



# THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 4, 2025

*The disciples make a big splash and breakfast with the risen Lord in today's gospel. Wading in the water (remembering our Baptism) and eating with the risen Christ (celebrating the Holy Communion) is our weekly encounter with our risen Lord. He asks us, with Peter, again and again: Do you love me? He invites us, again and again, to follow him, bringing the Easter life to others.*

Prelude

*Concerto in D Major: Allegro~Adagio~Allegro*

Anonymous  
18<sup>th</sup> century

## ENTRANCE RITE

Hymn

### You Servants of God



1 You ser - vants of God, your mas - ter pro - claim, and pub - lish a -  
2 Our God rules on high, al - might - y to save; and still he is  
3 Sal - va - tion to God who sits on the throne! Let all cry a -  
4 Then let us a - dore and give him his right, all glo - ry and



broad his won - der - ful name; the name, all - vic - to - rious, of  
nigh, his pres - ence we have. The great con - gre - ga - tion his  
loud and hon - or the Son. The prais - es of Je - sus the  
pow'r and wis - dom and might, all hon - or and bless - ing, with



Je - sus ex - tol; his king - dom is glo - rious and rules o - ver all!  
tri - umph shall sing, as - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus, our king!  
an - gels pro - claim, fall down on their fac - es, and wor - ship the Lamb.  
an - gels a - bove, and thanks nev - er ceas - ing, and in - fin - ite love!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.  
Music: LYONS, Johann M, Haydn, 1737–1806, adapt.

### Easter Acclamation & Apostolic Greeting

**P:** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C:** **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**P:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C:** **And also with you.**

## Kyrie

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



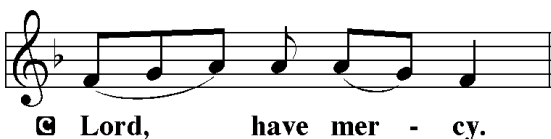
P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



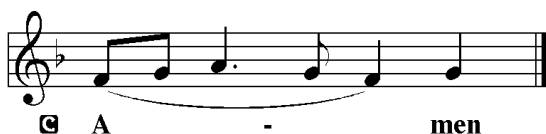
P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

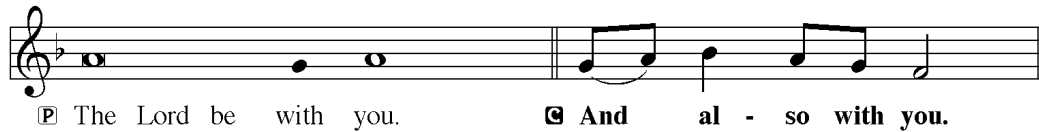


## Hymn of Praise



  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,  
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.   
Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and  
strength, and hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his.  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,  
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.   
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.  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,  
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.   
For the Lamb who was  
slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.  
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

## Salutation and Prayer of the Day



P: Let us pray.

**ALL:** Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

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## LITURGY OF THE WORD

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### First Lesson - Acts 9:1–6

*Each of us has a story of God's grace at work in our lives. Saul (later called Paul) was an ardent persecutor of all who followed the Way of the Christ. Acts 9 recounts the story of his transformation, beginning with a mystical encounter with the risen Christ on the way to Damascus.*

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest <sup>2</sup>and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup>Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. <sup>4</sup>He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" <sup>5</sup>He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. <sup>6</sup>But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do."

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

### Psalm 30

(sung in unison)

*This psalm is a hymn of praise and thanksgiving by one whom the Lord has saved from death.*

I will exalt you, O LORD, because you have lift- | ed me up\*  
and have not let my enemies triumph | over me.  
<sup>2</sup>O LORD my God, I cried | out to you,\*  
and you restored | me to health.  
<sup>3</sup>You brought me up, O LORD, | from the dead;\*  
you restored my life as I was going down | to the grave.  
<sup>4</sup>Sing to the LORD, you ser- | vants of his;\*  
give thanks for the remembrance | of his holiness.  
<sup>5</sup>For his wrath endures but the twinkling | of an eye,\*  
his favor | for a lifetime.  
<sup>6</sup>Weeping may | spend the night,\*  
but joy comes | in the morning.  
<sup>7</sup>While I felt secure, I said, "I shall never | be disturbed.\*  
You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong | as the mountains."  
<sup>8</sup>Then you | hid your face,\*  
and I was | filled with fear.  
<sup>9</sup>I cried to | you, O LORD;\*  
I pleaded with | the LORD, saying,  
<sup>10</sup>"What profit is there in my blood, if I go down | to the pit?\*"   
Will the dust praise you or de- | clare your faithfulness?

