

*The Week of the
Second Sunday of Easter
Morning Prayer Readings for
April 12 - 16 2021*

Monday April 12, 2021

Please turn to page 585. We'll say Psalms 1, 2 and 3 together.

1 *Beatus vir qui non abiit*

*1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of
the wicked, *
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!*

*2 Their delight is in the law of the Lord, *
and they meditate on his law day and night.*

*3 They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; *
everything they do shall prosper.*

*4 It is not so with the wicked; *
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.*

*5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when
judgment comes, *
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.*

*6 For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, *
but the way of the wicked is doomed.*

2 *Quare fremuerunt gentes?*

*1 Why are the nations in an uproar? *
Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?*

2 Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt,

*and the princes plot together, *
against the Lord and against his Anointed?*

*3 "Let us break their yoke," they say; *
"let us cast off their bonds from us."*

*4 He whose throne is in heaven is laughing; *
the Lord has them in derision.*

*5 Then he speaks to them in his wrath, *
and his rage fills them with terror.*

*6 "I myself have set my king *
upon my holy hill of Zion."*

*7 Let me announce the decree of the Lord: *
he said to me, "You are my Son;
this day have I begotten you.*

*8 Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for
your inheritance *
and the ends of the earth for your possession.*

*9 You shall crush them with an iron rod *
and shatter them like a piece of pottery."*

*10 And now, you kings, be wise; *
be warned, you rulers of the earth.*

*11 Submit to the Lord with fear, *
and with trembling bow before him;*

*12 Lest he be angry and you perish; *
for his wrath is quickly kindled.*

*13 Happy are they all *
who take refuge in him!*

3 Domine, quid multiplicati

*1 Lord, how many adversaries I have! *
how many there are who rise up against me!*

*2 How many there are who say of me, **

"There is no help for him in his God."

*3 But you, O Lord, are a shield about me; *
you are my glory, the one who lifts up my head.*

*4 I call aloud upon the Lord, *
and he answers me from his holy hill;*

*5 I lie down and go to sleep; *
I wake again, because the Lord sustains me.*

*6 I do not fear the multitudes of people *
who set themselves against me all around.*

*7 Rise up, O Lord; set me free, O my God; *
surely, you will strike all my enemies across the face,
you will break the teeth of the wicked.*

*8 Deliverance belongs to the Lord. *
Your blessing be upon your people!*

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.*

The first lesson is from Daniel 1:1-21

1 In the third year of the reign of King Jehoiakim of Judah, King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. ²The Lord let King Jehoiakim of Judah fall into his power, as well as some of the vessels of the house of God. These he brought to the land of Shinar, and placed the vessels in the treasury of his gods.

3 Then the king commanded his palace master Ashpenaz to bring some of the Israelites of the royal family and of the nobility, ⁴young men without physical defect and handsome, versed in every branch of wisdom, endowed with knowledge and insight, and competent to serve in the king's palace; they were to be taught the literature and language of the Chaldeans. ⁵The king assigned them a daily portion of the royal rations of food and wine. They were to be educated for three years, so that at the end of that time they could be stationed in the king's court. ⁶Among them were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, from the tribe of Judah. ⁷The palace master gave them other names: Daniel he called Beltshazzar, Hananiah he called Shadrach, Mishael he called Meshach, and Azariah he called Abednego.

8 But Daniel resolved that he would not defile himself with the royal rations of food and wine; so he asked the palace master to allow him not to defile himself. ⁹Now

God allowed Daniel to receive favor and compassion from the palace master. ¹⁰The palace master said to Daniel, ‘I am afraid of my lord the king; he has appointed your food and your drink. If he should see you in poorer condition than the other young men of your own age, you would endanger my head with the king.’ ¹¹Then Daniel asked the guard whom the palace master had appointed over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah: ¹²‘Please test your servants for ten days. Let us be given vegetables to eat and water to drink. ¹³You can then compare our appearance with the appearance of the young men who eat the royal rations, and deal with your servants according to what you observe.’ ¹⁴So he agreed to this proposal and tested them for ten days. ¹⁵At the end of ten days it was observed that they appeared better and fatter than all the young men who had been eating the royal rations. ¹⁶So the guard continued to withdraw their royal rations and the wine they were to drink, and gave them vegetables. ¹⁷To these four young men God gave knowledge and skill in every aspect of literature and wisdom; Daniel also had insight into all visions and dreams.

