

Readings for 12th April 2020 – EASTER DAY

A reading from Isaiah chapter 55 beginning at verse 1. [55.1-3,5-11]

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn to the Risen Lord [P6 APBA]

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us:

so let us celebrate the feast,

Not with the old leaven of corruption and wickedness:

but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Christ once raised from the dead dies no more:

death has no more dominion over him.

In dying he died to sin once for all:

in living to he lives to God.

See yourselves therefore as dead to sin:

and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Christ has been raised from the dead:

the first fruits of those who sleep.

For as by one man came death:

by another has come also resurrection of the dead;

For as in Adam all die:

even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

A reading from Paul's letter to the Colossians chapter 3 beginning at verse 1. [3.1-4]

So if you have been raised with Christ,
seek the things that are above,
where Christ is,
seated at the right hand of God.

Set your minds on things that are above,
not on things that are on earth,
for you have died,
and your life is hidden with Christ in God.
When Christ who is your life is revealed,
then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Hear the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. [28.1-10]

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

After the sabbath,
as the first day of the week was dawning,
Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb.
And suddenly there was a great earthquake;
for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven,
came and rolled back the stone and sat on it.
His appearance was like lightning,
and his clothing white as snow.
For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men.
But the angel said to the women,
'Do not be afraid;
I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified.
He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said.
Come, see the place where he lay.
Then go quickly and tell his disciples,
"He has been raised from the dead,
and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee;
there you will see him."
This is my message for you.'
So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy,
and ran to tell his disciples.
Suddenly Jesus met them and said,
'Greetings!'
And they came to him,
took hold of his feet,
and worshipped him.
Then Jesus said to them,
'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee;
there they will see me.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.