

## **The Liturgy for April 19, 2020**

### **Thought for Meditation:**

And I said to him  
Are there answers to all of this?  
And he said  
The answer is in a story  
...and the story's still unfolding.  
Pádraig Ó'Tuama

### **~GATHERING & LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

#### **~ Gathering Song: #179 VU Refrain**

**Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the Risen Christ,  
Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to God's name.**

#### **~CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Leader: Christ is risen!**

**People: Christ is risen indeed!**

**Leader: Alleluia!**

**People: Alleluia and Amen!**

### **~OPENING PRAYER ENDING WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**We know the season has changed, O God, and we dwell now in Easter. But so much is unchanged. We remain in isolation, and uncertain about the future. In this time together, may a sense of the Resurrection stir within us. Fill us with your Spirit, with your Life, with your Hope, and with your Love. This we pray in the name of the Risen Christ, saying:**

**Our Father who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done,  
On earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
As we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
But deliver us from evil,  
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,  
For ever and ever. Amen.**

### **Morning Has Broken**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=we-n-Zmglt0>

**~SCRIPTURE: John 20: 19-29**

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 authorities, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.'

When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit.'

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 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.'

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.'

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.'

Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!'

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.'

***~REFLECTION: On Thomas, and Jesus and Beautiful Questions (This is The First in a series of Questions for the Season of Easter – the Season of Thomas!)***

**~CLOSING PRAYER (a Prayer by Thomas Merton)**

**My God,**

**I have no idea where I am going.**

**I do not see the road ahead of me.**

**I cannot know for certain where it will end.**

**nor do I really know myself,**

**and the fact that I think I am following your will**

**does not mean that I am actually doing so.  
But I believe that the desire to please you  
does in fact please you.  
And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing.  
I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire.**

**Therefore will I trust you always though  
I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death.  
I will not fear, for you are ever with me,  
and you will never leave me to face my perils alone. Amen.**

**~Departing Song: #179 VU Refrain**

**Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the Risen Christ,  
Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to God's name.**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DyPYJtxu8cE>

**~BENEDICTION**

**\*Art depicting Thomas and Jesus**

[https://www.google.com/search?sxsrf=ALeKk02-hL7\\_rgfUlfTVamx-L6QM1SyK2Q:1587236419032&q=doubting+thomas,+art&tbm=isch&source=univ&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwi9gbm3](https://www.google.com/search?sxsrf=ALeKk02-hL7_rgfUlfTVamx-L6QM1SyK2Q:1587236419032&q=doubting+thomas,+art&tbm=isch&source=univ&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwi9gbm3)

**(Carvaggio is my fave!)**