

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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THE REV. MARGARET NIEDERER – PASTOR
CAROL WEBER – CANTOR

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 28, 2024



This Sunday's image of how the risen Christ shares his life with us is the image of the vine. Christ the vine and we the branches are alive in each other, in the mystery of mutual abiding described in the gospel and the first letter of John. Baptism makes us a part of Christ's living and life-giving self and makes us alive with Christ's life. As the vine brings food to the branches, Christ feeds us at his table. We are sent out to bear fruit for the life of the world.

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ENTRANCE HYMN**Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds****LBW 143**

1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds in praise of love that
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings, there - fore our heart with
 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt-less love; set heart and will on
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring and with the heav'n-ly



still a - bounds: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 rap - ture sings: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 things a - bove that we con - quer through your tri - umph;
 bless - ed sing: "Christ has tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!"



Sing, choirs of an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song
 Now still he comes to give us life and by his pres -
 grant grace suf - fi - cient for life's day that by our lives
 Be to the Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest,



of glo - ry here: "Christ has tri - umphed! Christ has tri - umphed!"
 ence stills all strife. Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!
 we tru - ly say: Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!
 most ho - ly God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

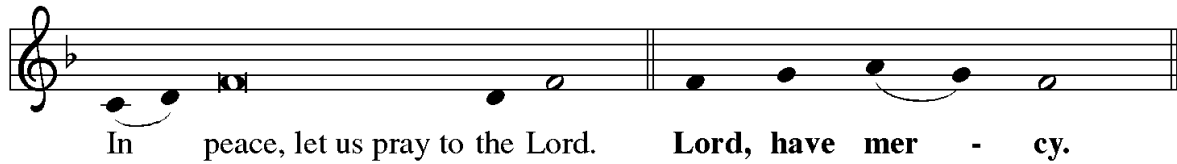
Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876–1947, alt.

Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623Text © 1958 *Service Book and Hymnal*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

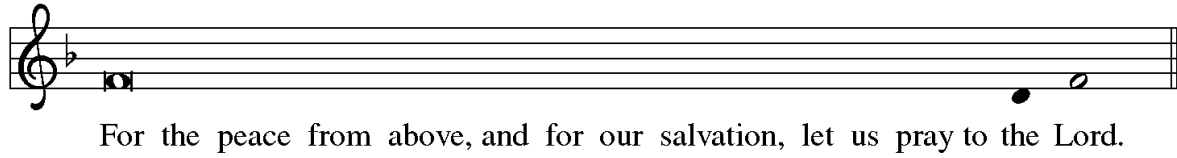
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GREETING**P. Alleluia, Christ is Risen!****C. The Lord is Risen indeed! Alleluia**

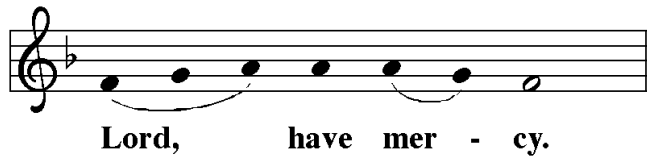
KYRIE



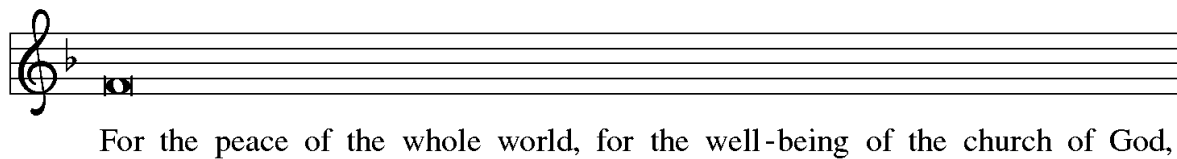
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



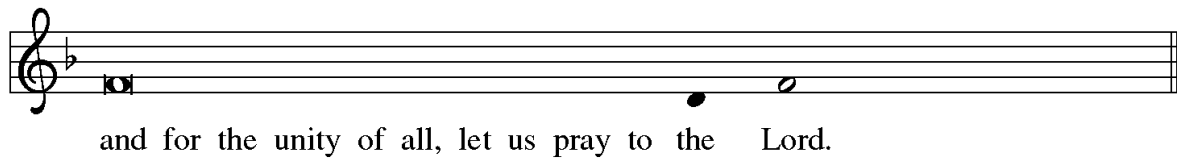
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



