

Jn20:19 Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "Peace be with you."

20:20 When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.

20:21 So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you."

20:22 And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

20:23 "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

From today's sermon.

We have been reading about the resurrection from the Gospel of Luke, and today we are reading from the Gospel of John.

It is interesting to note that when the women met the angels at the empty tomb, they had a conversation with Jesus.

And today's passage is from that Sunday evening. The disciples had closed (locked) all the doors for fear of the Jews. It seems as if Cleopas and the others who wanted to go to Emmaus also fled Jerusalem out of fear (but they returned to Jerusalem in the evening after realizing that the One who prayed and broke bread at the inn was the Lord). When Cleopas and the others returned to Jerusalem, we read that the disciples were also talking to each other about having met the Lord, which may have been the event in today's passage from John. Morning and evening, Jesus appeared to the women and the disciples several times.

The disciples were shut up in fear. He told them to "rest" and showed them the wounds caused by the nails. The disciples rejoiced when they saw Him. When Jesus said "rest" again, He breathed on the disciples and told them, "I send you" and "receive the Holy Spirit.

The disciples received power and went out boldly with the events of Pentecost, but the mission they received was "the forgiveness of sins. Receiving the Holy Spirit, they rose from the fear of persecution and went forward, their mission being to love and forgive their enemies. Today we are sent and strengthened to forgive.

Good morning everyone.

We have only 10 days left in April. The other day, Shobara City recorded a temperature of 28 degrees Celsius, which seemed like early summer, but since yesterday, it has been raining and chilly. There is a temperature difference between morning and evening. Yellow dust is also

flying. Please take care of yourselves and make sure to get enough rest, nutrition and water.

We have been reading about the Lord's resurrection from the Gospel of Luke.

24:1 On the first day of the week, before dawn, the women went to the tomb with the perfume they had prepared.

24:2 But a stone was rolled away from the tomb,

24:3 And when they entered, they found the body of the Lord Jesus missing.

24:4 And when they were at a loss, behold, two men appeared to them, clothed in shining garments.

24:5 And the women were astonished and afraid, and fell on their faces to the ground, and these two said, "Why do you ask the living among the dead?"

24:6 He is not here. He is risen. Remember what He told you while He was still in Galilee.

24:7 He said that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinners, and be crucified, and rise again the third day.

24:8 Then the women remembered his words,

24:9 And they returned from the tomb and reported all these things to the eleven disciples and to everyone else.

24:10 These women were Mary Magdalene, Johanna, and Mary the mother of Jacob. The other women who were with them also told the apostles about this.

24:11 But it seemed to the apostles like foolish talk, and they did not believe it.

This is the whole story of the first events of Easter morning. Later, the Lord accompanied the two on their way to Emmaus, spoke His Word, and their hearts burned within. In the prayer of breaking bread they realized it was Jesus, but He was no longer in sight. So, without resting, they returned to the road they had come from, even though it was almost evening, with a desire to tell the other disciples. They told the story of how the Lord appeared to them there as well.

Today, the Gospel of John is open.

Here, too, we read about the women and disciples who witnessed the Lord's resurrection.

The incident at the tomb of the women is interesting.

In Luke's gospel, the women only saw angels, heard their words, and saw the empty tomb, but in John's gospel, they met Jesus.

20:6 Simon Peter followed and entered the tomb. He saw the flaxen cloth laid there, but

20:7 The cloth that was wrapped around Jesus' head was not near the flax cloth, but was wrapped in another place far away.

20:8 Then the other disciple, who had arrived at the tomb earlier, also came in and saw it and believed.

20:9 But they did not yet realize the Scripture that told them that Jesus should rise from the dead.

20:10 Then the two disciples went back to their own house.

20:11 But Mary stood outside the tomb weeping. And while weeping, she stooped down and looked into the tomb,

20:12 And she saw two angels in white robes sitting where Jesus' body was laid, one at his head and one at his feet.

20:13 Then they said to Mary, "Woman, why are you crying? Mary said to them, "Someone has taken away my Lord. And I do not know where he has put him.

20:14 Then she turned around and saw Jesus standing there. But she did not realize that it was Jesus.

