



2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER  
APRIL 24, 2022

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***SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH***

4660 West 94<sup>th</sup> Street, Oak Lawn, Illinois 60453

(708) 423-1040  
Pastor John Moeller

[www.stpauloaklawn.org](http://www.stpauloaklawn.org)  
Director of Music Ruth Sievers

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## As We Gather

Thomas had missed out. He wasn't there with the other disciples when the risen Jesus appeared that first Easter night to show them His hands and side. Thomas was absent when Jesus breathed on them with His Spirit and sent them out to proclaim His forgiveness. It's no wonder then that when Thomas heard about this encounter, he wanted to see Jesus for himself. "Unless I see, . . . I will never believe," he said (John 20:25). One week after Christ's resurrection, Thomas had his opportunity. He saw. He touched. He believed. He confessed: "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:28).

Today is your opportunity—don't miss out! Our risen Jesus is here with His Spirit and in His body and blood. We see. We touch. We believe. We confess. As we gather in His presence for worship today, may He fill us with great joy as we continue to celebrate His resurrection victory and confess Him as our Lord and God!

## Prelude

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"

H. Markworth

## Opening Hymn

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"

#469

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 "Christ the Lord is ris'n today!"<br>Saints on earth and angels say;<br>Raise your joys and triumphs high;<br>Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth, reply. | 3 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal;<br>Christ hath burst the gates of hell.<br>Death in vain forbids His rise;<br>Christ has opened paradise. |
| 2 Love's redeeming work is done,<br>Fought the fight, the battle won;<br>Lo! Our Sun's eclipse is o'er;<br>Lo! He sets in blood no more.            | 4 Lives again our glorious King!<br>Where, O death, is now thy sting?<br>Once He died our souls to save;<br>Where thy victory, O grave?          |

*Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt.*

*Text: Public domain*

## Invocation

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

## Confession and Absolution

Psalm 91:1–2

**P** He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

**C** I will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."

**P** Taking refuge in the mercy of the Lord, let us come before Him in humble confession.

*We pause to remember and confess our sins before Almighty God...*

**P** Almighty God, our heavenly Father,

**C** We confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. By the things we have done and by what we have failed to do, we have not honored You as we ought, nor have we served others in love. We deserve to be cast from Your presence forever. Yet in Your great mercy, You sent Your Son to die and rise again for us. Help us to know the power of His resurrection and to share the joy that His forgiveness brings.

**Enable us to receive Your mercy and be renewed by Your Spirit, that we may honor You as the Lord and God in whom we place our trust. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, hears our prayers and answers them for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ. By faith, we stand at His empty tomb, where we find our refuge and sing for joy! As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

## ✠ WORD ✠

### Psalm

Psalm 148; antiphon: v. 13

**P** Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise Him in the heights!

**C** Praise Him, all His angels; praise Him, all His hosts!

**P** Praise Him, sun and moon, praise Him, all you shining stars!

**C** Praise Him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens! Let them praise the name of the LORD, for His name alone is exalted; His majesty is above earth and heaven.

**P** Let them praise the name of the LORD! For He commanded and they were created.

**C** And He established them forever and ever; He gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.

**P** Praise the LORD from the earth, you great sea creatures and all deeps,

**C** fire and hail, snow and mist, stormy wind fulfilling His word!

**P** Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

**C** Beasts and all livestock, creeping things and flying birds! Let them praise the name of the LORD, for His name alone is exalted; His majesty is above earth and heaven.

**P** Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

**C** Young men and maidens together, old men and children! Let them praise the name of the LORD, for His name alone is exalted; His majesty is above earth and heaven.

**P** He has raised up a horn for His people, praise for all His saints,

**C** for the people of Israel who are near to Him. Praise the LORD!

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.

### Prayer of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray together,

**C** Almighty God, grant that we who celebrate the triumph of our risen Savior may join with all other witnesses of the resurrection in boldly sharing with the world that Jesus is Lord and God; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.

**First Reading**

✠ Many Signs and Wonders Done ✠

*Acts 5:12-32*

<sup>12</sup>Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. <sup>13</sup>None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. <sup>14</sup>And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, <sup>15</sup>so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. <sup>16</sup>The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

<sup>17</sup>But the high priest rose up, and all who were with him (that is, the party of the Sadducees), and filled with jealousy <sup>18</sup>they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. <sup>19</sup>But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, <sup>20</sup>"Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life." <sup>21</sup>And when they heard this, they entered the temple at daybreak and began to teach.

Now when the high priest came, and those who were with him, they called together the council and all the senate of Israel and sent to the prison to have them brought. <sup>22</sup>But when the officers came, they did not find them in the prison, so they returned and reported, <sup>23</sup>"We found the prison securely locked and the guards standing at the doors, but when we opened them we found no one inside." <sup>24</sup>Now when the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these words, they were greatly perplexed about them, wondering what this would come to.

