

- WELCOME!** ✧ Welcome! We are glad that you have come to First Immanuel this morning to celebrate Easter! We welcome people of every race, ethnic background, social status, physical limitation, sexual orientation and gender identity. We are a Reconciling In Christ congregation. Together, in our diversity, we seek to embrace the love God offers us in Jesus Christ.
- MASKS  
OPTIONAL** ✧ Our worship services and all activities are mask-optional. Those who wish to wear a mask are welcome to do so, since this is a very effective way to prevent infection. The church continues to provide masks, run air purifiers, and make hand sanitizer available, and our caring FILC physicians continue to encourage vaccination for everyone.
- HOLY  
COMMUNION** ✧ You are invited to receive God's gifts of forgiveness and new life in Christ at God's table of Holy Communion. We are prepared and worthy to receive the sacrament when we come with an open heart, trusting that God's love is for us.
- NURSERY** ✧ We encourage children to participate with their families in the worship service. We have a changing table and nursing area downstairs. Please ask an usher for directions.

## PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

INTERIM PASTORS	Christine Core & Scott Dunfee
ASSISTING MINISTER	James Bash
LECTOR	Pat Andeen
PROCESSIONAL CROSS	Chia Stockwell
ACOLYTES	Cora Traetow & Peter Traetow
BANNER BEARER	Macy Drexler
BIBLE BEARER	Katy Drexler
USHERS	Mike Akerman, Lilli Bradin, Anke Brandstater, Kent Fredrickson, Lauren Kim & Bobbi Varnes
COMMUNION PREPARATION	Martha Driessnack
COMMUNION BREAD BAKING	Gary Andeen
COMMUNION SERVERS	Katy Drexler, Macy Drexler & Chia Stockwell
CHOIR DIRECTOR	Ralph Nelson
ORGANIST	Karl Jurisons
TRUMPETERS	Gerald Webster & James Wozniak
CAMERA/SOUND TECH	Richard Wong

First Immanuel Lutheran Church  
1816 NW Irving Street  
Portland, Oregon

# EASTER SUNDAY HOLY COMMUNION

31 March 2024

## GATHERING

GATHERING MUSIC      “The First Day of the Week”      Andrea Gabrieli, comp.  
Versets & Carillon on “*Lasst uns erfreuen*”      Henri Carol, comp.

### WELCOME AND PARISH NOTES

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

READ

Pastor:      Why have we gathered?

**People:      It’s Easter!...and we long for new life!**

Pastor:      In the name of God, our Creator, ✠ in the name of Jesus, our Savior, and in the name of the Spirit, our Comforter, we have come to worship and to celebrate life!

**People:      Yes, we have set our doubts aside or brought them along—and we have come. We have lived with our fear too long and we have come. We have heard that Jesus has conquered death and we want to hear that good news again and find peace within...and for all creation.**

Pastor:      The One crucified and buried has broken the tomb wide open. Christ has risen from the dead and is living together with us right here, right now, making all things new!

**People:      We are Easter people, who proclaim that the resurrection is every day...as well as our last day! We are Easter people, who have come to celebrate life and worship the Risen One!**

Pastor:      So we shout, “Christ is Risen!”

**People:      Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

\* Please stand as you are able.

\* **OPENING HYMN**                      **“Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”**                      **ELW 365** (*red book*)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1. Jesus Christ is ris’n today,<br/>Alleluia!<br/>our triumphant holy day,<br/>Alleluia!<br/>who did once upon the cross,<br/>Alleluia!<br/>suffer to redeem our loss.<br/>Alleluia!</p> <p>2. Hymns of praise then let us sing,<br/>Alleluia!<br/>unto Christ, our heav’nly king,<br/>Alleluia!<br/>who endured the cross and grave,<br/>Alleluia!<br/>sinners to redeem and save.<br/>Alleluia!</p> | <p>3. But the pains which he endured,<br/>Alleluia!<br/>our salvation have procured;<br/>Alleluia!<br/>now above the sky he’s king,<br/>Alleluia!<br/>where the angels ever sing.<br/>Alleluia!</p> <p>4. Sing we to our God above,<br/>Alleluia!<br/>praise eternal as his love;<br/>Alleluia!<br/>praise him, all you heav’nly host,<br/>Alleluia!<br/>Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.<br/>Alleluia!</p> |
|--|---|

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\* **EASTER GREETING** **READ**

Pastor: Once more we shout, “Christ is risen!”

