

Second Sunday of Easter, Year A

Color: White
Scriptures: [Scripture linked to NRSV at Oremus Bible Browser]
[Acts 2:14a, 22–32](#) (Peter preaches Christ’s resurrection)
[Psalm 16](#) (In your presence there is fullness of joy)
[1 Peter 1:3–9](#) (New birth to a living hope through the resurrection)
[John 20:19–31](#) (Jesus shares the Holy Spirit and appears to Thomas)

Themes: Resurrection, Hope, Joy, New Creation, Holy Spirit, Faith

HYMN SUGGESTIONS

Hymn Suggestions link to Hymnary.org, a searchable resource with a wealth of information. The tunes listed here are the ones most commonly associated with the texts, and the biblical/thematic references suggest the hymn’s association with the morning’s scriptures or themes.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to Heav’n and Voices Raise (HYMN TO JOY)	Easter
Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know (HENDON)	Acts
Breathe on Me, Breath of God (TRENTHAM)	John
Christ Has Risen (TRANSFORMATION)	John
Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing (TRURO)	John, Acts
Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain (ST. KEVIN; GAUDEAMUS PARITER)	Easter
Crown Him With Many Crowns (DIADEMATA)	John
Filled With the Spirit’s Power (SHELDONIAN; FARLEY CASTLE)	Acts
The Head That Once Was Crowned (AZMON)	Easter
I Know That My Redeemer Lives (DUKE STREET)	Easter
Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee (ST. AGNES)	1 Peter
Look, Ye Saints! The Sight Is Glorious (BRYN CALFARIA)	Acts, John
Now the Green Blade Rises (NOEL NOUVELET)	John, Easter
O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing (O FILII ET FILIAE)	John
Rejoice, the Lord Is King (DARWALL)	John
The Strife Is O’er (VICTORY/PALESTRINA)	Acts
These Things Did Thomas Count as Real (MERLE MARIE; THE TRUTH FROM ABOVE)	John
We Walk By Faith and Not By Sight (SHANTI; DUNLAP’S CREEK; LOBT GOTT IHR CHRISTEN)	John

ANTHEMS

E = Easy, M = Moderate, MD = Moderately Difficult

Blest Are the Eyes That Have Not Seen You - M John
Fred Gramann
© 2011, E.C. Schirmer, No. 7329
SATB, a cappella

An Easter Benediction - M Easter, John
Paul Leddington Wright
© 1992, Hinshaw Music, HMC-1252
SATB, Piano

He Is Risen! He Is Risen! - E..... John
John Carter
© 1996, E.C. Schirmer, No. 7056
SAB, Organ

My Great Reward - E.....Psalms
K. Lee Scott
© 1985, Concordia Publishing, 98-2715
2-Part Mixed, Organ

Peace I Leave With You - M John
Allen Pote
© 2011, Hinshaw Music, HMC-2251
SATB, Organ

Praise Christ, Alleluia - MD 1 Peter
Eugene Butler
© 1970, C. Fischer, CM 7754
SATB, Organ

Sweet Music - EEaster
African-American Spiritual/R. Schulz-Widmar, arr.
© 2008, Hope Publishing, C 5519
SATB, a cappella, opt. Handbells (7)

This Joyful Eastertide - M.....Easter
Dutch Melody/Charles Wood, arr.
Public Domain, CPDL.org
SATB, a cappella

We Walk by Faith - E John
Karen Marroli
© 2021, MorningStar Music, 50-6213
SAB, Piano

We Walk By Faith and Not By Sight - E..... John
DUNLAP'S CREEK/Kevin J. Sadowski, arr.
© 1999, Concordia Publishing, 98-3505
SATB, Organ, opt. Congregation

With a Voice of Singing - M.....Easter
Martin Shaw
© 1923, G. Schirmer, No. 8103
SATB, Organ

-- Youth and Children --

Christ Has Broken Down the Wall - MEaster
Mark A. Miller
© 2011, Choristers Guild, CGA 1224
SATB (opt. Solos), Piano

In Thee Is Gladness - E..... 1 Peter
IN DIR IST FREUDE/ Michael Costello, arr.
© 2009, MorningStar Music, 50-4300
Unison, Organ, Oboe

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL (Prayers, Poems, Quotes & Liturgies)

*It is beyond our present abilities to formulate these ideas more precisely,
but it seems an intelligible and coherent hope that God will remember
the pattern that is me and re-create it in a new environment of God's
choosing, by a great act of final resurrection.*

— JOHN POLKINGHORNE,
"Quarks, Chaos & Christianity"

OPEN

John 20:19, 26

Doubt padlocked one door and
Memory put her back to the other.
Still the damp draught seeped in, though
Fear chinked all the cracks and
Blindness boarded up the window.
In the darkness that was left
Defeat crouched, shivering, in his cold corner.

Then Jesus came
(all the doors being shut)
and stood among them.

— LUCI SHAW, *Accompanied by Angels*

+ + +

*Nothing that has not died will be resurrected . . .
There lies the maddening ambiguity of our faith.*

— C.S. LEWIS, *The Weight of Glory*

+ + +

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The doors were locked by those who were afraid—

People: Locked doors could not stop the spirit of God.

Leader: The man would not believe unless he touched the wounds—

People: A doubting mind could not stop the spirit of God.

Leader: Fear and pain and doubt and death had won—

People: But could not stop the spirit of God.

Leader: We breathe out all that would destroy us and bring us harm,

People: We breathe in the spirit of peace, the will to believe, the call to serve.

— MARTHA DIXON KEARSE*

+ + +

GATHERING PRAYER

Lord, the breath of your spirit reaches us wherever we are. No matter what doors we lock, no matter what walls we build, no matter how tightly we seal ourselves away, your spirit moves like wind through the cracks and finds us in the darkness of our own making. Find us now, calm our fears, bring us peace as we come to you together for worship. Amen.

RESPONSIVE PRAYER FOR THOMAS (THE TWIN)

Leader: Lord, we want to believe in your peace;
People: Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, I will not believe.
Leader: Lord, we want to receive the breath of your spirit;
People: Unless I place my finger where the nails were, I cannot believe.
Leader: Lord, we want to share your love with others;
**People: Unless I place my hand in the wound on his side,
I am unable to believe.**
Leader: Lord, help us when the voice of doubt becomes too loud for us to ignore;
People: My Lord and My God!
Leader: Lord, guide us so that we see your face in the faces of those around us;
let your spirit surround us as we hear you say to us,
People: Peace be with you!
Leader: Lord, we want to believe; help us in our unbelief.
All: Breathe on us, breath of God.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Peace be with you! The Risen Lord comes to bring forgiveness, assurance, and grace to redeem, restore, and renew. Your sins are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

+ + +

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Plant the truth in each of us today by your resurrection, Lord, and give us Easter eyes, ears, hearts, minds, and tongues to see, hear, feel, know, and speak your Word this day, and forever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Go hopeful, trusting the Risen Christ to sustain you.
Take faith in the Risen Christ to strengthen you.
Take the joy of the Risen Christ to radiate in your lives
today and always.
And take the peace of God, the giver of new life. Amen.

Thanks to Martha Dixon Kears for contributing this week's prayers and liturgies.

Warren Howell, editor