

## Daily Office Readings, Year 2

### Easter Week

#### MONDAY, APRIL 6

##### Psalm 66

1 Be joyful in God, all you lands; \*  
sing the glory of his Name;  
sing the glory of his praise.

2 Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! \*  
because of your great strength your enemies  
cringe before you.

3 All the earth bows down before you, \*  
sings to you, sings out your Name."

4 Come now and see the works of God, \*  
how wonderful he is in his doing toward all people.

5 He turned the sea into dry land,  
so that they went through the water on foot, \*  
and there we rejoiced in him.

6 In his might he rules for ever;  
his eyes keep watch over the nations; \*  
let no rebel rise up against him.

7 Bless our God, you peoples; \*  
make the voice of his praise to be heard;

8 Who holds our souls in life, \*  
and will not allow our feet to slip.

9 For you, O God, have proved us; \*  
you have tried us just as silver is tried.

10 You brought us into the snare; \*  
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.

11 You let enemies ride over our heads;  
we went through fire and water; \*  
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

12 I will enter your house with burnt-offerings  
and will pay you my vows, \*  
which I promised with my lips  
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

13 I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts  
with the smoke of rams; \*  
I will give you oxen and goats.

14 Come and listen, all you who fear God, \*  
and I will tell you what he has done for me.

15 I called out to him with my mouth, \*  
and his praise was on my tongue.

16 If I had found evil in my heart, \*  
the Lord would not have heard me;

17 But in truth God has heard me; \*  
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.

18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,  
\*  
nor withheld his love from me.

### Exodus 12:14-27

This day shall be a day of remembrance for you.  
You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord;  
throughout your generations you shall observe it as  
a perpetual ordinance. Seven days you shall eat  
unleavened bread; on the first day you shall remove  
leaven from your houses, for whoever eats leavened  
bread from the first day until the seventh day shall  
be cut off from Israel. On the first day you shall  
hold a solemn assembly, and on the seventh day a  
solemn assembly; no work shall be done on those  
days; only what everyone must eat, that alone may  
be prepared by you. You shall observe the festival  
of unleavened bread, for on this very day I brought  
your companies out of the land of Egypt: you shall  
observe this day throughout your generations as a  
perpetual ordinance. In the first month, from the  
evening of the fourteenth day until the evening of  
the twenty-first day, you shall eat unleavened bread.  
For seven days no leaven shall be found in your  
houses; for whoever eats what is leavened shall be  
cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether an  
alien or a native of the land. You shall eat nothing

leavened; in all your settlements you shall eat unleavened bread.

Then Moses called all the elders of Israel and said to them, ‘Go, select lambs for your families, and slaughter the passover lamb. Take a bunch of hyssop, dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and touch the lintel and the two doorposts with the blood in the basin. None of you shall go outside the door of your house until morning. For the Lord will pass through to strike down the Egyptians; when he sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the Lord will pass over that door and will not allow the destroyer to enter your houses to strike you down. You shall observe this rite as a perpetual ordinance for you and your children. When you come to the land that the Lord will give you, as he has promised, you shall keep this observance. And when your children ask you, “What do you mean by this observance?” you shall say, “It is the passover sacrifice to the Lord, for he passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt, when he struck down the Egyptians but spared our houses.” ’ And the people bowed down and worshipped.

## 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Now I should remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to someone untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I

persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace towards me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

## Mark 16:1-8

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, ‘Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?’ When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, ‘Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.’ So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

## TUESDAY, APRIL 7

### Psalm 111

1 Hallelujah!  
I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,\*  
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

2 Great are the deeds of the Lord! \*  
they are studied by all who delight in them.

3 His work is full of majesty and splendor, \*  
and his righteousness endures for ever.

4 He makes his marvelous works to be  
remembered; \*  
the Lord is gracious and full of compassion.

## Exodus 12:28-39

The Israelites went and did just as the Lord had commanded Moses and Aaron.

At midnight the Lord struck down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sat on his throne to the firstborn of the prisoner who was in the dungeon, and all the firstborn of the livestock. Pharaoh arose in the night, he and all his officials and all the Egyptians; and there was a loud cry in Egypt, for there was not a house without someone dead. Then he summoned Moses and Aaron in the night, and said, 'Rise up, go away from my people, both you and the Israelites! Go, worship the Lord, as you said. Take your flocks and your herds, as you said, and be gone. And bring a blessing on me too!'

