

# Saron Lutheran Church, ELCA

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Julie Brooks, Pastor    Congregation of Saron, Ministers

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## Second Sunday in Easter April 19, 2020

*In this time of world-wide crisis, congregations are not able to gather for worship as the body of Christ. While we cannot be together in person, we can hear the word of God and hold each other in prayer.*

### Gathering

*You may choose to set out and light a candle, perhaps the one you have used this week for your daily prayer practice; and/or a bowl of water as a reminder of your baptism into the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.*

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the minister begins.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,  
we are raised with him to new life.  
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

*Water may be agitated, splashed or poured into the bowl.*

We give you thanks, O God,  
for in the beginning you created us in your image  
and planted us in a well-watered garden.  
In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched,  
and you gave us water from the rock.  
When we did not know the way,  
you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.  
At the cross, you watered us from Jesus' wounded side,  
and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

We praise you for your salvation through water,  
for the water in this font,  
and for all water everywhere.  
Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love.

Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the life only you can give.  
To you be given honor and praise  
through Jesus Christ our Lord  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen**

## Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray together.

**Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.. Amen.**

## Word

Reading 1 Peter 1:3-9

*This epistle was written to encourage Christians experiencing hardships and suffering because of their faith in Christ. The letter opens by blessing God for the living hope we have through Christ's resurrection even amid difficult circumstances and surroundings.*

3Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, 5who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. 6In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, 7so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. 8Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, 9for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

Gospel John 20:19-31

*The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. But one of their number is missing, and his unbelief prompts another visit from the Lord.*

The holy Gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

19When 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." 20After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." 22When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

24But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, 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 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.”

26A 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.” 27Then 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.” 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 have come to believe.”

30Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. 31But 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 gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn

Open Our Eyes

*Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus,  
To reach out and touch him, and say that we love him.  
Open our eyes, Lord, and help us to listen.  
Open our eyes Lord, we want to see Jesus.*

Prayers of Intercession

*Response:* Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

The Lord’s Prayer

**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.**

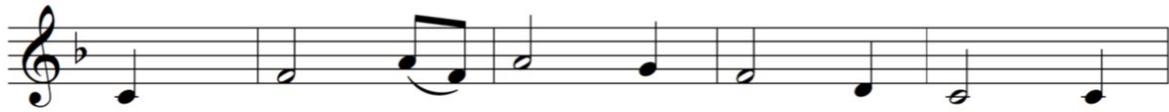
Sending

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead  
raise you to new life, fill you with hope,  
and turn your mourning into dancing.  
Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Hymn

Amazing Grace

ELW 779



1. A - maz - ing\_ grace! how sweet the sound that  
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
3. Through man - y\_ dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
4. The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his  
5. When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a\_ wretch like me!\_\_\_\_\_ I once\_ was lost, but  
grace my fears re - lieved;\_\_\_\_\_ how pre - cious did that  
have al - read - y come;\_\_\_\_\_ 'tis grace has\_ brought me  
word my hope se - cures;\_\_\_\_\_ he will\_ my\_ shield and  
shin - ing as the sun,\_\_\_\_\_ we've no\_ less\_ days to



now\_ am\_ found; was blind, but now I see.\_\_\_\_\_  
grace\_ ap - pear the hour I\_ first be - lieved!\_\_\_\_\_  
safe\_ thus far, and grace will lead me home.\_\_\_\_\_  
por - tion be as long as\_ life en - dures.\_\_\_\_\_  
sing\_ God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.\_\_\_\_\_

#### Dismissal

Christ is risen, just as he said.

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

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*Welcome to this online version of Saron Lutheran Church and Blessed Easter! We are happy that you are worshipping with us this morning. We pray your worship is meaningful and enhances your spiritual life. Please check our website for regular updates during this time of dispersed worship.*