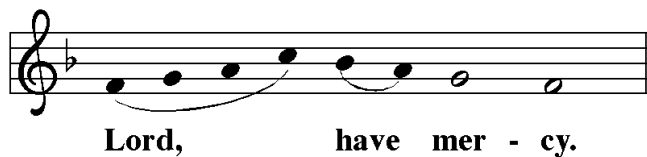
Lord, have mer - cy.



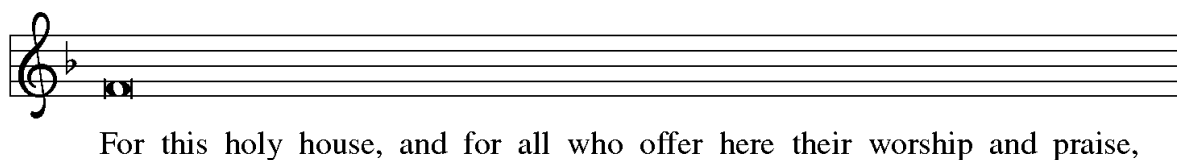
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



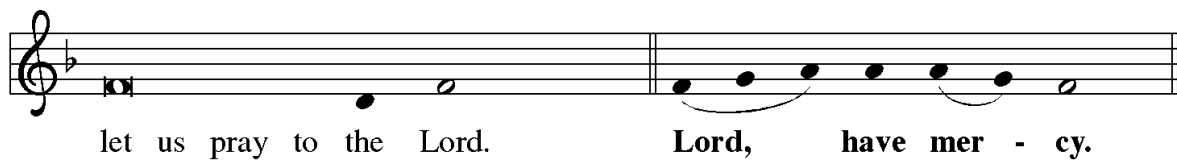
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



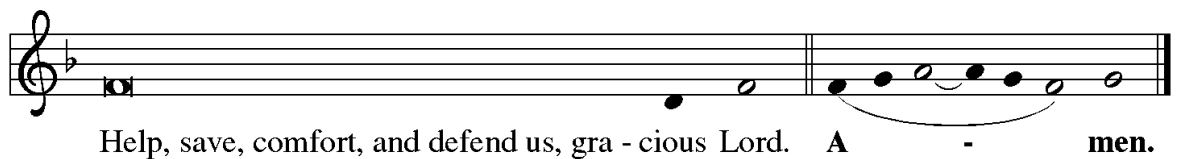
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



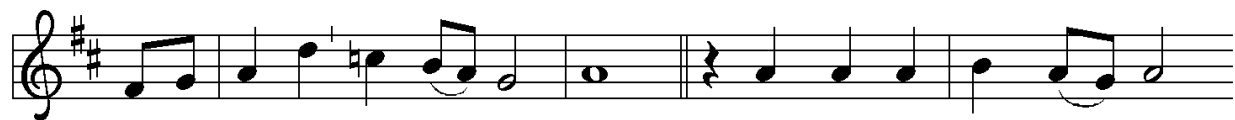
Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