<sup>11</sup>Hear, O LORD, and have mer- | cy upon me;\*  
O LORD, | be my helper."  
<sup>12</sup>You have turned my wailing | into dancing;\*  
you have put off my sackcloth and clothed | me with joy.  
<sup>13</sup>Therefore my heart sings to you | without ceasing;\*  
O LORD my God, I will give you | thanks forever.

## Second Lesson - Revelation 5:11–14

*The vision of John recorded in Revelation offers a glimpse of cosmic worship on the Lord's Day.  
At its center is "the Lamb who was slain."*

<sup>11</sup>Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, <sup>12</sup>singing with full voice, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" <sup>13</sup>Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, "To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!" <sup>14</sup>And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshiped.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

## Alleluia Verse



## Holy Gospel - John 21:1–19

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twenty-first chapter.



*The risen Christ appears again to his disciples by the sea where they were first called. After echoes of the fishing and feeding miracles, he gives a final reminder of the cost of a disciple's love and obedience.*

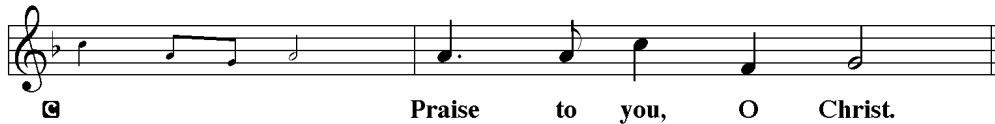
After he appeared to his followers in Jerusalem, Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. <sup>2</sup>Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. <sup>3</sup>Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. <sup>4</sup>Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>5</sup>Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." <sup>6</sup>He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. <sup>7</sup>That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. <sup>8</sup>But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. <sup>9</sup>When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." <sup>11</sup>So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. <sup>12</sup>Jesus said to them, "Come



they knew it was the Lord. <sup>13</sup>Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. <sup>14</sup>This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. <sup>15</sup>When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." <sup>16</sup>A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." <sup>17</sup>He said to him the third time, "Simon son of

John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. <sup>18</sup>Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." <sup>19</sup>(He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



Sermon

Pastor Roberts

*silence for reflection*

Hymn of the Day

## The Church of Christ, in Every Age



1 The church of Christ, in ev - 'ry age be - set by  
2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims  
3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing  
4 For he a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the  
5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -



change, but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its  
of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for  
church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's  
fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to  
be - dience to our Lord; to care for all, with -



her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.  
bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.  
sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.  
share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.  
out re - serve, and spread his lib - er - at - ing word.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: WAREHAM, William Knapp, 1698–1768

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## The Creed

P: Using the words of our ancestors in the faith as expressed in the Apostles' Creed, we proclaim the triune God whom we believe:

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

## The Prayers

A: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

A: O God, your love sustains the Church and its ministries. By that love, equip youth directors, Sunday Church School teachers, and all who guide formation in this congregation to nurture vibrant, living faith among your people. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Your abundance is made known throughout creation. Help us preserve oceans and rivers, lakes and estuaries so that all creatures living in them might flourish. Make us wise stewards of our local watersheds. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Your wisdom guides all who strive for justice and peace. Strengthen the work of grassroots organizers, especially among communities on the frontlines of justice work. Amplify the voices of those most in need, that their leadership guides the way forward. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Your compassion surrounds all who are in need. We pray for all people experiencing poverty and food insecurity, and for all struggling with debt and economic uncertainty. Reassure all who experience hopelessness or need your tender care. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: You invite all people to your table of grace. Make this a faith community of radical hospitality where all feel loved and celebrated. Help us welcome visitors to the mysteries of your love as you bless the ministries of hospitality in this place. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: We praise you for the witness of your saints of all times and places. May their lives of faith guide us in our own journeys with you, today and every day. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**ALL: Amen**