**People: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Pastor: It’s Easter...and the world cries out for resurrection, healing and peace.  
Let us pray, using the ancient words of the Kyrie.

\* **THE KYRIE** **SING: P. 138, ELW** (*red book*)

Assistant: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Assistant: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Assistant: For the peace of the whole world, for the wellbeing of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Assistant: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Assistant: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**People: Amen**

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\* HYMN OF PRAISE

SING: PAGE 140 ELW (*red book*)

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,  
whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:  
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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\* PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: **God of amazing grace, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for Christ is alive and has become the Giver of life. Increase in our hearts and minds the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of your eternal love; through Jesus Christ, the Lover of our Souls. Amen**

<b>WORD</b>
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CHOIR ANTHEM

**“Worthy Is the Lamb” from *Messiah***

**G.F. Handel, comp.**

THE FIRST LESSON

**Isaiah 25:6-9**

*More than 700 years before Christ, the prophet Isaiah claims the good news of God’s salvation and calls all people to rejoice! God will make a rich feast for all people. God will wipe the tears from their eyes. And most importantly, God will destroy death itself.*

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Lector: Word of God, word of life.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## THE SECOND LESSON

**Acts 10:34-43**

*Peter crosses the immense religious and social boundary that separates Jews from Gentiles in order to proclaim the good news of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, so that God's forgiveness in Jesus' name would reach out to all people.*

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**Lector:** Word of God, word of life.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

## GOSPEL PROCESSION

### ALLELUIA VERSE

**SING: PAGE 142 ELW** (*red book*)

Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

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## THE GOSPEL

**Mark 16:1-8**

**Pastor:** The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

**People:** Glory to you, O God.

*The resurrection of Jesus is announced,  
and the response is one of terror and amazement.*

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## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Pastor:** This is the Good News!

**People:** Praise to you, O Christ.

## CHILDREN'S CHOIR

**"Christ Is Risen, All Rejoice"**

## CHILDREN'S TIME

## THE SERMON

**Pastor Scott Dunfee**

\* HYMN OF THE DAY

**“Thine Is the Glory”**

ELW 376 (*red book*)

1. Thine is the glory,  
risen, conqu’ring Son;  
endless is the vict’ry  
thou o’er death hast won!  
Angels in bright raiment  
rolled the stone away,  
kept the folded grave-clothes  
where thy body lay.

2. Lo, Jesus meets thee,  
risen from the tomb!  
Lovingly he greets thee,  
scatters fear and gloom;  
let his church with gladness  
hymns of triumph sing,  
for the Lord now liveth;  
death hath lost its sting!

**Refrain:**

**Thine is the glory,  
risen, conqu’ring Son;  
endless is the vict’ry  
thou o’er death hast won!**

**Refrain**

3. No more we doubt thee,  
glorious Prince of life;  
life is naught without thee;  
aid us in our strife;  
make us more than conqu’rors,  
through thy deathless love;  
bring us safe through Jordan  
to thy home above.

**Refrain**

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\* AFFIRMING OUR FAITH

**READ**

**Pastor:** We join with God’s people down through the ages in affirming our faith,  
using the ancient words of the Apostles’ Creed.

**People:** **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**  
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who 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**

\* **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Assistant: Made alive in Christ and filled with God's Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

*After each petition...*

Assistant: Hear us, O God.

**People: Your mercy is great.**

*The prayers conclude...*

Pastor: Hear our prayers, O God, and fill us with the risen life of Christ, in whose name we pray and we say,

**People: Amen**

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<b>HOLY COMMUNION</b>
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\* **SHARING THE PEACE**

Pastor: The peace of the Risen Christ be with you always.

