

Musical Meditation for April 19 *Second Sunday of Easter*

Bible Readings

Acts 2:14a, 22–32

Psalm 16

1 Peter 1:3–9

John 20:19–31

Music Selection: "We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight"

Tune: "Dunlap's Creek" by Samuel McFarland,
harmonized by Richard Proulx, 1986

Organ solo arrangement by David Paxton.

(Direct recording of our church organ.)

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Text by Henry Alford, 1844

1. We walk by faith, and not by sight; No gracious words we hear
From Christ who spoke as none e'er spoke, But we believe Him near.
2. We may not touch His hands and side, Nor follow where He trod;
But in His promise we rejoice and cry, "My Lord and God!"
3. Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; And may our faith abound
To call on You when You are near and seek where You are found.
4. That, when our life of faith is done, In realms of clearer light,
May we behold You as You are, with full and endless sight.

Thoughts – "Doubting Thomas"

The Bible readings above are taken from the PCUSA lectionary. The Gospel reading describes Jesus' post-resurrection appearances to his disciples, including the scenario pictured above. The music selection reflects this, particularly the second verse. It is based on hymn #399; we have sung it in church services. "Dunlap's Creek" originated as an early American "shaped note" tune, generally sung in strident harmony. The organ solo arrangement follows the mood of the lyrics, in that it starts out as an introspective meditation, then progresses to joy and celebration as the implications of Christ's resurrection are realized. As Christians we are challenged with reconciling our doubts with our faith.

For our prayers, consider Jesus' guidance "Blessed those who have not seen and yet believe" and how we can apply this in our own lives. Let's continue to pray for recovery of the increasing numbers of people worldwide affected by COVID-19, and the medical and service workers who need our support and prayers; they are continuing their labors, at personal risk, to heal the sick and keep our society functioning, ensuring that basic needs for food and shelter are met on a continuing basis. And, finally, we should continue taking our personal concerns to God.



The Incredulity of Saint Thomas – Guercino

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