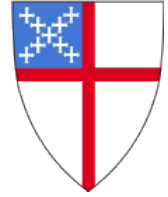


Lessons for April 15th, 2018

Third Sunday of Easter



First Reading: Acts 3:12-19

Hear the Word of God as it is written in Acts chapter 3 verses 12 to 19.

Peter addressed the people, “You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. “And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Psalm 4

Let us all stand and read Psalm 4, responsively by verse.

1

Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; you set me free when I am hard-pressed; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

2

"You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; how long will you worship dumb idols and run after false gods?"

3

Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

4

Tremble, then, and do not sin; speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

5

Offer the appointed sacrifices and put your trust in the Lord.

6

Many are saying, "Oh, that we might see better times!" Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.

7

You have put gladness in my heart, more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

8

I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

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 John 3:1-7

Hear the Word of God as it is written in First John chapter 3 verses 1 to 7.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

This is the Word of the Lord.