**People: And also with you.**

**GATHERING OF GIFTS**

**"The Strife Is O'er"**

**Ralph Nelson, arr.**

\* **SETTING THE TABLE**

**SING: PAGE 9 NFC** (*inside front cover, red book*)

**Refrain:**

**As the grains of wheat  
once scattered on the hill  
were gathered into one  
to become our bread;  
so may all your people  
from all the ends of earth  
be gathered into one in you.**

1. As this cup of blessing  
is shared within our midst,  
may we share the presence of your love.

**Refrain**

2. Let this be a foretaste  
of all that is to come  
when all creation shares  
this feast with you.

**Refrain**

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permission (OneLicense.net lic. A-714688).

Assistant: Let us pray. Risen Christ,

**People: receive these gifts, with our hopes, dreams, and prayers. Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread, that our eyes may be opened to see your presence among us, and our lives filled with the unending love of your resurrection. Amen**

\* **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

**SING: P. 144, ELW** (*red book*)

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

**People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

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\* **THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

Pastor: Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you...

Through whom all honor and glory is yours, O God, both now and forever.

**People: Amen!**

\* **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**READ**

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

\* **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Pastor: The disciples knew the Risen One in the breaking of the bread. Come to the table, where you are known and loved.

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*All are welcome to receive Holy Communion, as the risen Christ is present to strengthen us and heal us. The ushers will direct you up the center aisle to receive bread or a gluten-free wafer from a pastor. After receiving the bread, step aside to a station where you may eat the bread and drink an individual cup of red wine or white grape juice. Place your used cup in the acolyte's basket.*



Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

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**DISTRIBUTION HYMN 1 “That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright” ELW 384** (*red book*)

1. That Easter day with joy was bright;  
the sun shone out with fairer light  
when, to their longing eyes restored,  
the apostles saw their risen Lord!
2. O Jesus, king of gentleness,  
with constant love our hearts possess;  
to you our lips will ever raise  
the tribute of our grateful praise.
3. O Christ, you are the Lord of all  
in this our Easter festival,  
for you will be our strength and shield  
from ev’ry weapon death can wield.
4. All praise, O risen Lord, we give  
to you, once dead, but now alive!  
To God the Father equal praise,  
and God the Spirit, now we raise!

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**DISTRIBUTION HYMN 2 “Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!” ELW 382** (*red book*)

1. Christ is risen! Alleluia!  
Risen our victorious head!  
Sing his praises! Alleluia!  
Christ is risen from the dead!  
Gratefully our hearts adore him  
as his light once more appears;  
bowing down in joy before him,  
rising up from griefs and tears.
2. Christ is risen! All the sadness  
of our Lenten fast is o’er;  
through the open gates of gladness  
he returns to life once more;  
death and hell before him bending  
see him rise, the victor now,  
angels on his steps attending,  
glory round his wounded brow.

**Refrain:**

**Christ is risen! Alleluia!  
Risen our victorious head!  
Sing his praises! Alleluia!  
Christ is risen from the dead!**

**Refrain**

4. Christ is risen! Henceforth never  
death or hell shall us enthrall.  
We are Christ’s, in him forever  
we have triumphed over all.  
All the doubting and dejection  
of our trembling hearts have ceased;  
hail the day of resurrection!  
Let us rise and keep the feast.

**Refrain**

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**DISTRIBUTION HYMN 3 “Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia”****ELW 364** (*red book*)

1. Christ has arisen, alleluia.  
Rejoice and praise him, alleluia.  
For our redeemer burst from the tomb,  
even from death, dispelling its gloom.

**Refrain:**

**Let us sing praise  
to him with endless joy.  
Death’s fearful sting  
he has come to destroy.  
Our sin forgiving, alleluia!  
Jesus is living, alleluia!**

2. For three long days  
the grave did its worst.  
until its strength by God was dispersed.  
He who gives life did death undergo,  
and in its conquest his might did show.

**Refrain**

3. The angel said to them, “Do not fear.  
You look for Jesus who is not here.  
See for yourselves the tomb is all bare.  
Only the graveclothes are lying there.”