18 At the end of the time that the king had set for them to be brought in, the palace master brought them into the presence of Nebuchadnezzar, ¹⁹and the king spoke with them. And among them all, no one was found to compare with Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah; therefore they were stationed in the king’s court. ²⁰In every matter of wisdom and understanding concerning which the king inquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanters in his whole kingdom. ²¹And Daniel continued there until the first year of King Cyrus.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page 86. We’ll say **Canticle 9, The First Song of Isaiah** together.

The second lesson is from 1 John 1:1-10

1 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— ²this 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— ³we 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. ⁴We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

5 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. ⁶If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; ⁷but 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. ⁸If we say that we have no sin,

we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page 94. We'll say **Canticle 19, The Song of the Redeemed** together.

The third lesson is from John 17:1-11

17 After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ²since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

6 'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page 96. We'll say **The Apostles' Creed** together.

The Collect of the day
Second Sunday of Easter

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.**

Please return to the **Morning Prayer Bulletin.**

Tuesday April 13, 2021

Please turn to page 588. We'll say Psalms 5 and 6 together.

5 *Verba mea auribus*

1 *Give ear to my words, O Lord; *
consider my meditation.*

2 *Hearken to my cry for help, my King and my God, *
for I make my prayer to you.*

3 *In the morning, Lord, you hear my voice; *
early in the morning I make my appeal and watch for you.*

4 *For you are not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness, *
and evil cannot dwell with you.*

5 *Braggarts cannot stand in your sight; *
you hate all those who work wickedness.*

6 *You destroy those who speak lies; *
the bloodthirsty and deceitful, O Lord, you abhor.*

7 *But as for me, through the greatness of your mercy I will
go into your house; *
I will bow down toward your holy temple in awe of you.*

8 *Lead me, O Lord, in your righteousness,
because of those who lie in wait for me; *
make your way straight before me.*

9 *For there is no truth in their mouth; *
there is destruction in their heart;*

10 *Their throat is an open grave; *
they flatter with their tongue.*

11 *Declare them guilty, O God; *
let them fall, because of their schemes.*

12 *Because of their many transgressions cast them out, *
for they have rebelled against you.*

*13 But all who take refuge in you will be glad; *
they will sing out their joy for ever.*

*14 You will shelter them, *
so that those who love your Name may exult in you.*

*15 For you, O Lord, will bless the righteous; *
you will defend them with your favor as with a shield.*

6 Domine, ne in furore

*1 Lord, do not rebuke me in your anger; *
do not punish me in your wrath.*

*2 Have pity on me, Lord, for I am weak; *
heal me, Lord, for my bones are racked.*

*3 My spirit shakes with terror; *
how long, O Lord, how long?*

*4 Turn, O Lord, and deliver me; *
save me for your mercy's sake.*

*5 For in death no one remembers you; *
and who will give you thanks in the grave?*

*6 I grow weary because of my groaning; *
every night I drench my bed
and flood my couch with tears.*

*7 My eyes are wasted with grief *
and worn away because of all my enemies.*

*8 Depart from me, all evildoers, *
for the Lord has heard the sound of my weeping.*

*9 The Lord has heard my supplication; *
the Lord accepts my prayer.*

*10 All my enemies shall be confounded and quake with fear; *
they shall turn back and suddenly be put to shame.*

