

# KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

## A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

Olaf Roynesdal, Senior Pastor  
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[www.kmlchurch.org](http://www.kmlchurch.org)

April 19, 2020

9:00 AM

SECOND SUNDAY in EASTER



*In today's gospel the risen Christ appears to the disciples and offers them the gift of peace. Even amid doubts and questions, we experience the resurrection in our Sunday gathering around word and meal, and in our everyday lives. Throughout the coming Sundays of Easter the first two readings will be from the Acts of the Apostles and the first letter of Peter. Even as the early Christians proclaimed the resurrection, we rejoice in the new birth and living hope we receive in baptism.*

# GATHERING

## PRELUDE

*Mark Jones, Organist*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*(stand)*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P** In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of our people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we will confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** Amen.

**P** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.*

**P** Most merciful God,

**C** we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.

**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,**

**by what we have done**

**and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;**

**we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,**

**have mercy on us.**

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,**

**so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,**

**to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

**P** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>1</b> I know that my Redeemer lives!<br/>         What comfort this sweet sentence gives!<br/>         He lives, he lives, who once was dead;<br/>         he lives, my ever-living head!</p> | <p><b>3</b> He lives to grant me rich supply;<br/>         he lives to guide me with his eye;<br/>         he lives to comfort me when faint;<br/>         he lives to hear my soul's complaint.</p> |
| <p><b>2</b> He lives triumphant from the grave;<br/>         he lives eternally to save;<br/>         he lives exalted, throned above;<br/>         he lives to rule his church in love.</p>        | <p><b>4</b> He lives to silence all my fears;<br/>         he lives to wipe away my tears;<br/>         he lives to calm my troubled heart;<br/>         he lives all blessings to impart.</p>       |

Text: Samuel Medley, 1738-1799, alt.

**EASTER GREETING**

- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C** **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
- P** The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C** **And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

- P** Almighty and eternal God,
- C** **the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

# WORD

(sit)

## FIRST READING

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

*After the Holy Spirit comes to the apostles on Pentecost, Peter preaches the gospel to the gathered crowd. He tells them that Jesus, who obediently went to his death according to God's plan, was raised from the dead by God. Finally, he appeals to scripture, quoting Psalm 16:8-11, to show that Jesus is the Messiah: though crucified, the risen Jesus is now enthroned.*

**P**eter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, <sup>22</sup>“*You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know—<sup>23</sup>this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. <sup>24</sup>But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. <sup>25</sup>For David says concerning him,*

*‘I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;*

*<sup>26</sup>therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope.*

*<sup>27</sup>For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption.*

*<sup>28</sup>You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence. ’*

*<sup>29</sup>“Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. <sup>30</sup>Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. <sup>31</sup>Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,*

*‘He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption. ’*

*<sup>32</sup>This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.”*

☒ The word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

## PSALM 16 (read responsively)

<sup>1</sup>Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;

I have said to the Lord, “You are my Lord, my good above all other.”

<sup>2</sup>**All my delight is in the godly that are in the land,  
upon those who are noble among the people.**

<sup>3</sup>But those who run after other gods  
shall have their troubles multiplied.

<sup>4</sup>**I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,  
never take their names upon my lips.**

<sup>5</sup>O Lord, you are my portion and my cup;  
it is you who uphold my lot.

<sup>6</sup>**My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;  
indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**

<sup>7</sup>I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel;  
my heart teaches me night after night.

<sup>8</sup>**I have set the Lord always before me;  
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**

<sup>9</sup>My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;  
my body also shall rest in hope.

**For you will not abandon me to the grave,  
nor let your holy one see the pit.**

<sup>11</sup>You will show me the path of life;  
**in your presence there is fullness of joy,  
and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.**

## SECOND READING

**1 Peter 1:3-9**

*This epistle was written to encourage Christians experiencing hardships and suffering because of their faith in Christ. The letter opens by blessing God for the living hope we have through Christ's resurrection even amid difficult circumstances and surroundings.*

**B**lessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup>and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup>who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup>In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, <sup>7</sup>so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. <sup>8</sup>Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, <sup>9</sup>for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

**L** The word of the Lord.

**G** Thanks be to God.

*(stand)*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

**G** Glory to you, O Lord!

## HOLY GOSPEL

**John 20:19-31**

*The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. But one of their number is missing, and his unbelief prompts another visit from the Lord.*

**W**hen it was evening on that day, 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.”* <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, *“Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”* <sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, *“Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”*

<sup>24</sup>But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>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.”*

<sup>26</sup>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.”* <sup>27</sup>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.”* <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, *“My Lord and my God!”* <sup>29</sup>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.”*

<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup>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.

