

APRIL 14, 2024
THIRD SUNDAY
OF EASTER



Jesus' resurrection brings peace and forgiveness.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 24:36b-48	Jesus appears to the disciples
Monday	Acts 3:12-19	Peter speaks in the temple
Tuesday	1 John 3:1-7	Children of God
Wednesday	1 Peter 1:3-9	A living hope
Thursday	Acts 26:19-23	Paul tells of his preaching
Friday	1 Corinthians 15:1-11	The resurrection of Christ
Saturday	Psalms 4	An evening prayer
Sunday	John 10:11-18	The Good Shepherd

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

I will both lie down and sleep in peace; for you alone, O LORD, make me lie down in safety. Psalm 4:8 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Eternal God, we thank you for Jesus' resurrection that brings us peace and forgiveness of sins that we may go to bed each night trusting in your care. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for this food. Give food to those who do not have enough to eat and protection for those who do not feel safe, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May Christ our Lord give you peace and gladness.



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HYMN OF THE WEEK
Alleluia! Jesus is Risen



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:

- In what ways do you show hospitality to others?
- How does hospitality foster peace and forgiveness?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 24:36b-48.

The resurrection does not immediately clear up all our questions about faith and life. What does the resurrected body look like? What does the life of the church look like after Jesus' resurrection? Jesus comes as flesh and blood to speak, eat, and drink with his followers. The physical world matters. This is not a time to speculate about ghosts and life beyond earthly existence. The resurrection values God's creation. At least two important resurrection messages are present in this text. First, hospitality is shown by the sharing of life-giving food. Sustaining one another with food and community life goes on as a holy practice. Second, repentance and forgiveness of sins remains at the heart of the work of Jesus' followers. The resurrection celebrates life, community, peace, and forgiveness as essentials that will not be overcome by death, isolation, fear, or sin. Thanks be to God for the eternal power of God's reign shown to us in Christ Jesus, our Savior and Lord!

Discuss: What questions do you have about the resurrection and what it means for your life today?

Pray: **God of eternal life, give us confidence to breathe peace, joy, forgiveness, and new beginnings into all our relationships through Christ Jesus, our resurrected Lord and Savior. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you show care for the physical needs of others this week?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

There are times at night when we worry about something and can't sleep. Psalm 4 is a prayer for help. It is a prayer that reaches out with confidence in God's love and care. The end of the day is a good time to slow down, reflect on the day, and focus on God's presence in our lives. Bedtime prayers are daily rituals that can have a powerful influence in our lives. At bedtime this week, take a moment to think or talk about something that may be keeping you awake at night. *Pray:* **Dear Lord, be gracious to me, and hear my prayer that I will both lie down and sleep in peace; for you alone, O Lord, make me lie down in safety. Amen.** (Psalm 4)



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