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.*

The first lesson is from Daniel 2:1-16

2 In the second year of Nebuchadnezzar's reign, Nebuchadnezzar dreamed such dreams that his spirit was troubled and his sleep left him. ²So the king commanded that the magicians, the enchanters, the sorcerers, and the Chaldeans be summoned to tell the king his dreams. When they came in and stood before the king, ³he said to them, 'I have had such a dream that my spirit is troubled by the desire to understand it.' ⁴The Chaldeans said to the king (in Aramaic), 'O king, live for ever! Tell your servants the dream, and we will reveal the interpretation.' ⁵The king answered the Chaldeans, 'This is a public decree: if you do not tell me both the dream and its interpretation, you shall be torn limb from limb, and your houses shall be laid in ruins. ⁶But if you do tell me the dream and its interpretation, you shall receive from me gifts and rewards and great honor. Therefore tell me the dream and its interpretation.' ⁷They answered a second time, 'Let the king first tell his servants the dream, then we can give its interpretation.' ⁸The king answered, 'I know with certainty that you are trying to gain time, because you see I have firmly decreed: ⁹if you do not tell me the dream, there is but one verdict for you. You have agreed to speak lying and misleading words to me until things take a turn. Therefore, tell me the dream, and I shall know that you can give me its interpretation.' ¹⁰The Chaldeans answered the king, 'There is no one on earth who can reveal what the king demands! In fact no king, however great and powerful, has ever asked such a thing of any magician or enchanter or Chaldean. ¹¹The thing that the king is asking is too difficult, and no one can reveal it to the king except the gods, whose dwelling is not with mortals.'

12 Because of this the king flew into a violent rage and commanded that all the wise men of Babylon be destroyed. ¹³The decree was issued, and the wise men were about to be executed; and they looked for Daniel and his companions, to execute them. ¹⁴Then Daniel responded with prudence and discretion to Arioch, the king's chief executioner, who had gone out to execute the wise men of Babylon; ¹⁵he asked Arioch, the royal official, 'Why is the decree of the king so urgent?' Arioch then explained the matter to Daniel. ¹⁶So Daniel went in and requested that the king give him time and he would tell the king the interpretation.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page 90. We'll say **Canticle 13, A Song of Praise** together.

The second lesson is from 1 John 2:1-11

2 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;

²and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

³ Now by this we may be sure that we know him, if we obey his commandments.

⁴Whoever says, 'I have come to know him', but does not obey his commandments, is a liar, and in such a person the truth does not exist; ⁵but whoever obeys his word, truly in this person the love of God has reached perfection. By this we may be sure that we are in him: ⁶whoever says, 'I abide in him', ought to walk just as he walked.

⁷ Beloved, I am writing you no new commandment, but an old commandment that you have had from the beginning; the old commandment is the word that you have heard. ⁸Yet I am writing you a new commandment that is true in him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining. ⁹Whoever says, 'I am in the light', while hating a brother or sister, is still in the darkness.

¹⁰Whoever loves a brother or sister lives in the light, and in such a person there is no cause for stumbling. ¹¹But whoever hates another believer is in the darkness, walks in the darkness, and does not know the way to go, because the darkness has brought on blindness.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page 93. We'll say **Canticle 18, A Song to the Lamb** together.

The third lesson is from John 17:12-19

¹²While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. ¹⁴I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁷Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page 96. We'll say **The Apostles' Creed** together.

The Collect of the day
Second Sunday of Easter

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.*

Please return to the [Morning Prayer Bulletin](#).

Wednesday April 14, 2021

Please turn to page 763. We'll say Psalm 119:1-24 together.

119

Aleph *Beati immaculati*

*1 Happy are they whose way is blameless, *
who walk in the law of the Lord!*

*2 Happy are they who observe his decrees *
and seek him with all their hearts!*

*3 Who never do any wrong, *
but always walk in his ways.*

*4 You laid down your commandments, *
that we should fully keep them.*

*5 Oh, that my ways were made so direct *
that I might keep your statutes!*

*6 Then I should not be put to shame, *
when I regard all your commandments.*

*7 I will thank you with an unfeigned heart, *
when I have learned your righteous judgments.*

*8 I will keep your statutes; *
do not utterly forsake me.*

Beth *In quo corrigi?*

*9 How shall a young man cleanse his way? *
By keeping to your words.*

*10 With my whole heart I seek you; *
let me not stray from your commandments.*

*11 I treasure your promise in my heart, *
that I may not sin against you.*

*12 Blessed are you, O Lord; **

instruct me in your statutes.

