

APRIL 24, 2022
SECOND SUNDAY
OF EASTER



Thomas' experience is like our own.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 20:19-31	Seeing Christ's wounds
Monday	Acts 5:27-32	The conviction of the apostles
Tuesday	Revelation 1:4-8	Christ sends a message to John
Wednesday	1 Peter 1:4-8	A living hope
Thursday	Hebrews 11:1-22	Faith in what we do not see
Friday	Hebrews 11:23-40	The faith of the Israelite leaders
Saturday	Psalms 150	Praise the Lord
Sunday	John 21:1-19	Jesus appears to the disciples

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Jesus said to him [Thomas], "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."
John 20:29 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, we long to see your presence in our world. Come, Holy Spirit, that we may believe and have life in the name of Jesus, our Lord and our God. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for this food, a sign of your love for us. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God give you the faith to see and experience the love of Christ Jesus.



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HYMN OF THE WEEK

We Walk by Faith



WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS



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

- What is something you long to see?
- How do you experience Jesus in the world without seeing his physical presence?

DEVOTIONS



Read: John 20:19-31.

Thomas' story is a continuation of the story of Mary Magdalene in the garden with Jesus (John 20:1-18). She experiences grief, confusion, then recognition and a changed identity as a follower of her teacher, her Lord. The news of Jesus' resurrection seems too good to be true. Thomas experiences deep disappointment and displeasure. He has missed what the other disciples experienced a week ago and he wants that experience, too. A week later, he has his own personal encounter with the resurrected Lord and becomes the first to make the confession of faith, "My Lord and my God." Jesus recognizes the importance of this personal encounter with Thomas and for all future generations of disciples. We will "see" Jesus in the body of Christ through the word announced and through water, bread, and wine. This lets the "Word become flesh" (John 1:14) and dwell among us today.

Discuss: How does the resurrected Lord become evident—seen—in your life?

Pray: **Lord Jesus, we thank you for coming to Thomas and the other disciples and for coming to us in suffering and in glory through your living church. Amen.**

SERVICE



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how might you help others see Jesus through your actions and words?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



If you planted an Easter Garden, enjoy the growing flowers and other plants and also notice other new growth outside during this season. As you observe the plants and marvel at God's creation, recall the saving work of Christ to redeem all that God has created. Finish by saying: **Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org