



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 30, 2023

Today is traditionally called "Good Shepherd Sunday." Jesus of Nazareth is called the "gate" of the sheep in today's gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and comes to us in the waters of Holy Baptism. Each week, he spreads a feast before us in the midst of the world's violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God's tender care to all creation.

Prelude

Solemn Procession

William Lloyd Webber
(1914-1982)

ENTRANCE RITE

Hymn

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!



1 Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day; Al - le - lu - ia!
2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 Christ, the vic - tim un - de - filed, Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Chris - tians, on this ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!



Chris - tians, has - ten on your way; Al - le - lu - ia!
sin - less in the sin - ner's stead. Al - le - lu - ia!
God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled, Al - le - lu - ia!
all your grate - ful hom - age pay; Al - le - lu - ia!



of - fer praise with love re - plete, Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!
when con - tend - ing death and life, Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!



at the pas - chal vic - tim's feet. Al - le - lu - ia!
now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!
met in strange and awe - some strife. Al - le - lu - ia!
now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!

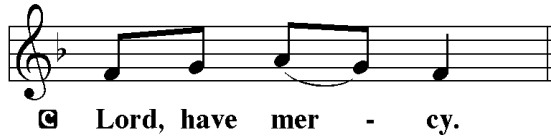
Apostolic Greeting

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



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

☐ 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

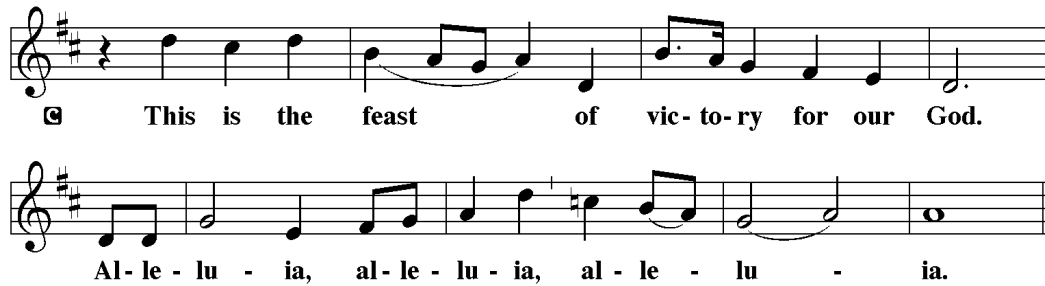
join in the hymn of all cre- a - tion: Bless- ing, hon-or, glo- ry, and

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

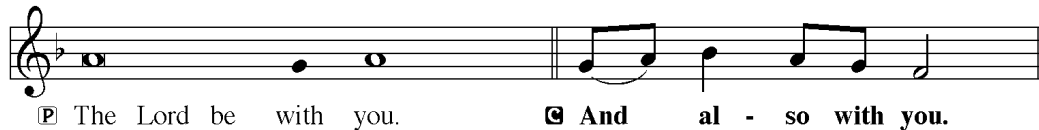
☐ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu - ia,

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

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



Salutation and Prayer of the Day



P: Let us pray.

ALL: O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Lesson - Acts 2:42-47

Today's reading is a description of life in the community following Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit was poured out upon God's people. This new community is founded on the teachings of the apostles and sustained in the breaking of the bread.

⁴²The baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴³Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. ⁴⁴All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23

(sung in unison)

The Lord is shepherd and guide. God is present in the time of danger and is generous and merciful.

The LORD¹ is my shepherd;*

I shall not¹ be in want.

²He makes me lie down¹ in green pastures*

and leads me be-¹side still waters.

³He re-¹vives my soul*

and guides me along right pathways¹ for his name's sake.

⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall¹ fear no evil;*

for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they¹ comfort me.

⁵You spread a table before me in the presence of those who¹ trouble me;*

you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is ¹ running over.
⁶ Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days ¹ of my life,*
and I will dwell in the house of the ¹ LORD forever.

Second Lesson - 1 Peter 2:19–25

Doing the right things does not guarantee that one will not experience difficulties, hardships, rejection, or even suffering. Here, Jesus the Christ is presented as the model for our path of endurance and loyalty to God, particularly in the midst of adversity.

¹⁹It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

²²"He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth."

²³When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

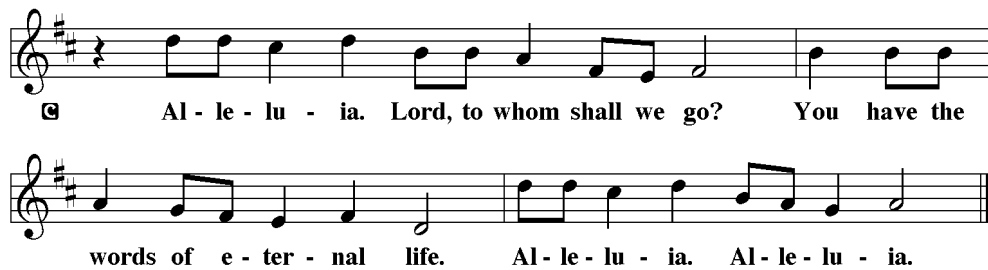
²⁵For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Alleluia Verse

(The congregation sings the refrain (R) as indicated.)



