

## **DAY 18: MONDAY OF EASTER WEEK (Low Week)**

### **Opening Prayer**

Risen Christ,  
you revealed yourself to the disciples  
and calmed their fears:  
meet us in our uncertainties  
and walk with us into the new life you bring;  
for you live and reign with the  
Father and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen

### **Scripture Readings: Acts 2:22-33; Psalm 16:5-11; Matthew 28:8-15**

**Reflection:** Today's readings continue with the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ and his appearance to the disciples. In the reading from Acts we see how Peter, along with his fellow disciples, is speaking to a crowd about the Risen Christ, and this is part of the first ever Christian sermon. The basis for his preaching and that of the apostles is clearly their own personal encounter with the Risen Lord. It is actually surprising to find Peter testifying so boldly of Jesus Christ, the Lord – that the Jesus of Nazareth whom they have crucified, is both Lord and Christ. This is the same Peter that was afraid of the slave girl who pointed him out as a disciple and denied it three times. Like the sermons recorded in the Acts of the Apostles they are personal witness accounts to the death and resurrection of Christ. In this reading we see a changed Peter after his encounter with the Risen Lord. In the gospel, Jesus appears to the women and tells them to go and get the disciples and to tell them to go to Galilee where he will meet them. We see here how our Lord Jesus Christ elevated the women to be the first bearers of the news of the resurrection. They became the first Church entrusted with the task to spread the Good News of his resurrection. Although Galilee represented normality and everyday life for the disciples, nothing would be 'normal' for these men and women who followed Jesus and believed him to be the Christ. This is also a reminder to us that we too will find Christ in the normality of our lives – even in the midst of the COVID-19 lockdown that has become our 'new normal'.

### **Concluding Prayer**

In darkness and in light  
in trouble and in joy  
help us, heavenly Father  
to trust your love, to serve your purpose  
and to praise your Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
be with us all for ever. Amen**