

DAILY BREAD LECTIONARY DEVOTIONS EASTER DAY—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 118

A: This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad! This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad!

L: The LORD is my strength and my song;

G: he has become my salvation.

L: The LORD'S right hand is lifted high;

G: the LORD'S right hand has done mighty things!

L: I will not die but live,

G: and will proclaim what the LORD has done.

L: I will give you thanks, for you answered me;

G: you have become my salvation.

L: The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone;

G: the LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

L: This is the day the LORD has made;

G: let us rejoice and be glad in it.

A: This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad! This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Almighty God, by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you conquered death and opened the gate to eternal life. Grant that we, who have been raised with him through baptism, may walk in the newness of life and ever rejoice in the hope of sharing his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit be dominion and praise 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. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia. (Psalm 118:24 cf. NIV)

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 Day: On this most holy of days, we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord. Connected by grace, through faith, to our risen Lord, we rejoice in the victory of the resurrection and in full confidence of our own resurrection from the dead.

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: LUKE 24:1-12

With the women, we have traveled along with Jesus through his Passion and watched as he was laid in the tomb. But the final trip to the tomb doesn't reveal the finality of death. Rather, it reveals the finality for death. What a change! No doubt Peter was confused, wondering what had happened. Do not look for the living among the dead. Death has been swallowed up in victory; Christ has risen just as he said! Death no longer has mastery over us. Easter means that death ends in life!

My takeaways:

FIRST LESSON: EXODUS 15:1-11

The song of Moses and the Israelites foreshadows our song of joy on this day. The evil foe sought to pull us back into the slavery of sin. Yet the hand of the Lord has saved his people. Just as he rescued the Israelites through the waters of the Red Seas, so he has rescued us from sin and death through water and the Word. He has connected to the sacrificial death and victorious resurrection of his one and only Son through the waters of baptism.

My takeaways:

SECOND LESSON: 1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-11

The message of the Gospel, Christ crucified for our sins and raised to life for our justification, is the power of salvation for everyone who believes. Let there be no doubt: Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Not just in our minds and hearts, he has risen in the flesh. Paul appeals to eyewitnesses who still lived and told what they had seen. Christ resurrection had no doubt; so neither does its power. The power of this message enters our hearts by the grace of God and fills us with resurrection joy.

My takeaways:

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