**Refrain**

4. “Go spread the news:  
he’s not in the grave.  
He has arisen this world to save.  
Jesus’ redeeming labors are done.  
Even the battle with sin is won.”

**Refrain**

5. Christ has arisen to set us free.  
Alleluia, to him praises be.  
Jesus is living! Let us all sing;  
he reigns triumphant, heavenly king.

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**DISTRIBUTION HYMN 4 “Now the Green Blade Rises”****ELW 379** (*red book*)

1. Now the green blade rises  
from the buried grain,  
wheat that in the dark earth  
many days has lain;  
love lives again,  
that with the dead has been;  
love is come again  
like wheat arising green.
2. In the grave they laid him,  
love by hatred slain,  
thinking that he would  
never wake again,  
laid in the earth  
like grain that sleeps unseen;  
love is come again  
like wheat arising green.

3. Forth he came at Easter,  
like the risen grain,  
he that for three days  
in the grave had lain;  
raised from the dead,  
my living Lord is seen;  
love is come again  
like wheat arising green.
4. When our hearts are wintry,  
grieving, or in pain,  
your touch can call us  
back to life again,  
fields of our hearts  
that dead and bare have been;  
love is come again  
like wheat arising green.

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## BLESSING

**Pastor:** May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and these gifts of Christ's body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever.

**People:** Amen

**POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE** "The Hallelujah Chorus" **G.F. Handel, comp.**

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

**Assistant:** Let us pray.

**People:** In this meal and this music, O God, you have strengthened us by the risen life of Christ. As you send us into the world, guide us on paths of justice, teach us to live as servants to one another, and raise us up to new life and love, through Jesus Christ, the Lover of our Souls. Amen

## SENDING

## BENEDICTION

**Pastor:** May God bless us and keep us. May God's face shine on us with grace and mercy. May God look on us with favor and ✠ give us peace.

**People:** Amen

**CLOSING HYMN** "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds" **ELW 367** (*red book*)

1. Now all the vault of heav'n resounds  
in praise of love that still abounds:  
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"  
Sing choirs of angels, loud and clear!  
Repeat their song of glory here:  
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
2. Eternal is the gift he brings,  
therefore our heart  
with rapture sings:  
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"  
Now still he comes to give us life  
and by his presence stills all strife.  
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
3. Oh, fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;  
set heart and will on things above  
that we conquer  
through your triumph;  
grant grace sufficient for life's day  
that by our lives we truly say:  
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
4. Adoring praises now we bring  
and with the heav'nly blessed sing:  
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"  
Be to the Father, and our Lord,  
to Spirit blest, most holy God,  
all the glory, never ending!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**SENDING**

Assistant: Go in peace. Serve the Risen Christ.

**People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

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**POSTLUDE**

**Prelude from “Te Deum”**

**M.A. Charpentier, comp.**

*You are welcome to remain in the sanctuary for prayer.  
The front section of our worship area is dedicated as quiet prayer space  
following the close of worship. God be with you.*

***Thank you to all who gave the beautiful lilies for today’s worship...***

**Mike Akerman, in memory of Lynn**

**Marilyn Ball**

**James Bash**

**Lilli Bradin**

**Christine Core**

**Martha Driessnack & George Noble**

**Scott & Suzanne Dunfee**

**Kent Fredrickson**

**Kevin Kindschuh, in memory of Beverly, Eugene & Bernice**

**Jim & Mary Laws**

**Gary & Suzanne Nelson**

**Jennifer Trom & Chris Weiss, in memory of John, Karen & Mike**

**Bobbi Varnes**

**Kristina Wick**

**Leslie & Richard Wong**

**Anonymous**

***Thank you also to Tammy VanDeGrift and the Congregational Life team  
for organizing a delicious Easter Breakfast and the kids’ Easter Egg Hunt...  
and to everyone who helped with shopping, set-up, cooking and food prep,  
clean-up, egg-hiding, or anything else to make this Easter Day so special!***

# FIRST IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*“A Welcoming Community Centered in Christ’s Love,  
Joyfully Reaching Out Together”*

