

Liturgy Alive of Thursday 2nd Week of Easter

Introduction

“God has put his Word into the mouth of people in order that it may be communicated to others. When the Word strikes one person, he or she speaks it to others. God has willed that we should seek and find his living Word, in the witness of a brother or sister, in the mouth of his people. Therefore, the Christian needs another Christian who speaks God’s Word to him or her.” (Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Life Together*) The core of our faith is that we owe a new life to Jesus, in whom we are reborn. The Spirit, whom he gives us without measure, prompts us to bear witness to Jesus and to his new life in us.

Opening Prayer

Lord, our God,
your Son Jesus Christ, came from you
and bore witness to the things
he had heard and seen.
He could not but bear witness to you.
Give us the Spirit of your Son, we pray you,
to speak your word and to live it,
that we may show Christ, your living Word,
to those who have not seen him.
We ask you this through Christ, our Lord.

General Intercessions

- That Christians may be ready to obey God more and to be led by his Spirit than to do what people want us to do, we pray:
- That our Christian communities may be inspired by the Holy Spirit to live the risen life of Christ consistently, we pray:
- That we may be more aware that eternal life is already in us, when even now, we believe that Christ is already raising us up to a deeper, richer life, we pray:

Prayer over the Gifts

Lord, our God,
it is not comfortable to be a witness
for it demands that like Jesus, your Son,
we live by the truth
and be ready to meet opposition.
Give us the Spirit of strength of your Son,
nourish us with his body and blood,
and when we fail in our mission,
let there be enough love found,
at least in our communities,
to speak of the love and the truth

which Christ brought us,
your Son and our Lord for ever.

Prayer after Communion

Lord, our God,
we have listened to your Son,
the living Word that you speak to us,
and we have shared his table.
By the power of the Spirit alive in us,
may we in turn speak
to one another and to the world
your liberating word.
May we possess this Word most deeply
when we have given it to others.
We ask you this through Christ, our Lord.

Blessing

“Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life.” Yes, we believe in Jesus, but we believe with an active faith, a faith that translates our belief into action, into life. That is a deep form of witnessing to Christ. May God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.