

DAILY BREAD LECTIONARY DEVOTIONS EASTER DAWN—YEAR C

INVOCATION

L: In the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

G: Amen

PSALM OF THE DAY: PSALM 30

A: At the works of your hands, O Lord, I lift up my voice in song; I sing for joy.

L: Sing to the LORD, you saints of his;

G: praise his holy name.

L: For his anger lasts only a moment,

G: but his favor lasts a lifetime;

L: weeping may remain for a night,

G: but rejoicing comes in the morning.

L: To you, O LORD, I called;

G: to the Lord I cried for mercy.

L: Hear, O LORD, and be merciful to me;

G: O LORD, be my help.

L: You turned my wailing into dancing,

G: that my heart may sing to you and not be silent.

A: At the works of your hands, O Lord, I lift up my voice in song; I sing for joy.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: O God, you made the dawn of this most holy day shine with the glory of our Lord's resurrection. Grant that we who have been raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit may worship you in sincerity and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

READING & MEDITATION

see next page

PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

A: 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.

VERSE OF THE DAY

A: Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. Alleluia. (1 Corinthians 15:22)

BENEDICTION

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

A: Amen

READING AND MEDITATION:

Easter Dawn: As "morning breaks upon the tomb" (*CW* 159) its gaping entrance and vacant depths stir a mixture of emotions among Jesus' followers. But with proclamation of the resurrection, ignorance turns to understanding and sorrow changes to joy. With the rising of the sun faith-filled hearts soar to proclaim the angels' message: He is risen!

As you study this week, seek to find the connecting theme in all the lessons by using Luther's Four Big Barber Questions to ponder and discuss each individual reading:

- 1. What is God saying to me in this lesson?
- 2. For what does this lesson lead me to give thanks?
- 3. What sins does this lesson lead me to confess?
- 4. For what does this lesson lead me to pray?

THE GOSPEL: JOHN 20:1-18

So many will miss the point of this Easter Day. They will not understand the impact Christ's resurrection has had on our eternity. But the missing body and empty tomb are not the end of the story. Just as Jesus revealed himself in glory to Mary Magdalene, so he reveals himself to us that we might worship our Risen Lord.

My takeaways:

FIRST LESSON: ISAIAH 12:1-6

Hearkening back to Lent 4, this lesson from Isaiah underscores again the salvation that is ours with the risen Christ. Our trust has not been in vain. The well will not run dry. For the LORD, the God of free and faithful grace, has made good on his promises. "He has risen, just as he said." Make known among the nations what he has done!

My takeaways:

SECOND LESSON: 1 CORINTHIANS 15:51-57

Draw near to behold the mystery as Paul discusses the risen Christ's miraculous promise, "Whoever lives and believes in me will never die." Because Christ has been raised, and death has been swallowed up in his victory, the mortal will be clothed with immortality. His victory is ours and we shall be changed for eternity. Death has no sting; the grave has no victory. Christ is risen. He is risen indeed.

My takeaways:

What major theme(s) connect(s) all the lessons?