

Devotion for Easter Tuesday

Psalm 40

I waited patiently for the Lord; He inclined to me and heard my cry.

He drew me up from the pit of destruction, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.

He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the Lord.

Blessed is the man who makes the Lord his trust, who does not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after a lie.

You have multiplied, O Lord my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us;

None can compare with you! I will proclaim and tell of them, yet they are more than can be told.

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen*

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 15:19-16:12 *The song of Moses, bread and water*

New Testament Reading: Mark 16:1-20 *The resurrection of our Lord*

Devotion: Fear and Trembling

Fearful is the adjective that best describes the disciples the day Jesus rose from the dead. They were all afraid. The women fled from tomb, trembling and afraid. The men hid behind locked doors, fearful of the authorities. Jesus' resurrection changed all that. After the disciples encountered the resurrected Christ they were fearless in their faith and bold in their testimony that through the resurrection, God had made this Jesus, both Lord and Christ. When the Ruling Council of whom they had been so afraid, told them to cease speaking in the name of Jesus or else face dire consequences, Peter said, "We must obey God rather than men." Their encounter with the resurrected Christ transformed them from people of fear to people of faith. The resurrected Christ promises to work the same change in our lives.

Jesus' resurrection challenges us to consider the work and will of God in our world and in our lives. Nothing will be impossible for God. The resurrection is God's testimony that He has accepted Christ's sacrifice for the sin of the world. In the resurrection God calls all people to receive His grace in forgiveness, mercy and peace; as a free and ever flowing gift of love. Easter is a season for us to consider the effect of Jesus' resurrection in our lives. Even as Jesus' resurrection transformed the first disciples into bold and courageous believers, it will have the same effect in our lives. Jesus' resurrection calls us to consider how we will live in this world. If Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, how will that affect the way we look at life and the way we deal with and prepare for death? His resurrection gives us encouragement in time of trial, strength in time of testing, power for daily living and hope in the presence of death. "Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep." A blessed Easter Season.

JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN TODAY

(Public Domain)

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!

Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!

Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!

Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of Praise then let us sing, Alleluia!

Unto Christ, our heavenly king, Alleluia!

Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!

Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!

Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!

Now above the sky he's king, Alleluia!

Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

**Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as his love; Alleluia!
Praise him, all you heavenly host, Alleluia!
Everything that has breath. Alleluia!**

Prayer

Christ has risen from the dead. God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honour. He has made him ruler over the works of His hands; He has put everything under his feet. Almighty God, before He ascended into heaven, our Lord Jesus Christ promised that He would remain with His church on earth through the Holy Spirit. Bless us that the Holy Spirit may dwell within us and abide among us, that we may be preserved and strengthened in faith, until the day our Lord returns on the clouds in your presence and in the company of the holy angels. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

The Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

The Easter Season

“The Easter season is a fifty day long season of joy extending from Easter to Pentecost. During this time, the Church celebrates the end of Christ's struggles and proclaims His victory over death and the reception of the benefits of His life, death and resurrection as gracious gifts of love and mercy for all those who believe in Him. This is the Church's great season of joy! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed. Alleluia!” Treasury of Daily Prayer

Benediction

Hebrews 13:20-21

“Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen”

