

**A Liturgy of the Word**  
**for**  
**The Second Sunday of Easter C**

*The Octave Day of Easter, Low Sunday, or Divine Mercy Sunday*

Christ is risen, alleluia!      **He is risen indeed, alleluia!**

We have come together as the family of God in our Father's presence to offer him praise and thanksgiving, to hear and receive his word, to bring before him the needs of the world, and to seek his grace that through his Son Jesus Christ, we may give ourselves to his service. But first, let us confess our sins to the Father and seek his pardon and peace.

*Silence*

**Almighty and merciful God,  
we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed.  
We have not loved you with all our heart.  
We have not loved others as Christ loves us.  
We are truly sorry.  
In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us to amend  
what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may delight  
in your will and walk in your ways,  
to the glory and praise of your name. Amen.**

*Priest:*

God our Father, who by our Lord Jesus Christ has reconciled the world to himself and forgives the sins of all who truly repent, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, and grant us the grace and power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

O Lord, open our lips,  
**and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

We sing to you, O Lord, and bless your name:  
**and tell of your salvation from day to day.**

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

Let us worship the Lord.  
**All praise to his name.**

*A hymn may be sung*

**A reading from the Acts of the Apostles [5; 27 - 32]**

When the temple police had brought the apostles, they made them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, 'We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us.' But Peter and the apostles answered, 'We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Saviour that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.'

*Reader/* This is the Word of the Lord *Response /* **Thanks be to God**

**Psalm 118** 14 - 29

***R/* This is the day that the Lord has made;  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.**

The Lord is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.  
Joyful shouts of salvation sound from the tents of the righteous:  
'The right hand of the Lord does mighty deeds;  
the right hand of the Lord raises up;  
the right hand of the Lord does mighty deeds.'

***R/* This is the day that the Lord has made;  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.**

I shall not die, but live and declare the works of the Lord.  
The Lord has punished me sorely, but he has not given me over to death.  
Open to me the gates of righteousness,  
that I may enter and give thanks to the Lord.

***R/* This is the day that the Lord has made;  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.**

This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.  
I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me  
and have become my salvation.  
The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.  
This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes.

***R/* This is the day that the Lord has made;  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.**

**A reading from the Revelation to St John [1; 4 - 8]**

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. 'I am the

Alpha and the Omega,' says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

*Reader/ This is the Word of the Lord Response / Thanks be to God*

*A hymn may be sung*

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus said: 'You believe because you can see me.

Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

**Alleluia!**

The Lord be with you: **And also with you**

**Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to St. John. R/ Glory to you, O Lord.**

**I**t was evening on 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.

[20, 19 - 31]

This is the Gospel of the Lord **R/ Praise to you, O Christ.**

*An address may be given here*

*A hymn may be sung*

**INTERCESSIONS** .... ending with .....

**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. Amen**

**The Collect**

Almighty Father, you have given your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification: grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth; through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **AMEN**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with us all evermore. **AMEN**

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord, alleluia, alleluia  
**In the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleuia**

*A hymn may be sung*

Hymns at St Arvan's: 105; 107; 118; 112 *or as announced*