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# LITURGY OF THE MEAL

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## The Peace

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

C: **And also with you.**

## Offering

### Offertory Anthem

*O Risen Lord*

K. Lee Scott  
(b. 1950)

O risen Lord, O glorious Son, Now is the mighty battle won:  
Songs of praising we are raising: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

On the third morning he arose Shining in victory o'er his foes;  
Earth is singing, heaven is ringing: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

After the death that him befell, Christ, Our Lord, has harrowed hell;  
Sing with gladness, gone is sadness: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

On this most holy day of days, Let us our hearts and voices raise;  
May our living be thanksgiving: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

(Text: John Mason Neale)

[Alexander Lobb, oboe]

## Offertory



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our  
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the  
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the  
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

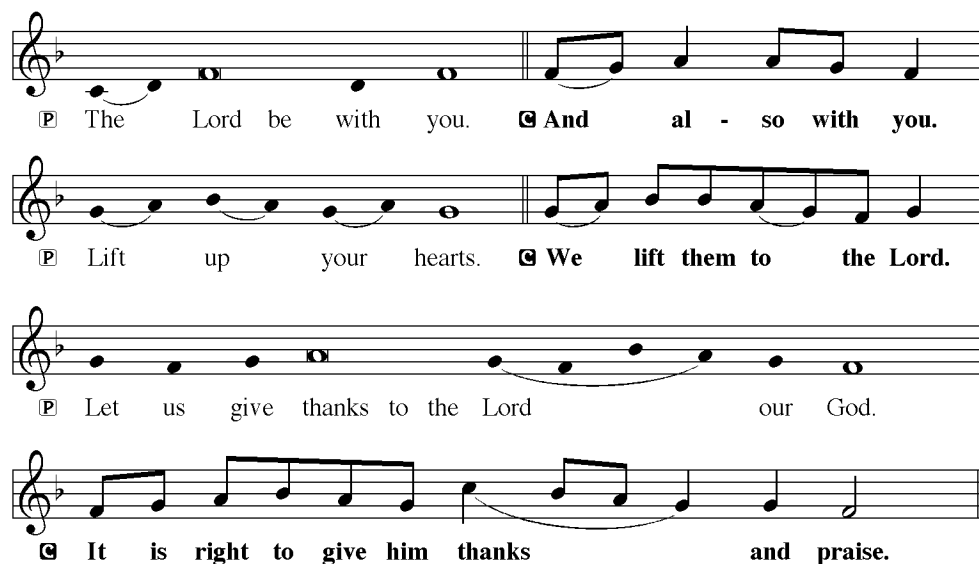
## Offertory Prayer

A: Let us pray. Merciful Father,

**ALL:** we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time,  
and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who  
offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



## Great Thanksgiving



♩ The Lord be with you. ☩ And al - so with you.

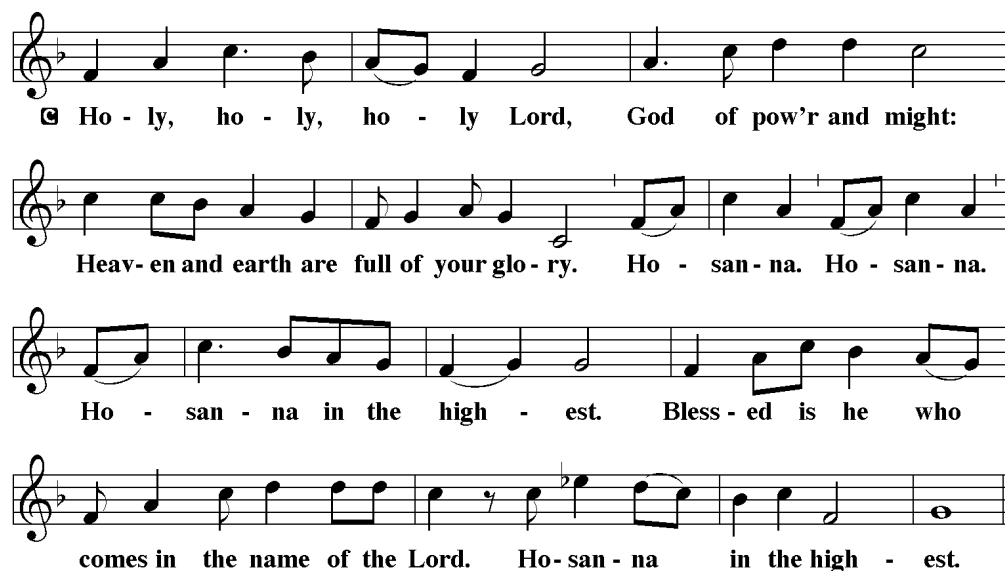
♩ Lift up your hearts. ☩ We lift them to the Lord.