The Egyptians urged the people to hasten their departure from the land, for they said, 'We shall all be dead.' So the people took their dough before it was leavened, with their kneading-bowls wrapped up in their cloaks on their shoulders. The Israelites had done as Moses told them; they had asked the Egyptians for jewellery of silver and gold, and for clothing, and the Lord had given the people favour in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they let them have what they asked. And so they plundered the Egyptians.

The Israelites journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand men on foot, besides children. A mixed crowd also went up with them, and livestock in great numbers, both flocks and herds. They baked unleavened cakes of the dough that they had brought out of Egypt; it was not leavened, because they were driven out of Egypt and could not wait, nor had they prepared any provisions for themselves.

## 1 Corinthians 15:12-28

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found

5 He gives food to those who fear him; \*  
he is ever mindful of his covenant.

6 He has shown his people the power of his works \*  
in giving them the lands of the nations.

7 The works of his hands are faithfulness and  
justice; \*  
all his commandments are sure.

8 They stand fast for ever and ever, \*  
because they are done in truth and equity.

9 He sent redemption to his people;  
he commanded his covenant for ever; \*  
holy and awesome is his Name.

10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;  
\*  
those who act accordingly have a good  
understanding;  
his praise endures for ever.

### Psalm 114

1 Hallelujah!  
When Israel came out of Egypt, \*  
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,

2 Judah became God's sanctuary \*  
and Israel his dominion.

3 The sea beheld it and fled; \*  
Jordan turned and went back.

4 The mountains skipped like rams, \*  
and the little hills like young sheep.

5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? \*  
O Jordan, that you turned back?

6 You mountains, that you skipped like rams? \*  
you little hills like young sheep?

7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, \*  
at the presence of the God of Jacob,

8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water \*  
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. For ‘God has put all things in subjection under his feet.’ But when it says, ‘All things are put in subjection’, it is plain that this does not include the one who put all things in subjection under him. When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to the one who put all things in subjection under him, so that God may be all in all.

## Mark 16:9-20

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. She went out and told those who had been with him, while they were mourning and weeping. But when they heard that he was alive and had been seen by her, they would not believe it.

After this he appeared in another form to two of them, as they were walking into the country. And they went back and told the rest, but they did not believe them.

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. And he said to them, ‘Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation. The one who believes and is baptized will be saved; but the one who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will accompany those who believe: by using my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover.’

So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. And 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.

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8

### Psalm 115

1 Not to us, O Lord, not to us,  
but to your Name give glory; \*  
because of your love and because of your  
faithfulness.

2 Why should the heathen say, \*  
"Where then is their God?"

3 Our God is in heaven; \*  
whatever he wills to do he does.

4 Their idols are silver and gold, \*  
the work of human hands.

5 They have mouths, but they cannot speak; \*  
eyes have they, but they cannot see;

6 They have ears but they cannot hear; \*  
noses, but they cannot smell;

7 They have hands, but they cannot feel;  
feet, but they cannot walk; \*  
they make no sound with their throat.

8 Those who make them are like them, \*  
and so are all who put their trust in them.

9 O Israel, trust in the Lord; \*

he is their help and their shield.

10 O house of Aaron, trust in the Lord; \*  
he is their help and their shield.

11 You who fear the Lord, trust in the Lord; \*  
he is their help and their shield.

12 The Lord has been mindful of us, and he will  
bless us; \*  
he will bless the house of Israel;  
he will bless the house of Aaron;

13 He will bless those who fear the Lord, \*  
both small and great together.

14 May the Lord increase you more and more, \*  
you and your children after you.

15 May you be blessed by the Lord, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

16 The heaven of heavens is the Lord's, \*  
but he entrusted the earth to its peoples.

17 The dead do not praise the Lord, \*  
nor all those who go down into silence;

18 But we will bless the Lord, \*  
from this time forth for evermore.  
Hallelujah!

## Exodus 12:40-51

The time that the Israelites had lived in Egypt was four hundred and thirty years. At the end of four hundred and thirty years, on that very day, all the companies of the Lord went out from the land of Egypt. That was for the Lord a night of vigil, to bring them out of the land of Egypt. That same night is a vigil to be kept for the Lord by all the Israelites throughout their generations.

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron: This is the ordinance for the passover: no foreigner shall eat of it, but any slave who has been purchased may eat of it after he has been circumcised; no bound or hired servant may eat of it. It shall be eaten in one house; you shall not take any of the animal outside the

house, and you shall not break any of its bones. The whole congregation of Israel shall celebrate it. If an alien who resides with you wants to celebrate the passover to the Lord, all his males shall be circumcised; then he may draw near to celebrate it; he shall be regarded as a native of the land. But no uncircumcised person shall eat of it; there shall be one law for the native and for the alien who resides among you.