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

**G** Praise to you, O Christ.

*(sit)*

## **CHILDREN’S BLESSING (9:00 AM)**

*Children (aged 3 years through 5<sup>th</sup> grade) are invited to come forward for a blessing. Then, they may either follow the teacher upstairs for an extended children’s sermon (joining us again later in time for Communion) or they may return to their seat and use the Spark Bible and/or activity bags during the regular sermon.*

## **SERMON**

Pastor Roynesdal

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(stand)

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*"We Walk by Faith"*

ELW 635

- 1 We walk by faith and not by sight;  
with gracious words draw near,  
O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke:  
"My peace be with you here."
- 2 We may not touch your hands and side,  
nor follow where you trod;  
but in your promise we rejoice,  
and cry, "My Lord and God!"
- 3 Help then, O Lord, our unbelief;  
and may our faith abound  
to call on you when you are near  
and seek where you are found:
- 4 For you, O resurrected Lord,  
are found in means divine:  
beneath the water and the word,  
beneath the bread and wine.
- 5 And when our life of faith is done,  
in realms of clearer light  
we may behold you as you are,  
with full and endless sight.

Text: Henry Alford, 1810-1871, alt.

## THE NICENE CREED

- ☐ With the whole church, let us confess our faith.
- ☑ We believe in one god, the Father, the Almighty  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance to scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

**We believe in the Holy spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and he Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*(stand)*

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

**Response:**    **P** Lord, in your mercy,  
                  **C** hear our prayer.

*(In our prayers today, during a time of silence, pray for those listed below and for others according to their needs)*

**Illness:** Christine Bachman, sister of John Natvig, Richard Bock, Carol Coffey, Don Burton, Joe Doremus, Rodney Edwards, Samuel Garrett, Sherry Henneman, mother of Scott Henneman, Dolores Hiatt, Beth & Richard Holzer, sister & father of James Holzer, Roseann Klug, mother of David Klug, Marcie Lafleur, Lara & Olivia McCormick, Joan Nelson, Gary Rodene, Rosemarie Schmidt, Sheri Tipton, Joyce Wachal, Ed & Darlene White, Joanne Worm

**Other Prayers:** *Those serving in the military*—Amy Dyer, Brennan Hron, Wyatt Johnson, Michael McNeill, Daniel Milstead, Cody Ray, Sheldon Skovgaard, Michael Vutov, Joel Woosley

**Other Prayers:** *Those serving in mission*—Rev. Chandran Paul Martin, India; Dr. Stephen & Jodi Swanson, Tanzania; Rev. Rachel Ringlaben, Argentina; Meghan Brown Saavedra, Mexico; Our sister congregation, the American Church in Berlin; the Wittenberg Center and Dan & Ginny Rath, international translators

**Other Prayers:** *Seminarians*—Adam Klinker, Katie Larson, Justin Perkins

### **WE SHARE GOD’S PEACE**

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.                    **C** And also with you.

*As we share the peace today – and you do so in your home – You are invited you to contact a fellow member by phone, email or letter. You can do that today or any time during the week. Pick someone from the church directory. We could email each other or call each other during this time when we cannot meet. Then each week select another person to contact. Try to make it someone you don’t really know and get acquainted with them. Always be sure to leave your address, email, and phone number on your message in case they do not have a directory. Talk to people you know and get the names and addresses of those who might not have directories and try to contact them. By the time we meet again we will have made many new friends.*

# MEAL

(sit)

## THE OFFERING IS RECEIVED

Please Support the overall ministry of Kountze Memorial during these difficult times. If you are able, please mail in your offering or donate on-line. Thank you!



## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Romance No. 2”

Beethoven  
Kai Johnson, Violin

## THE TABLE IS PREPARED

(stand)

## OFFERTORY HYMN

“Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”

ELW 184

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that  
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of  
all; u - nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble  
with your pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

## OFFERING PRAYER

- ☐ Merciful God,
- ☑ **our ordinary gifts seem so small in light of your Easter gift, but you make of them and abundance, just as you do with our lives. Feed us again at this table for service in your name, in the strength of the risen Christ. Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The musical score consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a single melodic line with lyrics underneath. The first staff has a double bar line after the first measure. The second staff also has a double bar line after the first measure. The fourth staff ends with a double bar line.

## PREFACE FOR THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

### SANC TUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord. Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

The musical score consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a single melodic line with lyrics underneath. The first staff has a double bar line after the first measure. The second staff has a double bar line after the first measure. The fourth staff ends with a double bar line.

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

☐ Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us all to pray:

☑ **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.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

☐ Come to the banquet.

☑ **We receive the risen Christ!**

*(sit)*

### AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

(stand)

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**P** Dearest Lord Jesus,

**C** we believe that you are present in the Lord's Supper. We love you above all things, and we earnestly desire to receive you. Since we cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into our hearts. We embrace you as if you are already there and we unite ourselves wholly to you. Never permit us to be separated from you. Amen.

## SENDING

### BLESSING

**P** May the God who raised Jesus from the dead raise you to new life, fill you with hope, and turn your mourning into dancing. Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

### THREE-FOLD AMEN

### HYMN

*"I Know that My Redeemer Lives!"*

ELW 619 vs. 5-8

5 He lives to bless me with his love;  
he lives to plead for me above;  
he lives my hungry soul to feed;  
he lives to help in time of need.

7 He lives and grants me daily breath;  
he lives, and I shall conquer death;  
he lives my mansion to prepare;  
he lives to bring me safely there.

6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;  
he lives and loves me to the end;  
he lives, and while he lives, I'll sing;  
he lives, my prophet, priest, and king!

8 He lives, all glory to his name!  
He lives, my Savior, still the same;  
what joy this blest assurance gives:  
I know that my Redeemer lives!

Text: Samuel Medley, 1738-1799, alt.

### DISMISSAL

**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**C** Christ is risen indeed Alleluia!

**P** Go in peace. Share the Easter news.

**C** Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

### POSTLUDE

*Mark Jones, Organist*

† † †

## Special Notice

In compliance with government regulations restricting large gatherings we have canceled all worship services (Saturday, Sunday and Wednesdays), Sunday School, all meals, and other church activities at least through April 30. In the meantime, join us for Worship on Cox channel 13 or live streamed at <https://www.kmlchurch.org/live-streaming/>



# KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street  
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April 19, 2020

*Alleluia!*

## Kountze Food Pantry Volunteers

**Mondays, 7:30 - 9:00 AM; 9:00 - 11:00 AM;  
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

**Fridays, 5:00 - 8:00 PM**—note additional day & time (Friday Pantry hours are 6:00 - 8:00 PM).

The Kountze Food Pantry is still operating at full force during these challenging times. We can only continue to operate if we have volunteers to serve. It has been inspiring to see how many people are willing to serve in the community. Just a reminder to sign-up online so Kountze can limit the number of volunteers in the building at one time, in order to comply with social distancing guidelines. The early shift from 7:30-9:00 AM is for unloading trucks and shelf stocking exclusively. 9:00-11:00 AM is for bag filling and serving guests. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM is for filling bags for Friday night, and serving guests. Please sign up for the time that works best for you. Thank you for your continued support!

<https://form.jotform.com/200834787701155>

## LYSO (Lutheran Youth Serve Omaha)

**June 8—12**

**8:30—Noon**

**Grades K-12**

Lutheran Youth Serve Omaha, or LYSO, is Vacation Bible School with a twist. It features faith formation, servant-hood, fellowship and fun! Children and youth will gather at Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church for breakfast and devotions. Everyone is then divided by grade and sent out into the community to serve at sites around the Omaha-Metro area. Upon returning to Kountze, the youth will join together for reflection and a closing worship. Email Kristin Boe at [kristin@kmlchurch.org](mailto:kristin@kmlchurch.org) with questions. Registration coming soon!

