)	to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."
18 "Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. 16.19 (no. 158, p. 149)			
19 "I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."			
		[16.14] (no. 363, p. 334)	
		14Afterward he appeared to the eleven themselves as they sat at table; and he upbraided them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they had not believed those who saw him after he had risen.	

357. Jesus Appears to His Disciples (Thomas being Present)

Matt.	Mark	Luke	John 20.24-29
			24Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. 25So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in his side, I will not believe." 26Eight days later, his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said, "Peace be with you." 27Then 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 be faithless, but believing." 28Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" 29Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe."
			(no. 366 20.30-31 p. 336)

366. The Ending of John

Matt.	Mark	Luke	John 20.30-31
			(no. 357 20.24-29 p. 331)
			30Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; 31but 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.

The Prayers:

P On this day that the Lord has made, let us pray for all the people He has redeemed.

Let us pray that we may live as those who believe in the triumph of Christ's cross:

C **O Lord, hear us.**

P Let us pray that all people everywhere may receive the Good News of His victory:

C **O Lord, hear us.**

P Let us pray that all those born to new life in the waters of Baptism may know the power of the Lord's resurrection:

C **O Lord, hear us.**

P Let us pray that those who suffer any pain or anguish may find healing and peace in the risen wounds of Christ:

C **O Lord, hear us.**

P Let us rejoice in the lives of all of God's saints, and let us pray that in the undying love of Christ we may be at last united with all who have died in the faith of Christ in the joys of God's eternal kingdom:

C **O Lord, hear us.**

P Let us commend the world, for which Christ died and rose again from the dead, to the mercy and protection of God.

Open prayer may be offered and silence is kept.

The Lord's Prayer:

P Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

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.**

The Collect of the Day:

- P** Let us pray.
O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

The Collect for the Easter Season:

- P** O God, for our redemption You gave Your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross and by His glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of the enemy. Grant that all our sin may be drowned through daily repentance and that day by day we may arise to live before You in righteousness and purity forever; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** Amen.

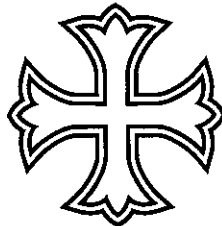
The Closing Prayer:

after Richard of Chichester (1253)

- P** We pray:
C Lord Jesus Christ, we thank You
for all the benefits that You have won for us,
for all the pains and insults that You bore for us.
Most merciful Redeemer, Friend and Brother,
may we know You more clearly,
love You more dearly,
and follow You more nearly,
day by day.
Amen.

The Benediction:

- P** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.
- C** Amen.



Acknowledgments

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