HYMN OF PRAISE: *This Is the Feast of Victory*

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

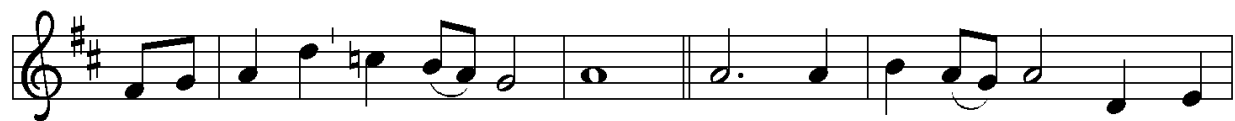


who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

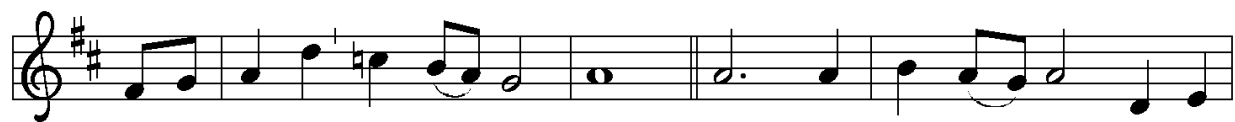


strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

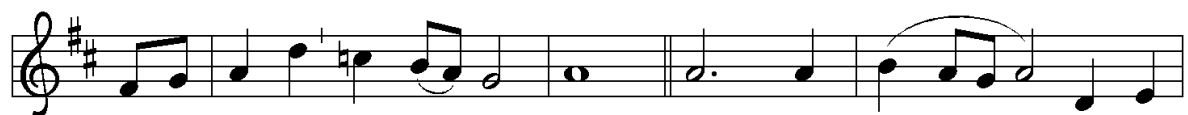


glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P. The Lord be with you.

C. And also with you.

P. Let us pray.

O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C. Amen.

Please be seated.

FIRST READING Acts 8:26-40

Led by the Spirit, Philip encounters an Ethiopian official who is returning to his African home after having been to Jerusalem to worship. Philip uses their encounter to proclaim the Gospel to him. Upon coming to faith in Jesus, he is baptized by Philip.

A. A reading from Acts, the 8th Chapter.

²⁶An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?
For his life is taken away from the earth."

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

A. The Word of the God. The Word of life.

C. Thanks be to God.

PSALM 22:25-31

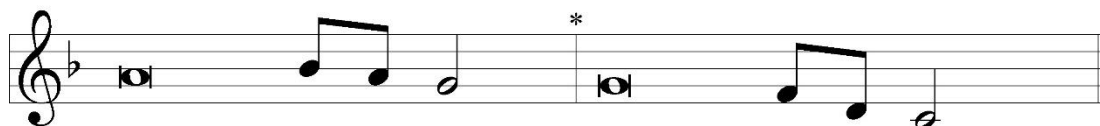
REFRAIN: *Sung first by the Choir, repeated by ALL thereafter.*

Jeremy Young



All the ends of the earth shall re-mem-ber and turn to the LORD.

The Psalm Verses are sung responsively to the following tone.



- ²⁵From you comes my praise in the | great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who | fear the LORD.
- ²⁶**The poor shall eat | and be satisfied,
Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts | live forever!**
- ²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD;
all the families of nations shall bow | before God.
- ²⁸**For dominion belongs | to the LORD,
who rules o- | ver the nations. REFRAIN**
- ²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow | down in worship;
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel be- | fore the LORD.
- ³⁰**Their descendants shall | serve the LORD,
whom they shall proclaim to genera- | tions to come.**
- ³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people | yet unborn,
saying to them, "The | LORD has acted!" **REFRAIN**

SECOND READING 1 John 4:7-21

We love God and others because God first loved us. We cannot say we love God, whom we have not seen, while hating fellow Christians, whom we regularly see. Love toward God is to be matched by love toward others because the essence of God is love.

A. A reading from 1st John, the 4th Chapter.

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

A. The Word of God. The Word of life.

C. Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ALL SING:



Music: Plainsong mode VI

Choir Verse:

I am the vine, you^l are the branches.*
Those who abide in me and I in them^l bear much fruit.. (John 15:5)

ALL REPEAT THE ALLELUIAS.

GOSPEL John 15:1-8

On the night of his arrest, Jesus taught his disciples about the relationship they would have with him. Those who abide in his word and love bear fruit, for apart from him, they can do nothing.

P. The Holy Gospel According to John, the 15th Chapter.

C. Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

P. The Gospel of the Lord.

C. Praise to you, O Christ.

ALL REPEAT THE ALLELUIAS.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Niederer

Silence for Meditation

Please stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Amid the World's Bleak Wilderness

LBW 378



1 A - mid the world's bleak wil - der - ness a vine - yard grows with
2 His love se - lect - ed this ter - rain; his vine with love he
3 We are his branch - es, cho - sen, dear, and though we feel the
4 From him we draw the juice of life, for him sup - ply his



prom - ise green, the plant - ing of the Lord him - self.
plant - ed here to bear the choic - est fruit for him.
dress - er's knife, we are the ob - jects of his care.
win - er - y with fruit from which true joys de - rive.