♩ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

☩ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

## Proper Preface

## 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.

## Eucharistic Prayer

### Lord's Prayer

**C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen**

## Communion with our Risen Lord

### Agnus Dei

**L**amb 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.

### Hymns

#### We Who Once Were Dead

1 We who once were dead now live, ful - ly know - ing Je - sus  
2 We were lost in night, but you sought and found us. Give us  
3 He be - came our bread; Je - sus died to save us. On him  
4 Let us share the pain you en - dured in dy - ing; we shall  
as our head. Life is o - ver-flow - ing when he breaks the bread.  
strength to fight; death is all a-round us. Je - sus, be our light.  
we are fed, eat - ing what he gave us, ris - ing from the dead.  
then re - main liv - ing; death de - fy - ing, we shall rise a - gain.  
5 Jesus, you were dead,  
but you rose and, living,  
made yourself our bread,  
in your goodness giving  
life though we were dead.  
6 This is your design;  
in this meal we meet you.  
Be our bread and wine,  
Jesus, we entreat you.  
This shall be our sign.

Text: Muus Jacobse, 1909–1972; tr. composite  
Music: MIDDEN IN DE DOOD, Rik Veelenturf, b. 1936  
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### ***Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing***

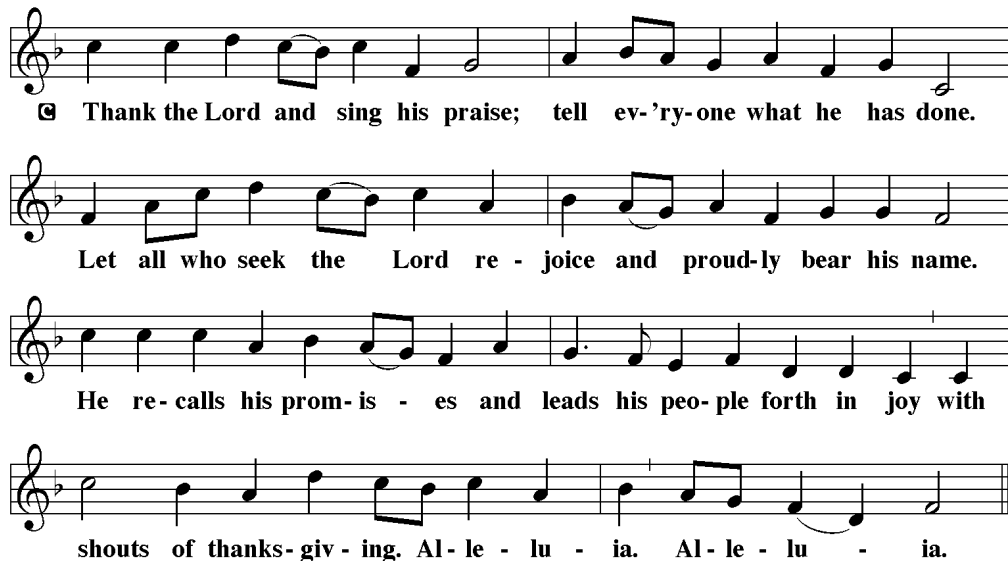
- 1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.  
His cross stands empty to the sky.  
Let streets and homes with praises ring.  
In death his love shall never die.
- 2 Christ is alive! No longer bound  
To distant years in Palestine,  
He comes to claim the here and now  
And conquer ev'ry place and time.
- 3 Not throned afar, remotely high,  
Untouched, unmoved by human pains,  
But daily, in the midst of life,  
Our Savior with the Father reigns.
- 4 In ev'ry insult, rift, and war,  
Where color, scorn, or wealth divide,  
He suffers still, yet loves the more,  
And lives, though ever crucified.
- 5 Christ is alive! Ascended Lord –  
He rules the world his Father made,  
Till, in the end, his love adored  
Shall be to all on earth displayed.

