

If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and  
just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us  
from all unrighteousness.

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany  
Second Sunday of Easter  
Morning Prayer  
April 11, 2021, 10:30 am

1 John 1:9

We worship today according to the appointed order for Morning Prayer, Rite Two,  
beginning on page 75 of the Book of Common Prayer and occasionally from *Enriching Our Worship (EOW)*.  
Congregational responses are in **boldface type**.

*We will observe silence together to prepare for worship, which begins with  
the ringing of the bell. We stand.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*We stand or kneel. (BCP 79)*

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through  
our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the  
power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

**The Invitatory and Psalter** *(we stand)*

Lord, open our lips.

**And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

**Glory 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.**

*Venite* Psalm 95:1-7 *(BCP 82)*

**Come, let us sing to the Lord;**

**let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.**

**Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving  
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.**

**For the Lord is a great God,**

**and a great King above all gods.**

**In his hand are the caverns of the earth,**

**and the heights of the hills are his also.**

**The sea is his, for he made it,**

**and his hands have molded the dry land.**

**Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,  
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.**

**For he is our God,**

**and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of  
his hand.**

**Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!**

Psalm 133 *(we remain standing)*

**Oh, how good and pleasant it is,  
when brethren live together in unity!**

**It is like fine oil upon the head  
that runs down upon the beard,**

**Upon the beard of Aaron,  
and runs down upon the collar of his robe.**

**It is like the dew of Hermon  
that falls upon the hills of Zion.**

**For there the LORD has ordained the blessing:  
life for evermore.**

**The Lessons**

*Unless noted otherwise, we sit for each lesson and stand for each  
canticle.*

**The First Lesson – Acts 4:32-35**

Now 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.

**The Word of the Lord.**

**Thanks be to God.**

## Canticle A – A Song of Wisdom

Wisdom freed from a nation of oppressors  
a holy people and a blameless race.

**She entered the soul of a servant of the Lord,  
withstood dread rulers with wonders and signs.**

To the saints she gave the reward of their labors,  
and led them by a marvelous way;

**She was their shelter by day  
and a blaze of stars by night.**

She brought them across the Red Sea,  
she led them through mighty waters;

**But their enemies she swallowed in the waves  
and spewed them out from the depths of the abyss.**

And then, Lord, the righteous sang hymns to your Name,  
and praised with one voice your protecting hand;

**For Wisdom opened the mouths of the mute,  
and gave speech to the tongues of a new-born people.**

## The Epistle Lesson – 1 John 1:1-2:2

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.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Hymn: *Alleluia, Alleluia! (we sit)*

Chorus: Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.

Jesus is Lord of all the Earth. He is the King of creation.  
(Chorus)

Spread the good news or all the earth: Jesus has died and has risen. (Chorus)

## The Gospel Lesson – John 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, 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.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Thomas's Take On It

Lee Borden

Hymn – *We Walk By Faith (we remain seated)*

We walk by faith, and not by sight; no gracious words we hear  
from him who spoke as none e'er spoke; but we believe him  
near.

We may not touch his hands and side, nor follow where he trod;  
but in his promise we rejoice; and cry, "My Lord and my God!"

The Apostles' Creed (*we stand*)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers (*we stand or kneel*)

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

**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,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Suffrages (*BCP 98*)

Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

**Govern and uphold them, now and always.**

Day by day we bless you;

**We praise your Name for ever.**

Lord, keep us from all sin today;

**Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.**

Lord, show us your love and mercy;

**For we put our trust in you.**

In you, Lord, is our hope;

**And we shall never hope in vain.**

The Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery  
established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all  
who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body  
may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you  
and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

A Collect for Sundays (*BCP 98*)

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of  
the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this  
day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week  
to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our  
Lord. *Amen.*

A Prayer for Mission (*BCP 100*)

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole  
body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified:  
Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before  
you for all members of your holy Church, that in their  
vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you;  
through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Intercessions and Thanksgiving (*we stand*)

We pray for the souls of all those who have departed this life,  
including those we now name silently or aloud.

*Silence*

In our parish we pray for those who are struggling, especially  
**Jayne Oniffrey, Tom and Laura Taylor, Andrus Love,**  
**Bubba Pasley,** and the others we now name.

*Silence*

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Glenda, our  
bishop. We pray for our Companion Diocese of the Virgin  
Islands and its bishop, Ambrose. For Bridge Ministries,  
Birmingham; and for St. Anne's Home, Birmingham.

**The General Thanksgiving (*BCP 101*)**

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made.**

**We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.**

**And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you - in holiness and righteousness all our days.**

**Through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

Alleluia, alleluia. Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

**Joys and Concerns of the Congregation (*we sit*)**

---

**Serving at Epiphany this week:**

Altar Guild: Suzy Wilson  
Lay reader: Amanda Borden  
Officiant: Lee Borden

**And next:**

Altar Guild: Betty Weldon  
Lay reader: Lee Borden