*13 With my lips will I recite *
all the judgments of your mouth.*

*14 I have taken greater delight in the way of your decrees *
than in all manner of riches.*

*15 I will meditate on your commandments *
and give attention to your ways.*

*16 My delight is in your statutes; *
I will not forget your word.*

Gimel *Retribuere servo tuo*

*17 Deal bountifully with your servant, *
that I may live and keep your word.*

*18 Open my eyes, that I may see *
the wonders of your law.*

*19 I am a stranger here on earth; *
do not hide your commandments from me.*

*20 My soul is consumed at all times *
with longing for your judgments.*

*21 You have rebuked the insolent; *
cursed are they who stray from your commandments!*

*22 Turn from me shame and rebuke, *
for I have kept your decrees.*

*23 Even though rulers sit and plot against me, *
I will meditate on your statutes.*

*24 For your decrees are my delight, *
and they are my counselors.*

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.*

The first lesson is from Daniel 2:17-30

17 Then Daniel went to his home and informed his companions, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah,¹⁸ and told them to seek mercy from the God of heaven concerning this mystery, so that Daniel and his companions with the rest of the wise men of Babylon might not perish.¹⁹ Then the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a vision of the night, and Daniel blessed the God of heaven.

²⁰ Daniel said:

‘Blessed be the name of God from age to age,
for wisdom and power are his.

²¹ He changes times and seasons,
deposes kings and sets up kings;
he gives wisdom to the wise
and knowledge to those who have understanding.

²² He reveals deep and hidden things;
he knows what is in the darkness,
and light dwells with him.

²³ To you, O God of my ancestors,
I give thanks and praise,
for you have given me wisdom and power,
and have now revealed to me what we asked of you,
for you have revealed to us what the king ordered.’

24 Therefore Daniel went to Arioch, whom the king had appointed to destroy the wise men of Babylon, and said to him, ‘Do not destroy the wise men of Babylon; bring me in before the king, and I will give the king the interpretation.’

25 Then Arioch quickly brought Daniel before the king and said to him: ‘I have found among the exiles from Judah a man who can tell the king the interpretation.’

²⁶The king said to Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, ‘Are you able to tell me the dream that I have seen and its interpretation?’ ²⁷Daniel answered the king, ‘No wise men, enchanters, magicians, or diviners can show to the king the mystery that the king is asking,²⁸ but there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries, and he has disclosed to King Nebuchadnezzar what will happen at the end of days. Your dream and the visions of your head as you lay in bed were these: ²⁹To you, O king, as you lay in bed, came thoughts of what would be hereafter, and the revealer of mysteries disclosed to you what is to be. ³⁰But as for me, this mystery has not been revealed to me because of any wisdom that I have more than any other living being, but in order that the interpretation may be known to the king and that you may understand the thoughts of your mind.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page 87. We'll say **Canticle 11, The Third Song of Isaiah**, together.

The second lesson is from 1 John 2:12-17

¹² I am writing to you, little children,
because your sins are forgiven on account of his name.

¹³ I am writing to you, fathers,
because you know him who is from the beginning.

I am writing to you, young people,
because you have conquered the evil one.

¹⁴ I write to you, children,
because you know the Father.

I write to you, fathers,
because you know him who is from the beginning.

I write to you, young people,
because you are strong
and the word of God abides in you,
and you have overcome the evil one.

¹⁵ Do not love the world or the things in the world. The love of the Father is not in those who love the world; ¹⁶for all that is in the world—the desire of the flesh, the desire of the eyes, the pride in riches—comes not from the Father but from the world. ¹⁷And the world and its desire are passing away, but those who do the will of God live for ever.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page 92. We'll say **Canticle 16, The Song of Zechariah** together.