### Post-Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: **Amen**

### Post-Communion Canticle



☞ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.

Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear his name.

He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his 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.

Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen**

## Benediction




Almighty God, Father,  $\dagger$  Son,  
and Holy Spirit, bless you now . . . and for - ever.


**A - men**

## Hymn


### Blessing and Honor




1 Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and pow'r,  
2 Let all the heav - ens re - sound with his name;  
3 Ev - er as - cend - ing the song and the joy,  
4 Give we the glo - ry and praise to the Lamb!




wis - dom and rich - es and strength ev - er - more,  
let all the earth sing his glo - ry and fame.  
ev - er de - scend - ing the love from on high;  
Take we the robe and the harp and the psalm;



of - fer to him who our bat - tle has won,  
O - cean and moun - tain, stream, for - est, and flow'r  
bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and praise—  
sing we the song of the Lamb who was slain,



whose are the king - dom, the crown, and the throne;  
ech - o his prais - es and tell of his pow'r;  
this is the theme of the hymns that we raise;  
dy - ing in weak - ness and ris - ing to reign;



whose are the king - dom, the crown, and the throne!  
ech - o his prais - es and tell of his pow'r.  
this is the theme of the hymns that we raise.  
dy - ing in weak - ness and ris - ing to reign!

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–1889, alt.  
Music: AMERICAN HYMN, Matthias Keller, 1813–1875

## Dismissal

**A:** Our service now begins. Go in peace. Serve the risen Lord.  
**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

### *Festival Voluntary*

Flor Peeters  
(1903-1986)

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Debra and Tom Schwab  
in celebration of Tom's retirement after forty-six years with the United States Postal Service.

The candles are given to the glory of God by Moira Rafferty and Rob Bass  
in memory of R. Gerald Bass.

<b>THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY</b>		
<b>Sunday, May 4</b>	8:30 a.m.	Service of Holy Communion
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Church School
	10:30 a.m.	Service of Holy Communion with Livestream via YouTube
	12:00 p.m.	Intermediate Youth (grades three - five)
	2:00 p.m.	Pastor's Information Class
	5:00 p.m.	Junior & Senior Youth (grades six - twelve)
<b>Monday, May 5</b>	9:00 a.m.	Strength and Balance Exercise Class
	9:30 a.m.	Chair Yoga Class
<b>Tuesday, May 6</b>	5:40 p.m.	Handbell Choir Rehearsal
<b>Wednesday, May 7</b>	9:00 a.m.	Parish Nurse in office (until 10:00 a.m.)
	12:10 p.m.	Service of Holy Communion
	7:00 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal
<b>Thursday, May 8</b>	11:00 a.m.	Sermon Discussion Group
<b>Friday, May 9</b>	9:00 a.m.	Strength and Balance Exercise Class
	9:30 a.m.	Chair Yoga Class
<b>Sunday, May 11</b>	8:30 a.m.	Service of Holy Communion and Home Communion
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Church School
	10:30 a.m.	Service of Holy Communion with Livestream via YouTube and Home Communion

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**Our Mission: "To care actively in the name of Jesus Christ."**

**Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
1000 Langhorne Road  
Lynchburg, Virginia 24503**

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**President:** Eric R. Kenny  
**Organist-Choirmaster:** J. William Greene  
**Parish Administrator:** Carol Dee Robertson  
**Parish Nurse:** Gail Midkiff

**Pastor:** Dennis S. Roberts  
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