5 Vine, keep what I was meant to be: your



branch, with your rich life in me.

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919
Music: GRANTON, Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress





PRAYERS FOR HEALING & RENEWAL

P. We give you thanks, O God, source of life and health, for in Jesus you became flesh and came to know the depth of human suffering. You sent the disciples to heal those who were sick.

We ask that you bless us now as we remember our baptism that we may be healed, strengthened, and renewed by the power of your Holy Spirit.

C. Amen.

P. The ministry of Jesus invites us to new life in God and with each other. As we mark our foreheads with the sign of the cross, we proclaim the good news that God desires us to be healthy and one in the body of Christ, offering ourselves, whatever our sickness of spirit, mind, or body might be, to receive a sign of healing and wholeness in the name of the triune God.

In the name of our Savior Jesus Christ, you be strengthened and filled with God's grace, that you may know the healing power of God's Spirit.

C. Amen.

***Remembering your baptism,
make the sign of the cross on your forehead as Pastor says:***

P. Remember your baptism and receive the sign of forgiveness and healing in Christ Jesus by making the sign of the cross on your forehead.

C. Amen.

P. Let us pray.

God of mercy, source of all healing, we give you thanks for your gifts of strength and life, and especially for the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ, the health and salvation of the world.

Help us by your Holy Spirit to feel your healing power in our lives and experience your eternal love through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C. Amen.

HEALING HYMN

Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death

WOV 745



1 A - wake, O sleep - er, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light;
2 To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear re - lease,
3 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save;
4 For us Christ lived, for us he died, and con - quered in the strife.



so learn his love, its length and breadth, its full - ness, depth, and height.
to give the Spir - it's u - ni - ty, the ver - y bond of peace.
with kind and gen - tle hearts for - give as God in Christ for - gave.
A - wake, a - rise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984
Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829

© 1994 by the Board of Christian Music, Inc.





A. Let us confess our faith with Christians throughout the world by using the Nicene Creed.

NICENE CREED

**C. We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
 he came down from heaven:
 by the power of the Holy Spirit
 he was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
 he suffered, died, and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
 in fulfillment of the Scriptures;
 he ascended into heaven
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. AMEN.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Janet Thalmann

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church around the world, for all ministers, and for the mission of the gospel. Keep all the newly baptized and confirmed in your care. Cleanse our hearts with your word and help us to abide in you always. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For our partners in ministry here in Teaneck, in the Meadowlands Cluster, the Northern Mission District, the New Jersey Synod, Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the wider Christian Community, our friends from Light and Peace Mission in Haiti, and people of faith everywhere, as they live out their calling to serve. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For the well-being of the earth and of all created things: for rivers and lakes, streams and estuaries, melting glaciers and polluted waters. Renew the face of the earth and shower us with your goodness. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For the nations and all those in authority: for local, state, and national and international leaders, for elected representatives at every level, and for international organizations, that justice and peace may reign in Haiti, Ukraine, Israel, Gaza, Sudan, and every place in the world where there is violence or war. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For all those in need: for any experiencing homelessness or unemployment, for those fleeing from oppression or seeking asylum, for Christians and all who are being persecuted for their faith, for those who are ill or suffering, and for those we pray for in silence or aloud (*pause*). God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For this congregation: for the caring ministries of this faith community, for all who visit and minister to one another, for all who take communion to homes or care centers, and for all who seek to share your love with the world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

With thanksgiving for the saints who rest from their labors. Help us, like them, to bear much fruit and to become your disciples, and at the last, bring us to that heavenly banquet where all will feast together at your table. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

P. Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

C. Amen.

PEACE *Stay at your seat as you share a sign of peace.*

P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C. And also with you.

Please be seated.

OFFERING *Please place your offering in the plate located on the table at the back of the sanctuary before or after Worship.*

OFFERTORY HYMN

Now the Green Blade Rises

LBW 148



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958
Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol
Text from *Oxford Book of Carols*, © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved.

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Please stand.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A. Let us pray.

Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. **C. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P. The Lord be with you.