The third lesson is from John 17:20-26

²⁰ I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²²The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, ²³I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. ²⁴Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

25 'Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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The Collect of the day
Second Sunday of Easter

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.***

Please return to the **Morning Prayer Bulletin.**

Thursday April 15, 2021

Please turn to page 602. We'll say Psalm 18:1-20 together.

18

Part I *Diligam te, Domine.*

*1 I love you, O Lord my strength, *
O Lord my stronghold, my crag, and my haven.*

*2 My God, my rock in whom I put my trust, *
my shield, the horn of my salvation, and my refuge;
you are worthy of praise.*

*3 I will call upon the Lord, *
and so shall I be saved from my enemies.*

*4 The breakers of death rolled over me, *
and the torrents of oblivion made me afraid.*

*5 The cords of hell entangled me, *
and the snares of death were set for me.*

*6 I called upon the Lord in my distress *
and cried out to my God for help.*

*7 He heard my voice from his heavenly dwelling; *
my cry of anguish came to his ears.*

*8 The earth reeled and rocked; *
the roots of the mountains shook;
they reeled because of his anger.*

*9 Smoke rose from his nostrils
and a consuming fire out of his mouth; *
hot burning coals blazed forth from him.*

*10 He parted the heavens and came down *
with a storm cloud under his feet.*

*11 He mounted on cherubim and flew; **

he swooped on the wings of the wind.

*12 He wrapped darkness about him; *
he made dark waters and thick clouds his pavilion.*

*13 From the brightness of his presence, through the clouds, *
burst hailstones and coals of fire.*

*14 The Lord thundered out of heaven; *
the Most High uttered his voice.*

*15 He loosed his arrows and scattered them; *
he hurled thunderbolts and routed them.*

*16 The beds of the seas were uncovered,
and the foundations of the world laid bare, *
at your battle cry, O Lord,
at the blast of the breath of your nostrils.*

*17 He reached down from on high and grasped me; *
he drew me out of great waters.*

*18 He delivered me from my strong enemies
and from those who hated me; *
for they were too mighty for me.*

*19 They confronted me in the day of my disaster; *
but the Lord was my support.*

*20 He brought me out into an open place; *
he rescued me because he delighted in me.*

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.*

The first lesson is from Daniel 2:31-49

31 'You were looking, O king, and lo! there was a great statue. This statue was huge, its brilliance extraordinary; it was standing before you, and its appearance was frightening. ³²The head of that statue was of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its middle and thighs of bronze, ³³its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay. ³⁴As you looked on, a stone was cut out, not by human hands, and it struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay and broke them in pieces. ³⁵Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold, were all broken in pieces and became like the chaff

of the summer threshing-floors; and the wind carried them away, so that not a trace of them could be found. But the stone that struck the statue became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.

36 ‘This was the dream; now we will tell the king its interpretation. ³⁷You, O king, the king of kings—to whom the God of heaven has given the kingdom, the power, the might, and the glory, ³⁸into whose hand he has given human beings, wherever they live, the wild animals of the field, and the birds of the air, and whom he has established as ruler over them all—you are the head of gold. ³⁹After you shall arise another kingdom inferior to yours, and yet a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over the whole earth. ⁴⁰And there shall be a fourth kingdom, strong as iron; just as iron crushes and smashes everything, it shall crush and shatter all these. ⁴¹As you saw the feet and toes partly of potter’s clay and partly of iron, it shall be a divided kingdom; but some of the strength of iron shall be in it, as you saw the iron mixed with the clay. ⁴²As the toes of the feet were part iron and part clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly brittle. ⁴³As you saw the iron mixed with clay, so will they mix with one another in marriage, but they will not hold together, just as iron does not mix with clay. ⁴⁴And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed, nor shall this kingdom be left to another people. It shall crush all these kingdoms and bring them to an end, and it shall stand for ever; ⁴⁵just as you saw that a stone was cut from the mountain not by hands, and that it crushed the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold. The great God has informed the king what shall be hereafter. The dream is certain, and its interpretation trustworthy.’

