

# Readings April 12, 2026 – 2nd Sunday of Easter

## First Reading: Acts 5:29-42

<sup>29</sup> Peter and the other apostles replied: “We must obey God rather than human beings!

<sup>30</sup> The God of our ancestors raised Jesus from the dead—whom you killed by hanging him on a cross. <sup>31</sup> God exalted him to his own right hand as Prince and Savior that he might bring Israel to repentance and forgive their sins. <sup>32</sup> We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

<sup>33</sup> When they heard this, they were furious and wanted to put them to death. <sup>34</sup> But a Pharisee named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law, who was honored by all the people, stood up in the Sanhedrin and ordered that the men be put outside for a little while.

<sup>35</sup> Then he addressed the Sanhedrin: “Men of Israel, consider carefully what you intend to do to these men. <sup>36</sup> Some time ago Theudas appeared, claiming to be somebody, and about four hundred men rallied to him. He was killed, all his followers were dispersed, and it all came to nothing. <sup>37</sup> After him, Judas the Galilean appeared in the days of the census and led a band of people in revolt. He too was killed, and all his followers were scattered.

<sup>38</sup> Therefore, in the present case I advise you: Leave these men alone! Let them go! For if their purpose or activity is of human origin, it will fail. <sup>39</sup> But if it is from God, you will not be able to stop these men; you will only find yourselves fighting against God.”

<sup>40</sup> His speech persuaded them. They called the apostles in and had them flogged. Then they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.

<sup>41</sup> The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name. <sup>42</sup> Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 148:7-14

<sup>7</sup> Praise the LORD from the earth,  
you great sea creatures and all ocean depths,

<sup>8</sup> **lightning and hail, snow and clouds,  
stormy winds that do his bidding,**

<sup>9</sup> you mountains and all hills,  
fruit trees and all cedars,

<sup>10</sup> **wild animals and all cattle,  
small creatures and flying birds,**

<sup>11</sup> kings of the earth and all nations,  
you princes and all rulers on earth,

<sup>12</sup> **young men and women,  
old men and children.**

<sup>13</sup> Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
for his name alone is exalted;  
his splendor is above the earth and the heavens.

<sup>14</sup> **And he has raised up for his people a horn,  
the praise of all his faithful servants,  
of Israel, the people close to his heart.**

**Praise the Lord.**

### **Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9**

<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead <sup>4</sup> and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup> who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup> In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, <sup>7</sup> so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. <sup>8</sup> Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, <sup>9</sup> for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**