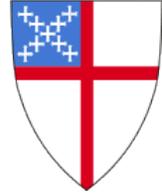


The Lessons Appointed for Use on the  
**Second Sunday of Easter**

Year C  
RCL



Acts 5:27-32  
Revelation 1:4-8  
John 20:19-31  
Psalm 118:14-29  
or Psalm 150

## **The Collect**

Rite I - Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery hast 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 the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Rite II - 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 First Lesson**

### **Acts 5:27-32**

The apostles were brought before the council where the high priest confronted them: “In no uncertain terms, we demanded that you not teach in this name. And look at you! You have filled Jerusalem with your teaching. And you are determined to hold us responsible for this man’s death.”

Peter and the apostles replied, “We must obey God rather than humans! The God of our ancestors raised Jesus from the dead—whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. God has exalted Jesus to his right side as leader and savior so that he could enable Israel to change its heart and life and to find forgiveness for sins. We are witnesses of such things, as is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

## The Psalm

### Psalm 118:14-29

#### *Confitemini Domino*

- 14 The LORD is my strength and my song, \*  
and he has become my salvation.
- 15 There is a sound of exultation and victory \*  
in the tents of the righteous:
- 16 "The right hand of the LORD has triumphed! \*  
the right hand of the LORD is exalted!  
the right hand of the LORD has triumphed!"
- 17 I shall not die, but live, \*  
and declare the works of the LORD.
- 18 The LORD has punished me sorely, \*  
but he did not hand me over to death.
- 19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; \*  
I will enter them;  
I will offer thanks to the LORD.
- 20 "This is the gate of the LORD; \*  
he who is righteous may enter."
- 21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me \*  
and have become my salvation.
- 22 The same stone which the builders rejected \*  
has become the chief cornerstone.
- 23 This is the LORD'S doing, \*  
and it is marvelous in our eyes.
- 24 On this day the LORD has acted; \*  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
- 25 Hosannah, LORD, hosannah! \*  
LORD, send us now success.
- 26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; \*  
we bless you from the house of the LORD.

- 27 God is the LORD; he has shined upon us; \*  
form a procession with branches up to the horns of the altar.
- 28 "You are my God, and I will thank you; \*  
you are my God, and I will exalt you."
- 29 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; \*  
his mercy endures for ever.

*or*

## Psalm 150

### *Laudate Dominum*

- 1 Hallelujah!  
Praise God in his holy temple; \*  
praise him in the firmament of his power.
- 2 Praise him for his mighty acts; \*  
praise him for his excellent greatness.
- 3 Praise him with the blast of the ram's-horn; \*  
praise him with lyre and harp.
- 4 Praise him with timbrel and dance; \*  
praise him with strings and pipe.
- 5 Praise him with resounding cymbals; \*  
praise him with loud-clanging cymbals.
- 6 Let everything that has breath \*  
praise the LORD. Hallelujah!

## **The New Testament**

### **Revelation 1:4-8**

John, to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace and peace to you from the one who is and was and is coming, and from the seven spirits that are before God's throne, and from Jesus Christ—the faithful witness, the firstborn from among the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To the one who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, who made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father—to him be glory and power forever and always. Amen.

Look, he is coming with the clouds! Every eye will see him, including those who pierced him, and all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of him. This is so. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "the one who is and was and is coming, the Almighty."

# The Gospel

## John 20:19-31

It was still the first day of the week. That evening, while the disciples were behind closed doors because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities, Jesus came and stood among them. He said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. When the disciples saw the Lord, they were filled with joy. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I am sending you." Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven; if you don't forgive them, they aren't forgiven."

Thomas, the one called Didymus, one of the Twelve, wasn't with the disciples when Jesus came. The other disciples told him, "We've seen the Lord!"

But he replied, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, put my finger in the wounds left by the nails, and put my hand into his side, I won't believe."

After eight days his disciples were again in a house and Thomas was with them. Even though the doors were locked, Jesus entered and stood among them. He said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here. Look at my hands. Put your hand into my side. No more disbelief. Believe!"

Thomas responded to Jesus, "My Lord and my God!"

Jesus replied, "Do you believe because you see me? Happy are those who don't see and yet believe."

Then Jesus did many other miraculous signs in his disciples' presence, signs that aren't recorded in this scroll. But these things are written so that you will believe that Jesus is the Christ, God's Son, and that believing, you will have life in his name.

