

Sunday, April 16, 2023

The Second Sunday of Easter, Year A

First Reading: Sirach 1:14–20

- ¹⁴The beginning of wisdom is awe of the Holy One;
with the faithful in the womb she was created, together with them.
- ¹⁵With humankind she built her roost, an eternal foundation,
and among their descendants, she will be trusted.
- ¹⁶The fullness of wisdom is to reverence the Holy One;
she inebriates mortals with her fruits.
- ¹⁷Every house of theirs she fills whole with desirable things,
and their storehouses with her produce.
- ¹⁸A crown of wisdom is the awe of the Holy One,
sprouting peace and wholeness, healing.
- ¹⁹Skill and knowledge, understanding she rained down,
and she exalted the reputation of those who hold her.
- ²⁰The root of wisdom is to reverence the Holy One,
and her branches are length of days.

Psalm: Psalm 111

- ¹Praise the LIVING GOD!
I will give thanks to the ONE GOD with my whole heart,
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.
- ²Great are the works of GOD,
contemplated by all who delight in them.
- ³Splendor and majesty are her work,
and her righteousness stands forever.
- ⁴She has gained renown for her wonderful deeds;
the WOMB OF LIFE is gracious and abounds in mother-love.
- ⁵She provides fresh meat for those who revere her;
she remembers her covenant perpetually.
- ⁶She has declared the strength of her works to her people,
giving them the heritage of the nations.
- ⁷The works of her hands are truth and justice;
trustworthy are all her precepts.
- ⁸They stand fast forever and ever,
Executed in truth and uprightness.
- ⁹She sent redemption to her people;
she has ordained her covenant forever.
Holy and awesome is her name.
- ¹⁰Awe of the AGELESS GOD is the beginning of wisdom;
all those who do have good understanding.
Her praise endures forever.

Second Reading: 1 John 5:1–6

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Messiah is born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child of the parent. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and undertake God's commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we keep God's commandments. And God's commandments are not difficult, ⁴for anything born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶This is the one who came through water and blood, Jesus Christ, not through the water only but through the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Gospel: John 20:19-31

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples were closed for fear of the Judeans, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you all." ²⁰And having said this, Jesus showed them his hands and his side, then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Messiah. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you all, just as the Living God has sent me, so I send you all." ²²When Jesus had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit; ²³if you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas, one of the twelve who was called Didymus (the Twin) was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Messiah." 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."

²⁶And within eight days his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, though the doors were shut, and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you all." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and look at my hands. Bring your hand and put it in my side and do not doubt, rather believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, saying, "My Savior and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Was it because you have seen me that you believed? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written that you may come to believe Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.