C. And also with you.

P. Lift up your hearts.

C. We lift them to the Lord.

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord.

C. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE PREFACE

P. It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior, Jesus who is the Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

Please kneel or be seated.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P. Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.
Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.
Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness
to the land of milk and honey.
Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.
Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.
Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, blessed, and broke it,
and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast.
Grace our table with your presence.

C. Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.
Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

C. Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God, blessed and Holy Trinity, now and forever.

C. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P. Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray the prayer Jesus taught us:

C. Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,

Now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.

Come and eat at God's table where all are welcome.

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.



CONTINUOUS COMMUNION

Please come forward for Communion following the Cantor/Choir, beginning with those in the back pews, from alternating sides, leaving adequate space between you and the person in front of you.

Masking is optional but recommended as you come forward to receive the wafer & cup until you step away from the communion tray.

A tray with individual cups is located in front of each pew section.

The center contains purple grape juice.

White wine is in the remainder of the tray.

After use, please deposit cup in receptacle at the end of pew section. Baptized Christians who recognize the presence of Christ in the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins and eternal life are welcome to receive communion. If you have not yet been baptized or have never before received Holy Communion, you may come forward to receive a blessing. Fold your arms across your chest to let the Pastor know you wish to receive a blessing.

Please stand.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING:

P. May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. C. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

ELW 204



Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks-giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A. Let us pray:

Shepherding God,

you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love.

Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

C. Amen.

BLESSING

P. Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C. Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P. The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope ✝ bless you now and always.

C. AMEN.

Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Please stand.

SENDING HYMN

We Know That Christ Is Raised

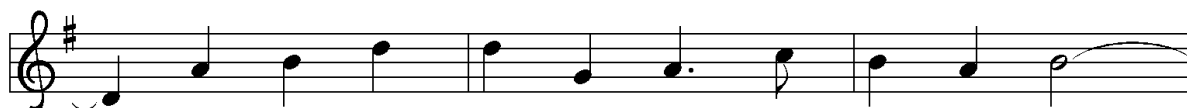
LBW 189



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.
3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.
4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows



Em - braced by death, he broke its fear - ful hold,
Re - born, we share with him an Eas - ter life,
The Spir - it's fis - sion shakes the church of God.
as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.
as liv - ing mem - bers of our Sav - ior Christ.
Bap - tized, we live with God the Three in One.
The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing:



Hal - le - lu - jah!

Text: John B. Geyer, b. 1932
Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852-1924
Text © John B. Geyer.

DISMISSAL

A. Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C. Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Alleluias

Robert Lau

**OUR SPECIAL THANKS TODAY
TO**

Kaitlin Shinholster, Greeter
Jack Martinez, Crucifer
Julie Buckingham, Liturgical Cantor
Lynn Buckingham, Liturgist & Reader
Janet Thalmann, Prayers of Intercession
Lynn Buckingham & Sue Papera, Altar Guild



After Mass Today

Refreshments available in the Memorial Room



April Birthdays

Lynn, Fred, and Christian

Wishing everyone with a birthday this month many blessings!!!
May God's face shine upon you all the days of your lives!



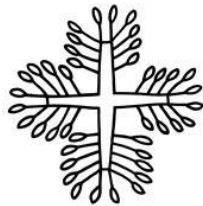
**At Grace in Memorial Room
Wednesday, May 1st, at 1:30 PM**

No Bible Study This Week



A BRIEF

**IN-PERSON CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2024, AFTER MASS
TO VOTE ON REPAIRS TO THE PARSONAGE & CHURCH BUILDING**



Pastor Niederer will be away Monday, April 29th – May 5th, Sunday

If you have need of a Pastor during that time,
please call Pastor Lisa Holliday, Trinity Lutheran Church, Bogota,
201-487-3576 or 201-768-9511

The Rev. Leah Ennis-Gasero will lead worship
at Grace Sunday, May 5th.