46 Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell on his face, worshipped Daniel, and commanded that a grain-offering and incense be offered to him. ⁴⁷The king said to Daniel, ‘Truly, your God is God of gods and Lord of kings and a revealer of mysteries, for you have been able to reveal this mystery!’ ⁴⁸Then the king promoted Daniel, gave him many great gifts, and made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon and chief prefect over all the wise men of Babylon. ⁴⁹Daniel made a request of the king, and he appointed Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego over the affairs of the province of Babylon. But Daniel remained at the king’s court.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page 85. We’ll say **Canticle 8, The Song of Moses** together.

The second lesson is from 1 John 2:18-29

18 Children, it is the last hour! As you have heard that antichrist is coming, so now many antichrists have come. From this we know that it is the last hour. ¹⁹They went out from us, but they did not belong to us; for if they had belonged to us, they would

have remained with us. But by going out they made it plain that none of them belongs to us. ²⁰But you have been anointed by the Holy One, and all of you have knowledge. ²¹I write to you, not because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and you know that no lie comes from the truth. ²²Who is the liar but the one who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, the one who denies the Father and the Son. ²³No one who denies the Son has the Father; everyone who confesses the Son has the Father also. ²⁴Let what you heard from the beginning abide in you. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, then you will abide in the Son and in the Father. ²⁵And this is what he has promised us, eternal life.

26 I write these things to you concerning those who would deceive you. ²⁷As for you, the anointing that you received from him abides in you, and so you do not need anyone to teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about all things, and is true and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, abide in him.

28 And now, little children, abide in him, so that when he is revealed we may have confidence and not be put to shame before him at his coming.

29 If you know that he is righteous, you may be sure that everyone who does right has been born of him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page 94. We'll say Canticle 20, Glory to God, together.

The third lesson is from Luke 3:1-14

3 In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ²during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

‘The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.

⁵ Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth;

⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.” ’

7 John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?' ⁸Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

10 And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' ¹¹In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' ¹²Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' ¹³He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page 96. We'll say **The Apostles' Creed** together.

The Collect of the day
Second Sunday of Easter

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.***

Please return to the **Morning Prayer Bulletin.**

Friday April 16, 2021

Please turn to page 599. We'll say Psalms 16 and 17 together.

16 *Conserva me, Domine*

*1 Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; *
I have said to the Lord, "You are my Lord,
my good above all other."*

*2 All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, *
upon those who are noble among the people.*

*3 But those who run after other gods *
shall have their troubles multiplied.*

*4 Their libations of blood I will not offer, *
nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.*

*5 O Lord, you are my portion and my cup; *
it is you who uphold my lot.*

*6 My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; *
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.*

*7 I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; *
my heart teaches me, night after night.*

*8 I have set the Lord always before me; *
because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.*

*9 My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; *
my body also shall rest in hope.*

*10 For you will not abandon me to the grave, *
nor let your holy one see the Pit.*

*11 You will show me the path of life; *
in your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.*

17 *Exaudi, Domine*

1 Hear my plea of innocence, O Lord;

- give heed to my cry; **
listen to my prayer, which does not come from lying lips.
- 2 Let my vindication come forth from your presence; **
let your eyes be fixed on justice.
- 3 Weigh my heart, summon me by night, **
melt me down; you will find no impurity in me.
- 4 I give no offense with my mouth as others do; **
I have heeded the words of your lips.
- 5 My footsteps hold fast to the ways of your law; **
in your paths my feet shall not stumble.
- 6 I call upon you, O God, for you will answer me; **
incline your ear to me and hear my words.
- 7 Show me your marvelous loving-kindness, **
O Savior of those who take refuge at your right hand
from those who rise up against them.
- 8 Keep me as the apple of your eye; **
hide me under the shadow of your wings,
- 9 From the wicked who assault me, **
from my deadly enemies who surround me.
- 10 They have closed their heart to pity, **
and their mouth speaks proud things.
- 11 They press me hard,*
*now they surround me, **
watching how they may cast me to the ground,
- 12 Like a lion, greedy for its prey, **
and like a young lion lurking in secret places.
- 13 Arise, O Lord; confront them and bring them down; **
deliver me from the wicked by your sword.
- 14 Deliver me, O Lord, by your hand **
from those whose portion in life is this world;

