

**SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR SUNDAY**  
**April 16, 2023**  
**The Second Sunday in Easter**

**READING: Acts 2:14a, 22-32    (Common English Bible)**

<sup>14</sup> Peter stood with the other eleven apostles. He raised his voice and declared, "Judeans and everyone living in Jerusalem! Know this! Listen carefully to my words!

<sup>22</sup> "Fellow Israelites, listen to these words! Jesus the Nazarene was a man whose credentials God proved to you through miracles, wonders, and signs, which God performed through him among you. You yourselves know this. <sup>23</sup> In accordance with God's established plan and foreknowledge, he was betrayed. You, with the help of wicked men, had Jesus killed by nailing him to a cross. <sup>24</sup> God raised him up! God freed him from death's dreadful grip, since it was impossible for death to hang on to him. <sup>25</sup> David says about him,

*I foresaw that the Lord was always with me;  
because he is at my right hand I won't be shaken.*

<sup>26</sup> *Therefore, my heart was glad  
and my tongue rejoiced.*

*Moreover, my body will live in hope,*

<sup>27</sup> *because you won't abandon me to the grave,  
nor permit your holy one to experience decay.*

<sup>28</sup> *You have shown me the paths of life;  
your presence will fill me with happiness.*

<sup>29</sup> "Brothers and sisters, I can speak confidently about the patriarch David. He died and was buried, and his tomb is with us

to this very day. <sup>30</sup> Because he was a prophet, he knew that God promised him with a solemn pledge to seat one of his descendants on his throne. <sup>31</sup> Having seen this beforehand, David spoke about the resurrection of Christ, that *he wasn't abandoned to the grave, nor did his body experience decay*. <sup>32</sup> This Jesus God raised up. We are all witnesses to that fact.

### **GOSPEL: John 20:19-31**

<sup>19</sup> When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup> When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

<sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

<sup>24</sup> But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

<sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out

your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." <sup>28</sup>  
Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"

<sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup> But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.