PRAYERS

Joan Costello (Jackie's mother-in-law & Kaitlin's & Lindsay's grandmother); Carol Weber; Doris Baumann (Carol's mom); Katie Wolfe (Carol's cousin with vision issues); Darla Lambson (Carol's sister's sister-in-law, suffering from an aggressive form of leukemia); Brad Gohmann and his family (Carol's nephew's uncle-in-law with cancer); Donald Lazlear and his family (Zulema's friends); Katie (Zulema's niece), Surella (Katie's mom); Rose Davis (Surella's friend with cancer); Marc & Bella Yaffe (Leslyn's and Michael's children); Leslyn Cooke; Melanie M. (Julie's friend); The cousin-in-law of Julie's coworker, undergoing rehab for injuries sustained in an automobile accident; Susan Bethke (Lynn's cousin undergoing chemo and other treatment for a brain tumor); Marion Soohoo (Will's Mother-in-law recovering from surgery); Arlene Rizzo (Sue's friend undergoing cancer treatments) and Arlene's family; Chris Palmer (Sue Papera's friend who has health concerns); Caleb (Sue's friend with mental health issues); Jenny L. (Sue's friend with health issues); Carol Mulvaney (Sue's friend with breast cancer); Edward Foley (back surgery, father of Nancy who does the payroll for Grace); Jason and Paul Thalmann (Janet's nephew and brother); Beverly Philip (a friend of Janet's sister-in-law with severe dementia); Kathy O'Brien (a co-worker of Janet Thalmann's sister-in-law); Bert Maltz (a friend of Janet's sister-in-law. Several health concerns); Michele Rusciano (a friend of Janet Thalmann's sister-in-law); Mark Crovatto (Al's son); Susan Beever (Mary Ellen's friend); Dominick Capalba (Mary Ellen's 6 year old friend with brain cancer); Patty Fitzgerald (Mary Ellen's sister with terminal lung cancer); Jessica and Casey O'Neil (Kay Roseen's daughter and son-in-law) who work for the State Department; John Steffen (Lorli's brother with health concerns); Tammy (Lorli's niece who has an immune disorder); James Ilgenfritz (Erika's son); Peter Schelbli (Erika's nephew with cancer); Kevin (a friend of the congregation undergoing treatment for cancer); Chris Niederer (Pastor's son with immune system disorder); Doris Feirer (a friend of the congregation); Dennis Keohane (Catherine's uncle); Charlie and Mary Lewis (Fred's brother and sister-in-law with health concerns); Donna Maxwell with health concerns; James Mingo (Donna's grandson with health concerns); Arouss Darpinian (friend of the congregation with health concerns); Hana Kim (health concerns); Mary Sue (health concerns); Marcia & Chuck Hendron (Kay's parents); US citizens imprisoned in Russia: Paul Whelan (in prison for over six years) and Evan Gershkovich (a Wall Street Journalist detained since March 29, 2023); the hostages in Gaza; Christians under persecution and all experiencing violence, captivity, or war: the people of Israel, Gaza, Palestine; Syria, Lebanon, Ukraine, Russia, Afghanistan; Sudan; organizations and individuals who are providing resources and care for refugees; front line workers, medical researchers; health care workers, national and regional relief officials; those affected by natural disasters and wildfires.

Let Lynn or Pastor know of any changes needed on the prayer list.



COMMEMORATIONS FOR THE WEEK

Catherine of Siena, theologian, died 1380

Monday, April 29, 2024

This theologian was the first woman among Roman Catholics to receive the title "Doctor [teacher] of the Church." Catherine was a Dominican sister known for her mystical visions as well as her work on behalf of people who were poor and imprisoned.

Philip and James, Apostles

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Philip was one of the first disciples of Jesus, and called Nathanael to "come and see." He later responded to an Ethiopian official's request for teaching and baptism. Little is known of James, the son of Alphaeus, called "the Less" to distinguish him from another apostle named James.

Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria, died 373

Thursday, May 2, 2024

Best remembered for defending the teaching that Christ was fully God against those who taught otherwise, Athanasius was an influential church leader around the time of the Council of Nicea. He was banished from Alexandria five times for his forthright views.

Monica, mother of Augustine, died 387

Saturday, May 4, 2024

Monica was married to a pagan husband who was ill-tempered and unfaithful, but whom she helped bring into the Christian faith. She repeated the influence on her son Augustine, who went on to become one of the greatest church teachers.

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