*15 Whose bellies you fill with your treasure, *
who are well supplied with children
and leave their wealth to their little ones.*

*16 But at my vindication I shall see your face; *
when I awake, I shall be satisfied, beholding
your likeness.*

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.*

The first lesson is from Daniel 3:1-18

3 King Nebuchadnezzar made a golden statue whose height was sixty cubits and whose width was six cubits; he set it up on the plain of Dura in the province of Babylon. ²Then King Nebuchadnezzar sent for the satraps, the prefects, and the governors, the counsellors, the treasurers, the justices, the magistrates, and all the officials of the provinces, to assemble and come to the dedication of the statue that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up. ³So the satraps, the prefects, and the governors, the counsellors, the treasurers, the justices, the magistrates, and all the officials of the provinces, assembled for the dedication of the statue that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up. When they were standing before the statue that Nebuchadnezzar had set up, ⁴the herald proclaimed aloud, 'You are commanded, O peoples, nations, and languages, ⁵that when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, drum, and entire musical ensemble, you are to fall down and worship the golden statue that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up. ⁶Whoever does not fall down and worship shall immediately be thrown into a furnace of blazing fire.' ⁷Therefore, as soon as all the peoples heard the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, drum, and entire musical ensemble, all the peoples, nations, and languages fell down and worshipped the golden statue that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up.

8 Accordingly, at this time certain Chaldeans came forward and denounced the Jews. ⁹They said to King Nebuchadnezzar, 'O king, live for ever! ¹⁰You, O king, have made a decree, that everyone who hears the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, drum, and entire musical ensemble, shall fall down and worship the golden statue, ¹¹and whoever does not fall down and worship shall be thrown into a furnace of blazing fire. ¹²There are certain Jews whom you have appointed over the affairs of the province of Babylon: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. These pay no heed to you, O king. They do not serve your gods and they do not worship the golden statue that you have set up.'

13 Then Nebuchadnezzar in furious rage commanded that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego be brought in; so they brought those men before the king.

¹⁴Nebuchadnezzar said to them, 'Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods and you do not worship the golden statue that I have

set up?¹⁵ Now if you are ready when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, drum, and entire musical ensemble to fall down and worship the statue that I have made, well and good. But if you do not worship, you shall immediately be thrown into a furnace of blazing fire, and who is the god that will deliver you out of my hands?’

16 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered the king, ‘O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to present a defense to you in this matter. ¹⁷If our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire and out of your hand, O king, let him deliver us. ¹⁸But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods and we will not worship the golden statue that you have set up.’

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page 86. We'll say **Canticle 10, The Second Song of Isaiah**, together.

The second lesson is from 1 John 3:1-10

³See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

4 Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous. ⁸Everyone who commits sin is a child of the devil; for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The Son of God was revealed for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil. ⁹Those who have been born of God do not sin, because God's seed abides in them; they cannot sin, because they have been born of God. ¹⁰The children of God and the children of the devil are revealed in this way: all who do not do what is right are not from God, nor are those who do not love their brothers and sisters.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please turn to page 93. We'll say **Canticle 18, A Song to the Lamb** together.

The third lesson is from Luke 3:15-22

15 As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

18 So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people. ¹⁹But Herod the ruler, who had been rebuked by him because of Herodias, his brother's wife, and because of all the evil things that Herod had done, ²⁰added to them all by shutting up John in prison.

21 Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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The Collect of the day
Second Sunday of Easter

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.*

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