<sup>25</sup>And someone came and told them, "Look! The men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people." <sup>26</sup>Then the captain with the officers went and brought them, but not by force, for they were afraid of being stoned by the people. <sup>27</sup>And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest questioned them, <sup>28</sup>saying, "We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man's blood upon us."

<sup>29</sup>But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. <sup>30</sup>The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. <sup>31</sup>God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. <sup>32</sup>And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Anthem of Praise Solo**

"These Things Did Thomas Count As Real"

Hymn #472

**Holy Gospel**

✠ Jesus Appears to the Disciples ✠

*John 20:19-31*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>19</sup>On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup>When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." <sup>22</sup>And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld."

<sup>24</sup>Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe."

<sup>26</sup>Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup>Then 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." <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." <sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; <sup>31</sup>but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## ✠ Confession of Faith ✠

*The Apostle's Creed*

**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.**

### **Sermon Hymn**

"O Sons and Daughters of the King"

#470 sts. 1, 4-7 & 8

1 O sons and daughters of the King,  
Whom heav'nly hosts in glory sing,  
Today the grave has lost its sting!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4 That night the \_apostles met in fear;  
Among them came their master dear  
And said, "My peace be with you here."  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

5 When Thomas first the tidings heard  
That they had seen the risen Lord,  
He doubted the disciples' word.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

6 "My piercèd side, O Thomas, see,  
And look upon My hands, My feet;  
Not faithless but believing be."  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

7 No longer Thomas then denied;  
He saw the feet, the hands, the side;  
"You are my Lord and God!" he cried.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

8 How blest are they who have not seen  
And yet whose faith has constant been,  
For they eternal life shall win.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*Text: attr. Jean Tisserand, d. 1494; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt. Text: Public domain*

## Sermon

## Prayer of the Church

**Offering**—*may be left in the offering plates near the doors as you leave. Those worshipping at home may continue to mail or drop off offerings at the church office, and on-line giving is available to everyone on our website at [www.stpauloaklawn.org](http://www.stpauloaklawn.org). For information about regular electronic giving, please contact the church office.*

## Offertory Meditation

### ✠ SERVICE of the SACRAMENT ✠

#### Preface

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** **And also with you.**  
**P** Lift up your hearts.  
**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**  
**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

#### Proper Preface

#### Prayer of Thanksgiving

*based on Acts 5:30–32*

- P** God of our fathers, You have filled our hearts with endless joy in the resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
**C** **You raised Him from the dead after evil men killed Him by hanging Him on the tree of the cross.**  
**P** You exalted Him to Your right hand as leader and Savior to give repentance and forgiveness of sins to all who trust in Him.  
**C** **In the power of the Holy Spirit, we join with those who were eyewitnesses of these things to give You all glory, honor, and worship, now and forever. Amen.**

#### Lord's Prayer

- C** **Our Father who art in heaven...**

#### Words of Our Lord

#### Pax Domini

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C** **Amen.**

### ✠ DISTRIBUTION of the SACRAMENT ✠

#### Hymn

"I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table"

#618, sts. 1-2, 4-5

- 1 I come, O Savior, to Thy table,  
For weak and weary is my soul;  
Thou, Bread of Life, alone art able  
To satisfy and make me whole: **Refrain**

**Refrain:** Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood  
Be for my soul the highest good!

2 Thy heart is filled with fervent yearning  
That sinners may salvation see  
Who, Lord, to Thee in faith are turning;  
So I, a sinner, come to Thee. **Refrain**

4 Weary am I and heavy laden;  
With sin my soul is sore oppressed;  
Receive me graciously and gladden  
My heart, for I am now Thy guest.  
**Refrain**

5 What higher gift can we inherit?  
It is faith's bond and solid base;  
It is the strength of heart and spirit,  
The covenant of hope and grace. **Refrain**

*Text: Friedrich Christian Heyder, 1677–1754; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, abr.*

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## Hymn

## “At the Name of Jesus”

#512

1 At the name of Jesus  
Ev'ry knee shall bow,  
Ev'ry tongue confess Him  
King of glory now.  
'Tis the Father's pleasure  
We should call Him Lord,  
Who from the beginning  
Was the mighty Word.

2 At His voice creation  
Sprang at once to sight,  
All the angel faces,  
All the hosts of light,  
Thrones and bright dominions,  
Stars upon their way,  
All the heav'nly orders  
In their great array.

3 Humbled for a season,  
To receive a name  
From the lips of sinners  
Unto whom He came,

Faithfully He bore it  
Spotless to the last,  
Brought it back victorious  
When from death He passed;

4 Bore it up triumphant  
With its human light,  
Through all ranks of creatures  
To the central height,  
To the throne of Godhead,  
To the Father's breast,  
Filled it with the glory  
Of that perfect rest.

5 In your hearts enthrone Him;  
There let Him subdue  
All that is not holy,  
All that is not true:  
Crown Him as your captain  
In temptation's hour;  
Let His will enfold you  
In its light and pow'r.