All the Israelites did just as the Lord had commanded Moses and Aaron. That very day the Lord brought the Israelites out of the land of Egypt, company by company.

## 1 Corinthians 15:29-41

Otherwise, what will those people do who receive baptism on behalf of the dead? If the dead are not raised at all, why are people baptized on their behalf?

And why are we putting ourselves in danger every hour? I die every day! That is as certain, brothers and sisters, as my boasting of you—a boast that I make in Christ Jesus our Lord. If with merely human hopes I fought with wild animals at Ephesus, what would I have gained by it? If the dead are not raised,

‘Let us eat and drink,  
for tomorrow we die.’

Do not be deceived:

‘Bad company ruins good morals.’

Come to a sober and right mind, and sin no more; for some people have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame.

But someone will ask, ‘How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?’ Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. Not all flesh is alike, but there is one flesh for human beings, another for animals, another for birds, and another for fish. There are both heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is one thing, and that of the earthly is another. There is one

glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; indeed, star differs from star in glory.

## Matthew 28:1-16

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him." This is my message for you.' So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.'

While they were going, some of the guard went into the city and told the chief priests everything that had happened. After the priests had assembled with the elders, they devised a plan to give a large sum of money to the soldiers, telling them, 'You must say, "His disciples came by night and stole him away while we were asleep." If this comes to the governor's ears, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble.' So they took the money and did as they were directed. And this story is still told among the Jews to this day.

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them.

## THURSDAY, APRIL 9

### Psalm 148

1 Hallelujah!

Praise the Lord from the heavens; \*  
praise him in the heights.

2 Praise him, all you angels of his; \*  
praise him, all his host.

3 Praise him, sun and moon; \*  
praise him, all you shining stars. 4 Praise him,  
heaven of heavens, \*  
and you waters above the heavens.

5 Let them praise the Name of the Lord; \*  
for he commanded, and they were created.

6 He made them stand fast for ever and ever; \*  
he gave them a law which shall not pass away.

7 Praise the Lord from the earth, \*  
you sea-monsters and all deeps;

8 Fire and hail, snow and fog, \*  
tempestuous wind, doing his will;

9 Mountains and all hills, \*  
fruit trees and all cedars;

10 Wild beasts and all cattle, \*  
creeping things and winged birds;

11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, \*  
princes and all rulers of the world;

12 Young men and maidens, \*  
old and young together.

13 Let them praise the Name of the Lord, \*  
for his Name only is exalted,  
his splendor is over earth and heaven.

14 He has raised up strength for his people  
and praise for all his loyal servants, \*  
the children of Israel, a people who are near him.  
Hallelujah!

## Psalm 149

1 Hallelujah!

Sing to the Lord a new song; \*  
sing his praise in the congregation of the faithful.

2 Let Israel rejoice in his Maker; \*  
let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.

3 Let them praise his Name in the dance; \*  
let them sing praise to him with timbrel and harp.

4 For the Lord takes pleasure in his people \*  
and adorns the poor with victory.

5 Let the faithful rejoice in triumph; \*  
let them be joyful on their beds.

6 Let the praises of God be in their throat \*  
and a two-edged sword in their hand;

7 To wreak vengeance on the nations \*  
and punishment on the peoples;

8 To bind their kings in chains \*  
and their nobles with links of iron;

9 To inflict on them the judgment decreed; \*  
this is glory for all his faithful people.  
Hallelujah!

## Exodus 13:3-10

Moses said to the people, ‘Remember this day on which you came out of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, because the Lord brought you out from there by strength of hand; no leavened bread shall be eaten. Today, in the month of Abib, you are going out. When the Lord brings you into the land of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, which he swore to your ancestors to give you, a land flowing with milk and honey, you shall keep this observance in this month. For seven days you shall eat unleavened bread, and on the seventh day there shall be a festival to the Lord. Unleavened bread shall be eaten for seven days; no leavened bread shall be seen in your possession, and no leaven shall be seen among you in all your territory. You shall tell your child on that

day, ‘It is because of what the Lord did for me when I came out of Egypt.’ It shall serve for you as a sign on your hand and as a reminder on your forehead, so that the teaching of the Lord may be on your lips; for with a strong hand the Lord brought you out of Egypt. You shall keep this ordinance at its proper time from year to year.

## 1 Corinthians 15:41-50

There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; indeed, star differs from star in glory.

So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonour, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, ‘The first man, Adam, became a living being’; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

## Matthew 28:16-20

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.’