

Easter 2

April 12, 2026

Second Sunday of Easter (Year A)

Today's readings center on the witness of Jesus' original disciples, who are met by the Lord as they gathered together on the evening of his resurrection. They, and we, will be sent into a hostile world with the message of salvation for all people. The Holy Spirit will guide their journey and equip them, even as they encounter resistance by those who do not believe in Christ. Believers will never be alone.



THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE TEXTS

First Reading: Acts 5:29-5

Witnesses to the Resurrection

Peter and the other apostles get themselves into trouble by preaching the good news of Jesus Christ in the temple. Peter appeals to the authority of God over any human authority as he continues to proclaim the story of Jesus' death and resurrection for the forgiveness of sin.

Psalms 148

Praise the Lord of All Creation

The psalmist sings God's praises as he recounts all the wonders of the world that the Lord has spoken into being. Israel has a cherished place in the heart of the Creator; his people are close to him and exalt his name above all else.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9

Source of Hope

Peter explains to both Jewish and Gentile Christians that it is Christ's resurrection that is the source of our hope. Because of Jesus' atoning sacrifice, believers have been promised an inheritance that is kept in heaven for them. Even though they faced pressure from the society, they held the promise of eternity with God above.

Gospel Reading: John 20:19-31

Peace and Power

On that first Easter evening, Jesus appears to the disciples and brings them a word of peace. He breathes on them, pouring out on them the power of the Holy Spirit. This Spirit enables the disciples to bind and loose sin within the faith community, passing on the ministry that he began when Jesus was physically among them.

Suggestions for the Day:

Liturgical Color: White

During the Season of Easter:

- Use the Kyrie.
- Use the Hymn of Praise
- Use the Nicene Creed.

One of the things we human beings fear the most is being alone. The promise that Jesus offers us is that no matter where we are, if we are with other people or not, we are never alone because we always have him with us. This is true peace for all who believe.

Consider making peace signs out of colored paper and decorating the chancel with them for the Second Sunday of Easter.

SUGGESTED HYMNS FOR WORSHIP

Hymn Titles:	LBW	WOV	LSB	ELW	REC	Sola
I Know that My Redeemer Lives	352	---	461	619	274	274
Thine is the Glory	145	---	---	376	161	161
Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won	133	---	490	---	---	---
Hallelujah! Jesus Lives	147	---	---	380	---	---
A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing	157	---	493	393	---	---
At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing	210	---	633	362	150	150
God Himself is Present	249	---	720	635	---	---
Leaning on the Everlasting Arms	---	780	---	774	208	208
Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling	523	---	650	582	---	---
Awake, My Heart, with Gladness	---	---	467	378	152	152

The hymn suggestions above can be found in: LBW=Lutheran Book of Worship, WOV=With One Voice, ELW=Evangelical Lutheran Worship (Augsburg Fortress); LSB=The Lutheran Service Book (Concordia Publishing), REC=The Reclaim Hymnal for Church and Home (ReClaim Resources), and *** means you can find it on SOWeRat "Hymns and Music."

CONTEMPORARY SONGS

Praise Song Titles

Great Are You Lord

(CCLI# 6460220)

You're the Only One

(CCLI# 7130876)

This is Living

(CCLI# 7032393)

Fresh Wind

(CCLI# 7166857)

Closer

(CCLI# 7121659)

The contemporary song suggestions above are noted by their CCLI number. To print these songs, a congregation must have a CCLI license.