## Shoppers Needed for deFreese Manor Residents

For the time being, deFreese Manor will not be taking residents on the bus to the grocery store. However, residents still need groceries. If you like grocery shopping and would be able to help in this way, please contact Sharon West at 402-212-4531 or [swest@defreese Manor.org](mailto:swest@defreese Manor.org)

## Today at Kountze

### Easter Lilies

Lilies were also given by Fred & Joyce Wachal in memory of Fred's brother, David Wachal.

### Sunday School

This Sunday I will post a video of the Children's sermon on this page (KMLC Parent Group). In addition, I will be providing some printable activities that relate to the lesson. Take a picture of your child's work and post it in the comments. Let's stay as connected as possible while we can't gather together. Stay tuned for more fun activities! In Peace, Kristin

**Youth Forum** will be at 10:30 AM via Zoom. Contact Mike Jensen at [mwjensen@yahoo.com](mailto:mwjensen@yahoo.com) for details.

## Attendance and Giving

**Sunday Attendance: 9:00: 13 Online: 465**

**Total: 13**

**Pantry Guests Served: 97 (Friday only—closed Monday)**

**Medical Clinic Guests Served: Closed 4/9**

**Offering:**

\$15,087.44 (Regular) \$30,178.34 (Specials)

\$827.00 (Phase 2)

## *Faith in Jesus includes a relationship with Jesus.*

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	John 20:19-31	Thomas sees and believes
Monday	Acts 2:14a, 22-32	Peter addresses the crowd
Tuesday	1 Peter 1:3-9	A living hope
Wednesday	Mark 10:46-52	The healing of blind Bartimaeus
Thursday	John 4:1-30	Woman at the well with Jesus
Friday	John 4:46-54	Jesus heals an official's son
Saturday	Psalm 16	Song of trust in God
Sunday	Luke 24:13-35	Road to Emmaus



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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.” **John 20:28-29 (NRSV)**

### **A Prayer for the Week:**

Everlasting God, strengthen us in faith; give us the desire to know you more day by day that we may live with love and hope through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, may we receive this food with joy, knowing that all good gifts come from you. Amen.

### **A Blessing to Give:**

May God show you the path of life and give you joy through Christ our Lord. (Psalm 16:11)

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Who is someone you wish you knew or knew better?
- How does having a personal, trusted relationship with someone impact your life?
- How do you grow in your relationship with Jesus as your Savior and Lord?

*Read:* John 20:19-31.

It is hard to read this text and not be influenced by the title “doubting Thomas.” However, it is only Thomas in the whole Gospel of John who makes the confession of faith that Jesus is God and more specifically, “My God” (v. 28). In this passage at least two important points about the Christian faith are revealed: 1) faith is relational (Thomas personalizes Jesus as “My God”), and 2) faith is a lifelong journey. Jesus blessed those who “come to believe.” The Greek text denotes a continuous process, not just believing at a certain point in time, but continuing to believe. And, isn’t that what is needed to have a real relationship to someone: an ongoing development—even being challenged by—that relationship. What Jesus means for us and to us will continue to develop for a lifetime. As we age and as we have new experiences and challenges, the meaning of Jesus for our lives and our world evolves, even as we evolve and “have life in his name” (v. 31). Our relationship with Jesus grows and develops over time.

Describe your relationship with Jesus.

**Pray: Come, Lord Jesus, into my life this day, that I may confess you as my God and have life through you each and every day. Amen.**

Thomas had to see Jesus to believe. 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” (John 20:29).

It is through our service that the world “sees” Jesus. We are his voice, hands, and feet in the world. List ways others have seen Jesus and his love through your actions and words.

When Jesus appeared to the disciples after the resurrection, he said, “Peace be with you” (John 20:19b). This has become a traditional greeting among Christians as a reminder of Christ’s presence. Practice greeting friends and family in your home using these words this week.

**NEXT WEEK’S READINGS:** Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19  
1 Peter 1:17-23; Luke 24:13-35