

Readings for April 23rd, 2017 – Second Sunday of Easter

First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 22-32

Hear the Word of God as it is written in Acts chapter 2 verse 14a and verses 22 to 32.

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, “You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him, ‘I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope.

For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’ “Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, ‘He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.’ This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Psalm 16

Let us all stand and read Psalm 16 responsively by verse.

1

Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."

2

All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land,
upon those who are noble among the people.

3

But those who run after other gods shall have their troubles multiplied.

4

Their libations of blood I will not offer, nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.

5

O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; it is you who uphold my lot.

6

My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a goodly heritage.

7

I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me, night after night.

8

I have set the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.

9

My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope.

10

For you will not abandon me to the grave, nor let your holy one see the Pit.

11

You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, World without end. Amen.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9

Hear the Word of God as it is written in First Peter chapter 1 verses 3 to 9.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little

while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith-- being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire-- may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

This is the Word of the Lord.