

Sunday 7 April 2024 Second Sunday of Easter

COLLECT

Almighty Father,
you have given your only Son to die for
our sins
and to rise again for our justification:
grant us so to put away the leaven of
malice and wickedness
that we may always serve you
in pureness of living and truth;
through the merits of your Son Jesus
Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING

The reading from Acts must be read as
either the First or Second Reading.

Either Acts 4:32-35

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.
The whole group of those who believed
were of one heart and soul, and no
one claimed private ownership of any
possessions, but everything they owned
was held in common. With great power
the apostles gave their testimony to the
resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great
grace was upon them all. There was
not a needy person among them, for
as many as owned lands or houses sold
them and brought the proceeds of what
was sold. They laid it at the apostles'
feet, and it was distributed to each as
any had need.

Or Exodus 14:10-end; 15:20-21

PSALM Psalm 133

R Mercy and truth are met together,
righteousness and peace have kissed
each other.

Behold how good and pleasant it is
to dwell together in unity.

It is like the precious oil upon the head,
running down upon the beard,
Even on Aaron's beard,
running down upon the collar of his
clothing. **R**

It is like the dew of Hermon
running down upon the hills of Zion.
For there the Lord has promised his
blessing:
even life for evermore. **R**

SECOND READING

Either 1 John 1:1 – 2:2

A reading from the first letter of John.

We declare to you what was from the
beginning, what we have heard, what
we have seen with our eyes, what we
have looked at and touched with our
hands, concerning the word of life – this
life was revealed, and we have seen
it and testify to it, and declare to you
the eternal life that was with the Father
and was revealed to us – we declare to
you what we have seen and heard so
that you also may have fellowship with
us; and truly our fellowship is with the
Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.
We are writing these things so that
our joy may be complete. This is the
message we have heard from him and
proclaim to you, that God is light and
in him there is no darkness at all. If we

say that we have fellowship with him
while we are walking in darkness, we
lie and do not do what is true; but if
we walk in the light as he himself is in
the light, we have fellowship with one
another, and the blood of Jesus his Son
cleanses us from all sin. If we say that
we have no sin, we deceive ourselves,
and the truth is not in us. If we confess
our sins, he who is faithful and just will
forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all
unrighteousness. If we say that we have
not sinned, we make him a liar, and his
word is not in us. My little children, I
am writing these things to you so that
you may not sin. But if anyone does sin,
we have an advocate with the Father,
Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the
atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not
for ours only but also for the sins of the
whole world.

Or Acts 4:32-35

GOSPEL John 20:19-end

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John.

It was evening on the first day of the
week, and the doors of the house where
the disciples had met were locked for
fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood
among them and said, "Peace be with
you." After he said this, he showed
them his hands and his side. Then the
disciples rejoiced when they saw the
Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace
be with you. As the Father has sent me,
so I send you." When he had said this,
he breathed on them and said to them,
"Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive
the sins of any, they are forgiven them;
if you retain the sins of any, they are

retained." But Thomas (who was called
the Twin), one of the twelve, was not
with them when Jesus came. So the
other disciples told him, "We have seen
the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless
I see the mark of the nails in his hands,
and put my finger in the mark of the
nails and my hand in his side, I will not
believe." A week later his disciples were
again in the house, and Thomas was
with them. Although the doors were
shut, Jesus came and stood among
them and said, "Peace be with you."
Then he said to Thomas, "Put your
finger here and see my hands. Reach
out your hand and put it in my side.
Do not doubt but believe." Thomas
answered him, "My Lord and my God!"
Jesus said to him, "Have you believed
because you have seen me? Blessed
are those who have not seen and yet
have come to believe." Now Jesus did
many other signs in the presence of
his disciples, which are not written in
this book. But these are written so that
you may come to believe that Jesus is
the Messiah, the Son of God, and that
through believing you may have life in
his name.

POST COMMUNION

Lord God our Father,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ
you have assured your children of
eternal life
and in baptism have made us one with
him:
deliver us from the death of sin
and raise us to new life in your love,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.



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