

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER — *Quasimodo Geniti*

April 15th, 2012



Quasimodo is not a monster, it is “like a newborn” in Latin. Like newborns long for their mother’s milk, so we Christians long for the pure milk of the Word of God. For it is through this preached Word that the new life of faith invigorates the dry bones of our sinful souls.

To our guests and visitors: Welcome to Epiphany! We pray that your time with us today will be a blessing to you as you hear the Good News of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Please sign our guest book on the wall in the entrance area of the church and join us for coffee after church in the board room.

We’re celebrating the Lord’s Supper today! The Lord’s Supper is a great blessing to those who are prepared and worthy to receive it. (To help you prepare, see page 329 in the hymnal).

A person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in Jesus’ words: “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins” (referring to the body & blood of Christ in the bread & wine). For as the Bible says, “anyone [who] eats and drinks without recognizing the body [and blood] of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself”. Anyone not yet instructed, or in doubt, or who hold a different confession than that of this congregation and Lutheran Church-Canada, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked to *first speak with the pastor* before the service.

We follow **DIVINE SERVICE**, *Setting One*, p.151.

This bulletin contains all the options not contained in the service on p.151.

We suggest you use it as a bookmark in your Service Book.

Hymn 597

“*Water, Blood and Spirit Crying*”

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

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.

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 37:1-14

¹The 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. ²And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. ³And he said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” And I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.” ⁴Then he said to me, “Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶And 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.”

⁷So 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. ⁸And 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. ⁹Then 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.” ¹⁰So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

¹¹Then 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 clean cut off.’ ¹²Therefore 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. ¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴And 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.”

Psalms 33

Epistle Reading

1 John 5:4-10

⁴For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. ⁵Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶This 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. ⁷For there are three that testify: ⁸the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree. ⁹If 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. ¹⁰Whoever 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

¹⁹On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld."

²⁴Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So 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."

²⁶Eight 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." ²⁷Then 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." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but 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.

Hymn of the Day: 471

"Sons and Daughters of the King"

St. 1, 4-8

Sermon:

**Distribution Hymns: 155
478**

*"This is the Feast"
"The Day of Resurrection"*

Closing Hymn (see insert)

"Glorious Easter of Our Lord"

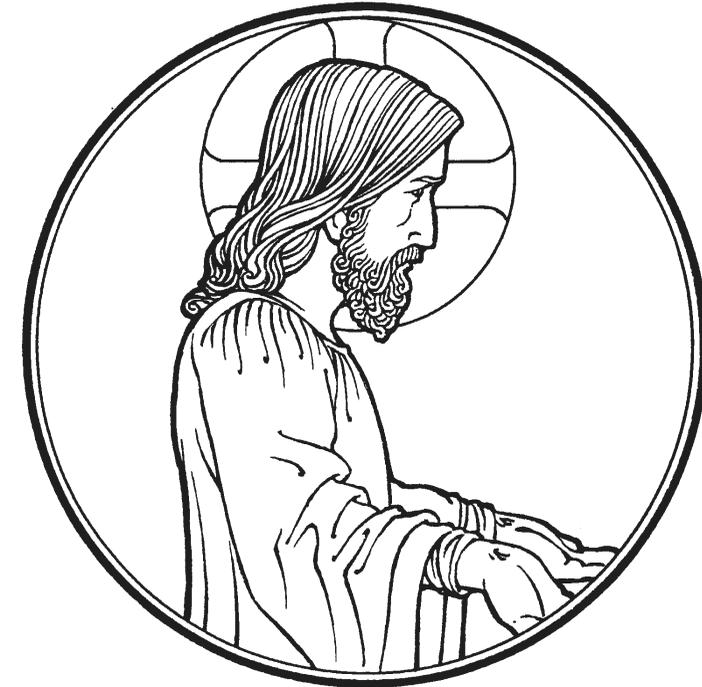
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For more information on the church save the announcements insert.

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"Doubting Thomas Believes"

*"Jesus said to him,
'Have you believed because you have seen me?
Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.'
If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven."
John 20:29, 23*

**Epiphany Lutheran Church
Thunder Bay, ON**