

Worship from St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

Richmond, Virginia

April 19, 2020

The Second Sunday of Easter

If you have the Book of Common Prayer at home, please turn to page 355.

WELCOME

The Rev. William S. Stanley, Vicar

POEM

“Kyrie” by Tomas Tranströmer

Sam Davis

MUSIC

Morning has broken (*Bunessan*)

Susan DeJesus, flute

Michael Simpson, piano

OPENING ACCLAMATION AND THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

The Rev. Andrew Terry

Vicar, St. Peter's Church

THE COLLECT FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Gussie Bannard

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.**

THE GOSPEL

John 20:19-31

The Rev. David Knight

Interim Assistant for Pastoral Care

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 HOMILY

Betsy Tyson
Chaplain to Palmer Hall

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

A La Puerta

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Betsy and Bobby Fauntleroy

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

from the Northumbria Community

Gordon Schmidt, Adell Hudson, Barbara Massey, Zach Harrison, Mary Clare Abbott, Kim Schmidt, Catherine Whitham

We hold before God:

those for whom life is very difficult; those who have difficult decisions to make, and who honestly do not know what is the right thing to do.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We hold before God:

parents who are struggling to make ends meet, children who miss their friends and teachers at school, and grandparents who wish they could be there to help. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We hold before God:

Those who are homeless or unemployed, Those who are sick or dying, as well as family or friends who wish they could be with them.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We hold before God:

those who are disoriented or depressed by the sameness of their days, and all who are lonely, anxious, or afraid.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We hold before God:

those who are grieving the loss of someone they loved, and anyone who is disappointed in something for which they had hoped very much.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We hold before God:

All of us who are waking again to the blessings in our lives, during this time of adversity, that the stirrings to new life that we sense today will take root and blossom when the time of trouble has past.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Gracious God, among the swift and varied changes of this life, help us to center our lives on you, trusting that you are preparing for us, and all whom we love, more than we could ask or imagine; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Nan O'Connell

HYMN 192

This joyful Eastertide

Members of St. Stephen's Choir and Sanctuary