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Phone: 503/226-3659

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[www.firstimmanuelluth.org](http://www.firstimmanuelluth.org)

[office@firstimmanuelluth.org](mailto:office@firstimmanuelluth.org)

## **MINISTRY TEAM**

Every Member of First Immanuel

Interim Pastors: Christine Core & Scott Dunfee

Congregation President: James Bash

Office Manager: Debbie Rehn

## **CHURCH COUNCIL**

James Bash, President

Chia Stockwell, Vice President

Bobbi Varnes, Vice President

Jeannette O’Brien, Secretary

Martha Driessnack

Lauren Kim

Kevin Kindschuh

Tyrell Servo

Chris Weiss

Jim Wick

Maddie Wiens

Leslie Wong

Kent Fredrickson, Treasurer

**Note: For live links, please see our weekly e-news or website**



### **Kids and Youth Sunday School!**

Join us at 10 AM for friends, fun and learning! In April and May, we'll meet on the first and third Sundays (April 7 and 21, May 5 and 19). **We have two classes: a youth group and a class for the younger kids.** Can't wait to see you!

### **Putt Putt Golf and Popcorn to Support Our Youth! next Sunday, April 7, following worship**

Join us during coffee hour following worship on April 7 for a round or two of Putt Putt Golf on the famous course constructed by mini-golf course mastermind James Bash. The course includes a working windmill, sand traps, water hazards, and artificial turf! Yummy snacks will be on the table, including Pastor Christine's FAMOUS Chocolate Chip Cookies. A dozen cookies will go home with the golfer who scores lowest.

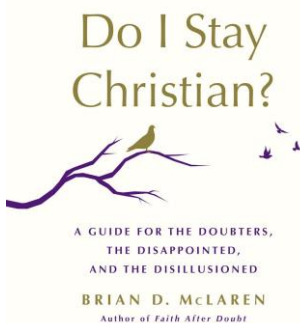


A free will offering will support our youth who are going to the National Youth Gathering in July.

***"Other than speed and direction, it was a good putt!" Anonymous***

### **Adult Forum, Sundays at 9:30 AM, start date TBD**

**Our next book study—*Do I Stay Christian?: A Guide for the Doubters, the Disappointed, and the Disillusioned* by Brian D. McLaren**



*Do I Stay Christian?* addresses in public the powerful question that surprising numbers of people—including pastors, priests, and other religious leaders—are asking in private. Picking up where his book *Faith After Doubt* leaves off, *Do I Stay Christian?* is not McLaren's attempt to persuade Christians to dig in their heels or run for the exit. Instead, he combines his own experience with that of thousands of people who have confided in him over the years to help readers make a responsible, honest, ethical decision about their religious identity. **NOTE: This new Forum study starts in April, starting**

***Sunday TBD. Watch your e-news for details.***

**FIRST READING: Acts 10:34-43**

Peter began to speak to [the people]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality,<sup>35</sup> but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.<sup>36</sup> You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all.<sup>37</sup> That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced:<sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.<sup>39</sup> We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree;<sup>40</sup> but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear,<sup>41</sup> not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.<sup>42</sup> He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead.<sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

*or* Isaiah 25:6-9 [not printed]

**Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24**

**SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11**

Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand,<sup>2</sup> through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

<sup>3</sup>For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures,<sup>4</sup> and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures,<sup>5</sup> and that he appeared

to Cephas, then to the twelve.<sup>6</sup> Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died.<sup>7</sup> Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles.<sup>8</sup> Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me.<sup>9</sup> For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.<sup>10</sup> But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me.<sup>11</sup> Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

*or* Acts 10:34-43 [see First Reading]

**GOSPEL: Mark 16:1-8**

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint [Jesus' body].<sup>2</sup> And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb.<sup>3</sup> They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?”<sup>4</sup> When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back.<sup>5</sup> As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed.<sup>6</sup> But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him.<sup>7</sup> But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.”<sup>8</sup> So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

*or* John 20:1-18 [not printed]

**Next Sunday's Readings:** Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 133; 1 John 1:1–2:2; John 20:19-31.

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