20:15 Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you crying? Who are you looking for? Mary, thinking that he was the keeper of the garden, said, "If you have moved him, tell me where you have put him. I will take him.

20:16 Jesus said to her, "Mary! Mary turned around and said to Jesus, "Rabboni" in Hebrew, which means teacher. It means teacher.

20:17 Jesus said to her, "Do not touch me. Do not touch me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and tell them, 'I am going up to my Father and your Father, who is my God and your God.

20:18 Mary Magdalene went to the disciples and reported that she had met the Lord and that Jesus had told her this and that.

Luke says that Peter went to the tomb to see the empty tomb after the women's story, but did the women go to the tomb again at that time? And after Peter and the others left the tomb, Mary was still weeping outside the tomb, and Jesus appeared to her?

At the same time, Jesus appeared to the two men on the way to Emmaus, then to Peter, and then to Cleopas when he returned to Jerusalem and told them about the Lord's resurrection, the Lord appeared to them in the midst of them and said to them, "Peace be with you. Why do you doubt in your heart? Look at my hands and feet. It is truly me. Touch me and see. The spirit has no flesh and bones, but as you see, I have flesh and bones," and while showing His

body and eating fish, He told us that He is the One who has substance.

Then, as we see today, the Lord appeared again in the evening, this time to the disciples who were still locked up in fear of the Jews, saying, "Rest," twice, and then blowing on them and saying, "Receive the Holy Spirit. The sins you forgive will be forgiven, and the sins you do not forgive will remain.

He showed them his hands and his armpits," as in today's passage, or as in Luke's Gospel, "Why are you perplexed? Why do you doubt in your heart? Look at my hands and my feet. It is really me. Touch me and see. The spirit has no flesh and bones, but I have them, as you see. In any case, there were several eyewitness accounts of the Lord's resurrection that day and into the evening, but the disciples had completely forgotten Jesus' words announcing His victory from the dead, and were terrified, closing and locking the doors for fear of their persecutors.

Was there anger and resentment along with fear of the persecutors?

20:19 On that day, the first evening of the first week, as the disciples were closing all the doors of their places in fear of the Jews, Jesus came in, stood in their midst, and said, "Peace!

They were surrounded by enemies who were after them, and they were surrounded by doubts and fears that they would be hanged. There was fear. Jesus stood in the middle of them. The door was locked. The door was firmly closed. How could Jesus stand in the middle of them? Jesus is always in the center of the church. Jesus is the Lord and Head of the church.

He always enters the center of our fearful, trembling, and closed hearts and says, "Rest," and stands in the center of the fear-stricken church and says, "Rest" and "Peace be with you.

20:20 So saying, He showed them His hands and His armpits. And when the disciples saw Him, they rejoiced.

He showed them His hands and His armpits. The disciples rejoiced when they saw Him" means that their worries and fears were resolved when they saw the substance of Jesus. Their fear was, "Is Jesus really here? Is He still here? Would he perish and never be seen again? But Jesus showed the disciples that He was the One who was with them by showing them the wounds He bore on the cross. He showed them that now Jesus was not an illusion or phantom, but was the very Jesus they knew. This made the disciples rejoice.

They knew that Jesus, who was with them, was powerful in word and deed, as they had been

told many times. They knew that he had distributed a little bread and fish to the frightened people, that he had turned a storm into a calm, that he had walked on water, that he had healed a sick person, that he had brought back to life a man who had been dead for three days, that he had brought back to life the son of a widow woman in Nain.... They believed in that treasured Jesus. They knew by looking at his body that the one before them was Jesus, and they rejoiced. Jesus said, "Be at peace. Peace and harmony be with you. May that peace and harmony be restored to the disciples, who had been torn apart by fear in the midst of difficulty and fear. Jesus stands in the middle of the church and says this.

The church is in the midst of a storm, of danger and difficulty, and its peace and harmony are torn asunder. The heart is frozen, trapped in fear, heart-closed in a shell, unable to step outside. This is true for the church today.

This peace and harmony that we have, this peace is different from the one given by the back, it is given by Jesus.

