

[The Blessing of Thomas \(...or how to prove that online worship has some resurrection verification\)](#)

Posted on [April 17, 2020](#) by [Maren](#) C. Tirabassi

*"Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." (John 20:29b)*

Reunion – Thomas and Christ . Ernst Barlach

Blessed are the ones, says Thomas,  
to those who listen to him  
this eastertide,  
who don't need a sanctuary to worship God.

Blessed are those who don't need a choir  
to hear holy music,  
and who don't need to sit in a pew  
to open their hearts in prayer,  
and who don't need a stained glass window,  
or a preacher or even bread and cup  
to find the good news.

Blessed are those who really touch  
even with gloves on,  
who really smile with a mask,  
who can be kind on Facetime or Zoom,  
who follow a livestream to find Jesus alive.

But also blessed is the Thomas  
in every one of us  
who acknowledges our longing  
to hold someone's real warm hand  
not just the story of a hand  
that reaches out to someone else,  
  
and who wants to feel  
not Jesus long-ago bleeding side  
(we congratulate ourselves about that)  
but at least to feel side by side  
with other Christians  
in order to be side by side with Christ.

Blessed is the Thomas in all of us  
who lives with doubts and hopes,  
  
and learns to let go of all expectations  
when waiting to meet God.

