

# THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Cycle A

## ENTRANCE HYMN

*All the earth proclaim the Lord,  
sing your praise to God.*

1. Serve you the Lord, heart filled with gladness.  
Come into his presence, singing for joy.
2. Know that the Lord is our creator.  
Yes, he is our Father, we are his sons.

## GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you,  
we adore you, we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
You alone are the Lord,  
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen

## FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 2:14. 22-33  
*It was impossible for him to be held in the power of Hades.*

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: 'Men of Israel, listen to what I am going to say: Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God by the miracles and portents and signs that God worked through him when he was among you, as you all know. This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and had crucified by men outside the Law. You killed him, but God raised him to life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power since, as David says of him:

I saw the Lord before me always,  
for with him at my right hand nothing can shake me.  
So my heart was glad  
and my tongue cried out with joy:  
my body, too, will rest in the hope  
that you will not abandon my soul to Hades  
nor allow your holy one to experience corruption.  
You have made known the way of life to me,  
you will fill me with gladness through your presence.'

'Brothers, no one can deny that the patriarch David himself is dead and buried: his tomb is still with us. But since he was a prophet, and knew that God had sworn

him an oath to make one of his descendants succeed him on the throne, what he foresaw and spoke about was the resurrection of the Christ: he is the one who was not abandoned to Hades, and whose body did not experience corruption. God raised this man Jesus to life, and all of us are witnesses to that. Now raised to the heights by God's right hand, he has received from the Father the Holy Spirit, who was promised, and what you see and hear is the outpouring of that Spirit.'

The word of the Lord.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** Ps 15:1-2.5.7-11.R)  
v.11

**R. Show us, Lord, the path of life.**

1. Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.  
I say to the Lord: 'You are my God.  
O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;  
it is you yourself who are my prize.' (R.)
2. I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel,  
who even at night directs my heart.  
I keep the Lord ever in my sight:  
since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. (R.)
3. And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;  
even my body shall rest in safety.  
For you will not leave my soul among the dead,  
nor let your beloved know decay. (R)
4. You will show me the path of life,  
the fullness of joy in your presence,  
at your right hand happiness for ever (R.)

## SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St. Peter 1:17-21  
*Your ransom was paid in the precious blood of a lamb without spot or stain, namely, Christ.*

If you are acknowledging as your Father one who has no favourites and judges everyone according to what he has done, you must be scrupulously careful as long as you are living away from your home. Remember, the ransom that was paid to free you from the useless way of life your ancestors handed down was not paid in anything corruptible, neither in silver nor gold, but in the precious blood of a lamb without spot or stain, namely Christ; who, though known since before the world was made, has been revealed only in our time, the end of the ages, for your sake. Through him you now have faith in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory for that very reason - so that you would have faith and hope in God.

The word of the Lord.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** cf. Lk 24:32

Alleluia, alleluia!

## GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 24:13-35  
*They recognised him at the breaking of bread.*

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened.



Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?' They stopped short, their faces downcast.

Then one of them, called Cleopas answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.' 'What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of Nazareth' they answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.'

Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself.

When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at the table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?'

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes, it is true. The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.

The Gospel of the Lord.

### APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
(All bow)

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;  
from there he will come 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 life everlasting. Amen.



### OFFERTORY HYMN

*United in one body with Jesus Christ the Lord,  
we bring to You our offering  
of bread and wine, O God.*

We are the wheat of Christ:  
If we be ground in the mill of life,  
May we be found pure bread.

1. We are the grape of Christ;  
If we be crushed in the wine-press of suffering,  
May we be found pure wine.

### COMMUNION HYMN

1. Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless  
Your chosen pilgrim flock  
With manna in the wilderness,  
With water from the rock.
2. We would not live by bread alone,  
But by Thy Word of grace,  
In strength of which we travel on  
In our abiding place.
3. Be known to us in breaking bread,  
But do not then depart;  
Saviour, abide with us, and spread  
Your table in our heart.
4. Lord, dine with us in love divine;  
Your body and your blood,  
That living bread, that heav'nly wine,  
Be our immortal food.

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*Alleluia, Alleluia,  
give thanks to the risen Lord,  
Alleluia, Alleluia,  
give praise to his name.*

1. Jesus is Lord of all the earth.  
He is the King of creation.
2. Spread the good news o'er all the earth  
Jesus has died and is risen.
3. We have been crucified with Christ  
Now we shall live for ever.
4. God has proclaimed the just reward:  
life for all men, alleluia.
5. Come, let us praise the living God,  
joyfully sing to our Saviour.

### RECESSIONAL HYMN

1. Mother dearest, Mother fairest,  
Help of all who call on thee!  
Virgin purest, brightest, rarest,  
Help us, help, we cry to thee.  
*Mary, help us, help we pray,  
Mary, help us, help we pray,  
Help us in all care and sorrow,  
Mary, help us, help we pray.*
2. Mary, help in pain and sorrow,  
Soothe those racked on bed of pain,  
May the golden light of morrow  
Bring them health and joy again.