John 14:27 I leave my peace with you. My peace I leave with you; my peace I give unto you. I give it to you differently than the world gives it to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, nor be dismayed.

We have many things that only we have. It is His salvation and healing, eternal life and His peace. And we are part of a body with the Lord as its head, and we are children of God. But we are still shut up in the church. We fear the world.

20:21 Jesus also said to them, "Rest! As the Father hath sent me, even so will I send you.

20:22 Having said this, He breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit, and you will be saved.

It was for the purpose of sending the disciples that Jesus encouraged them, filled them with peace, and restored them to harmony and harmony.

Receive the Holy Spirit. This was fulfilled on the day of Pentecost.

Acts 1:8 But when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, you will receive power, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

20:23 Whose sins you forgive will be forgiven, and whose sins you leave unforgiven will remain.

What are we sent to say? It is the forgiveness of sins. The forgiveness of sins was forgiveness for the sins of those outside the door, whom they now feared and shut up, who hated and reviled the disciples and surrounded them, plotting to trap and ensnare them and make them their own.

Luke 23:34 Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them. They do not know what they are doing. The people divided Jesus' clothes by lot.

Philippians 2:1 Therefore, if you have any encouragement through Christ, encouragement of love, fellowship of the Spirit, zeal and mercy,

2:2 Be ye of the same mind, and of the same love; be ye of one mind, and of one heart, and of one mind, and ye shall fill me with joy.

2:3 Do not do anything out of partisanship or vanity, but in humility of mind make one another better than yourselves.

2:4 Consider not yourselves only, but also others.

2:5 Let the same mind be in you that is in Christ Jesus.

2:6 For though Christ was in the form of God, do not consider equality with God a thing to be adhered to; but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is good and acceptable and perfect in the sight of God,

2:7 Instead, He humiliated Himself and took the form of a servant, taking the form of a man.
2:8 And he abased himself, and was not like unto man,

2:8 He humbled Himself, and was obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

2:9 Therefore God exalted him and gave him a name above every name.

2:10 For at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow, of things in heaven, and things on earth, and things under the earth,

2:11 And that every tongue might confess, "Jesus Christ is Lord," and give glory to God the Father.

1 Timothy 2:4 For God desires that all men should be saved and come to a realization of the truth.

2:5 For there is one God, and one Mediator between God and man, and that is the man Christ Jesus.

Jesus came into the world as "the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" (John 1:29) and accomplished redemption. God has loved man and us unconditionally from the time

when man was God's enemy.

Romans 5:8 But while we were still sinners, God showed His love for us by the death of Christ for us.

God wants us to repent, be forgiven of our sins, and be saved.

Jonah did not think it was right to go to Nineveh, the capital of Assyria, to preach God's salvation, but it was God's will.

Jonah 4:10 The Lord said, "Thou hast not labored, neither hast thou brought it up: thou hast spared even this sesame tree, which arose in one night, and perished in another night.

4:11 How can I not spare Nineveh, a great city with more than 120,000 people who do not know right from left, and a multitude of cattle?

God frees us from all fear, shows us His resurrection body, tells us what it is, and shows us that He is the living and powerful One today. He proves it. Many times He appears to us on our journey through life, speaking to us, burning our hearts, and showing us that He is the One who eats the fish and shows us that He is real. We are to be taken out of fear and out of the closed gate, sent by the Lord to speak and work so that people may obtain forgiveness.

20:23 Whose sins you forgive, they shall be forgiven; and whose sins you leave unforgiven, they shall remain."

How great is what one gains in the name of Christ! What an honor it is for us to carry the name of Christ!

He sends us to rest, exhorting us to breathe, to receive the Holy Spirit, to kindle our smoldering embers, encouraging, comforting, and strengthening us. Let us open the door and let us go.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank you for today's worship. We thank you for the Lord's appearing to the disciples who were locked up with their doors locked in fear and anxiety, for filling them with joy, for releasing their fears, for empowering them, and for sending them for forgiveness. Please fill us with joy and power as you send us. Let us speak of His cross and resurrection that forgives the sins of many. Please lead all sufferers into the salvation and peace of God. Bless our families and the people in our community. We pray in the name of the Lord Jesus. Amen.