

Saturday in Easter Week

The Collect:

We thank you, heavenly Father, that you have delivered us from the dominion of sin and death and brought us into the kingdom of your Son; and we pray that, as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his love he may raise us to eternal joys; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

First Lesson: Acts 4:13-21

- ¹³ Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John and realized that they were uneducated and ordinary men, they were amazed and recognized them as companions of Jesus. ¹⁴When they saw the man who had been cured standing beside them, they had nothing to say in opposition.
- ¹⁶They said, "What will we do with them? For it is obvious to all who live in Jerusalem that a notable sign has been done through them; we cannot deny it. ¹⁷But to keep it from spreading further among the people, let us warn them to speak no more to anyone in this name." ¹⁸So they called them and ordered them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. ¹⁹But Peter and John answered them, "Whether it is right in God's sight to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge; ²⁰for we cannot keep from speaking about what we have seen and heard." ²¹After threatening them again, they let them go, finding no way to punish them because of the people, for all of them praised God for what had happened.

Psalm: Psalm 118:14-18 or 118:19-24

- ¹⁴ The Lord is my strength and my song, * and he has become my salvation.
- ¹⁵ There is a sound of exultation and victory * in the tents of the righteous:
- "The right hand of the Lord has triumphed! * the right hand of the Lord is exalted! the right hand of the Lord has triumphed!"
- ¹⁷ I shall not die, but live, * and declare the works of the Lord.
- ¹⁸ The Lord has punished me sorely, * but he did not hand me over to death.

or

- Open for me the gates of righteousness; * I will enter them; I will offer thanks to the Lord.
- ²⁰ "This is the gate of the Lord; * he who is righteous may enter."
- ²¹ I will give thanks to you, for you answered me * and have become my salvation.
- ²² The same stone which the builders rejected * has become the chief cornerstone.
- ²³ This is the Lord's doing, * and it is marvelous in our eyes.
- ²⁴ On this day the Lord has acted; * we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Gospel: Mark 16:9-15, 20

- ⁹ Now after he rose early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, from whom he had cast out seven demons. ¹⁰She went out and told those who had been with him, while they were mourning and weeping. ¹¹But when they heard that he was alive and had been seen by her, they would not believe it.
- ¹² After this he appeared in another form to two of them, as they were walking into the country. ¹³And they went back and told the rest, but they did not believe them.
- ¹⁴ Later he appeared to the eleven themselves as they were sitting at the table; and he upbraided them for their lack of faith and stubbornness, because they had not believed those who saw him after he had risen. ¹⁵And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation. ²⁰And they went out and proclaimed the good news everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by the signs that accompanied it.

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