*Text: Caroline M. Noel, 1817–77, alt.*

*Text: Public domain*

## Communion Blessing

**P** The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart † in peace.

## Closing Prayer

## Benediction

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C Amen.**

**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

## Closing Hymn

“He’s Risen, He’s Risen”

#480 sts. 1-3 & 5

- 1 He’s risen, He’s risen, Christ Jesus, the  
Lord;  
He opened death’s prison, the incarnate,  
true Word.  
Break forth, hosts of heaven, in jubilant  
song  
And earth, sea, and mountain their praises  
prolong.
- 2 The foe was triumphant when on Calvary  
The Lord of creation was nailed to the tree.  
In Satan’s domain did the hosts shout and  
jeer,  
For Jesus was slain, whom the evil ones  
fear.
- 3 But short was their triumph; the Savior  
arose,

And death, hell, and Satan He vanquished,  
His foes.  
The conquering Lord lifts His banner on  
high;  
He lives, yes, He lives, and will nevermore  
die.

- △5 Then sing your hosannas and raise your  
glad voice;  
Proclaim the blest tidings that all may  
rejoice.  
Laud, honor, and praise to the Lamb that  
was slain:  
With Father and Spirit He ever shall reign.

*Text: C. F. W. Walther, 1811–87, abr.; tr. Anna M. Meyer,  
1867–1941, alt.*

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## Postlude

“Postlude in G”

D. Buxtehude



## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND THANKS

**Vocalist:** Bill Leise

**Lector:** David Witkosky

**Altar Care:** Ruth Diver

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**Please pray for these members of our St. Paul family:**

Warren Miller	Betty Kruckow
Mark Landstrom	Cathy Gleason
Denise Murray	Dawn McNicholas
Lois Kaminske	Janet Varnagis
Lenore Curran	Janice Przybycien
Betty Beegle	Kevin Hickey
Mary Ann Colander	Art Hornburg
Melva Smith	Laverne Abraham
Carol Small	Mike Degidio
Norma Silinski	Beverly Sellers
Delphine Cherry	Ron Klingensmith
Louis Frank	Deb Skopec
Herta Iversen	Loretta Frank
Jane & Freddie Giacobbe	Marge Rochlitz
Ron Hickey	Julie & Larry Gurga
Ingrid Lesko	Katherine Hice
Gloria Meyer	Jan Briede
Delores Stegemann	Connie Braun
Kurt Seehofer	The Polezoes Family
Lincoln & Parker Alex	Patricia Murdoch
Gloria Crook	

***We pray:***

*For Genevieve Giacobbe*

*For Mark Landstrom*

*For Denise Murray and Mark Murray*

*For Rhonda Scott, friend of Deb Mandac*

***We pray for those who grieve:***

*For Sandy Barry on the death of her cousin, Linda Stewart, called from this life on April 12<sup>th</sup>.*

**Please let the church office know when your need for our congregational prayers is over (708) 423-1040.**

**Please pray for these friends and family of our members:**

Andrew Mrochen	Vern Howe
Eugene Marcinkowski	Roberta & Carlos Owens
Denise DeLaurentis	Dorothy Kroll
Eric Kessler	Barb & Emily Feehan
Bob Hessert	Georgiana Easton
Jackie Plichta	Patricia Paulsen
Ken Kruckow	Janet Trierweiler
Alan Hecke	Kim Lamberth
Matt Favero	Sandra Wilson
Michelle Mitchell	Al Silinski
Pam Palhegyi	Carol Milazzo
Rich Huscher	The Lamberth Family
Jerry Gross	Brenda Gurgel
Gloria Folsom	Autumn Kessler
Shirley Fairchild	Simeon Hoppe
Ron Lunt	Christopher Kosary
Sandy Plath	Iris McCoy
Shirley Demyres	Raquel Rameriz
Nick & Bridget DeAngelo	Henry Bonder
Kim & Shawn Skelton, Sr.	Kyle Hughes
Elaine Hoffstetter	Fred Raddatz
Allyson Seehofer	Selma Carmichael
Bernadette & Rich Trusk	Dana Kahn
Donald Hakanson	Guillermo Ramirez
Paul Noffke	Sue Sortino
Pam Brown	Lisa Sanders
Shawn Harland	Ann Herold
Barb Potter	Wayne Volk
Charley Heitz	Sharon Bryant
Doris Potts	Brad Benfield
Doreen Holford	Janice Hernandez
Judy Collins	Phyllis Hicks
Maryann Krieg (Wilke)	Katherine Zeleny
Jimmy Kennedy, Jr.	Monica Iversen
Cathy Becker	Ken Matz
Jean & Al Zirbel	Heather & Josh Turro
Donna Patri	Mary Ann Rafidi
Joe Thomas	Patrick Pasqua Sr.
Debbie Guarascio	Rhonda Scott
Justin & Ashley Fasel	Frank Coglinase
Nora Maculitis	Gene Wawrzynikowski
Kimberly Rooney	Brian Anderson
Robert Gonzalez	Theresa Kosteck
Pam Kirk	Vicki Warren
Jenny Bond	Pastor Mark Willig
Sophia Salus	