

**Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**April 6, 2024**  
**Second Sunday of Easter *Quasimodo Geniti***  
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**In our prayers:** Remember all who are ill and weak, shut-ins, our families, our congregation, hospitals, doctors, nurses, police, military personnel, and wisdom for our government leaders. Pray for Pauline Cizmansky, Don Demchak, Jack Findlay, Jennifer Jarvis, Paul Kushner, Carrie Thomas, Joanne Todorich, Glenn Hiner.

**SPECIAL UPDATES**

**Join us for Bible Study** on Saturdays in the basement fellowship hall at 3:00 pm as Reverend Mullins leads us through the Small Catechism.

**Flowers on the altar today** are presented Phil Balko.

**Today's Lector:** Phil B. Usher: Gary B. Acolyte: Dan H. Communion Assistant: Bob D.

**The First Quarter congregational meeting** will be held following the worship service this afternoon.

**Beginning Friday, May 3 at 6:00 PM**, and continuing the first Friday of every month, Pastor Mullins will be hosting a men's club at his home: cards, darts, beer, snacks and conversation. Feel free to invite friends and family. An opportunity to gather together as Christian men.

**The Trinity ladies have asked Holy Cross** to join them for an outing.  
Date: Friday, 26 April at 5:30 PM.  
Coalfields Diner, Berlin  
3494 Berlin Plank Road 15530  
Cash only - no debit or credit cards.

**Due to weather concerns**, the dedication of the 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue Bridge in honor of Robert Rusnak has been moved inside to the Johnstown American Legion Post 294, 114 Main Street, Johnstown, Friday, May 3 at 2:00PM with the reception following at the Legion. The building is handicapped accessible.

# Second Sunday of Easter

*Quasimodo Geniti*

April 7, 2024



**INTROIT**     *Ps. 81:1, 7a, 10, 16b; antiphon: 1 Peter 2:2a*

Like newborn infants, Alle- | luia,\*  
    long for the pure spiritual milk [of the Word.] Alle- | luia.  
Sing aloud to | God our strength;\*  
    shout for joy to the God of | Jacob!  
In distress you called, and I de- | livered you;\*  
    I answered you in the secret place of | thunder.  
I am the | LORD your God,\*  
    who brought you up out of the land of | Egypt.  
Open your mouth wide, and I will | fill it;\*  
    and with honey from the rock I would sat- | isfy you.  
**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***  
**and to the Holy | Spirit;**  
**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***  
**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**  
Like newborn infants, Alle- | luia,\*  
    long for the pure spiritual milk [of the Word.] Alle- | luia.

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## GRADUAL

*During the celebration of Easter and Pentecost, the Gradual is omitted and the Verse is expanded.*

**VERSE**     *Matt. 28:7b; John 20:26a, c*

Alleluia. He has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee. Alleluia. Eight days later Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Alleluia.

## DAILY READINGS

**April 7:** Ex. 20:1–24; Luke 4:1–15; **8:** Ex. 22:20–23; 13; Luke 4:16–30; **9:** Ex. 23:14–33; Luke 4:31–44; **10:** Ex. 24:1–18; Luke 5:1–16; **11:** Ex. 25:1–22; Luke 5:17–39; **12:** Ex. 31:1–18; Luke 6:1–19; **13:** Ex. 32:1–14; Luke 6:20–38.

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## Old Testament Lesson: Ezekial 37:1-14

The hand of the LORD was upon me, and He brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup> And He led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. <sup>3</sup> And He said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” And I answered, “O LORD GOD, You know.” <sup>4</sup> Then he said to me, “Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. <sup>5</sup> Thus says the LORD GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup> And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD.”

<sup>7</sup> So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup> And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup> Then He said to me, “Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the LORD GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.” <sup>10</sup> So I prophesied as He commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

<sup>11</sup> Then He said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.’ <sup>12</sup> Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the LORD GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O My people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup> And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O My people. <sup>14</sup> And I will put My Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD.”

## Epistle Lesson: 1 John 5:4–10

For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. <sup>5</sup> Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

<sup>6</sup> This is He who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. <sup>7</sup> For there are three that testify: <sup>8</sup> the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree. <sup>9</sup> If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that He has borne concerning His Son. <sup>10</sup> Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning His Son.

## Gospel Reading: John 20:19–31

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews,<sup>[a]</sup> Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” <sup>20</sup> When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” <sup>22</sup> And 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 withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.”

<sup>24</sup> Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin,<sup>[b]</sup> 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 in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

<sup>26</sup> Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, 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; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, 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 believed.”

<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; <sup>31</sup> but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.