Holy Gospel - John 10:1-10

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

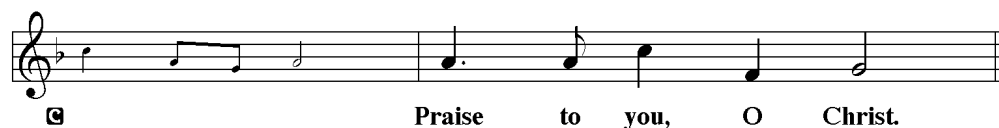


*Jesus of Nazareth uses an image familiar to the people of his day to make a point about spiritual leadership.
Good shepherds bring people to life through Christ, but those who avoid him are dangerous to the flock.*

Jesus said: "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



Sermon

Pastor Roberts

Hymn of the Day

The King of Love My Shepherd Is



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed
3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in
4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
soul he lead - eth and, where the ver - dant
love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
Lord, be - side me, thy rod and staff my



I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.
pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
com - fort still; thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
thine unction grace bestoweth;
and, oh, what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so, through all the length of days,
thy goodness faileth never.
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever.

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877
Music: St. COLUMBA, Irish tune

Apostles' 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, you are the shepherd who gathers us in your mighty and loving arms. Help your Church to listen for your voice, especially when the voices of sin, idolatry, and oppression threaten to overpower us. Hear us, O God.
- C: **Your mercy is great.**
- A: The green pastures, still waters, and dark valleys of this earth all belong to you, O Lord. Sustain your creation with a love that is both mighty and just. Where there is destruction, help us bring healing. Where there is desolation, help us bring abundance. Hear us, O God.
- C: **Your mercy is great.**
- A: You proclaim shepherding love, comfort, and protection for all people and all of creation. Direct leaders in our own time to learn from your example and instruction. Give them servant hearts, that they generously seek the good of all. Hear us, O God.
- C: **Your mercy is great.**
- A: You journey with us wherever our paths may lead. We pray for those feeling overwhelmed by anxiety or depression or suffering in any way. Hear us, O God.
- C: **Your mercy is great.**
- A: You are the sheepgate that gives safety to your beloved flocks. Help us provide protection for refugees, victims of domestic violence, those who are imprisoned, and all people who are vulnerable to violence and mistreatment. Hear us, O God.
- C: **Your mercy is great.**
- A: You call your sheep by name and lead them through the valley of death. We give you thanks for those who have died and now dwell in your presence forever. Be with those who mourn, and give them hope in the promise of resurrection. 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**

LITURGY OF THE MEAL

The Peace

- P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C: **And also with you.**

Offering

Offertory Anthem


Loving Shepherd arranged from Cantata 29

J. S. Bach
(1685-1750)

*Loving shepherd, comfort and guide us, Keep us in thy tender care.
And in thy mercy stay beside us, safely thy lambs now gather,
Bring us in faith together, And thy pastures now prepare.*

*And when I walk with darkness around me, Thou art near and I will fear no ill.
So with thy love and kindness surround me, Goodness and mercy bringing,
From living water springing, Lord of Love grant me thy comfort still.*

Offertory



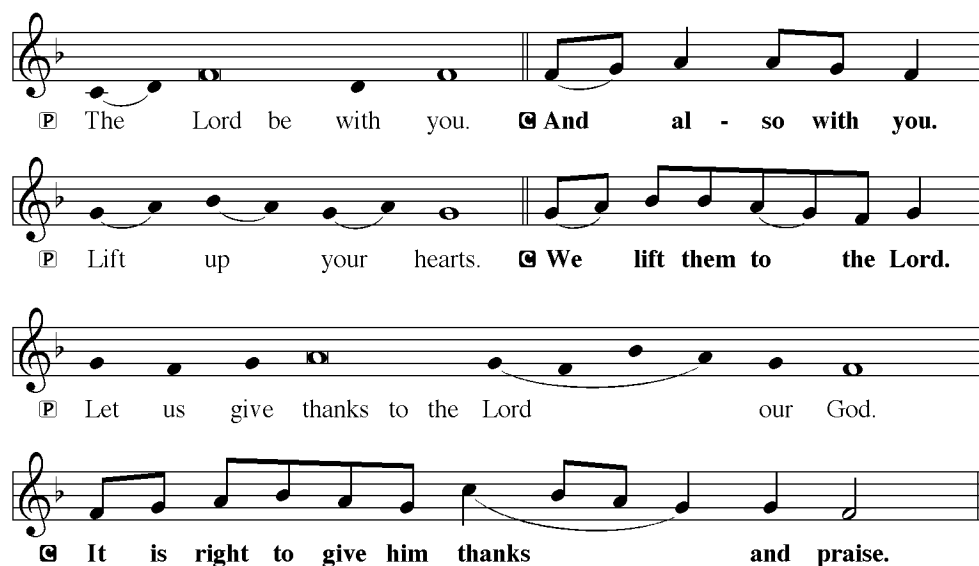
Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your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

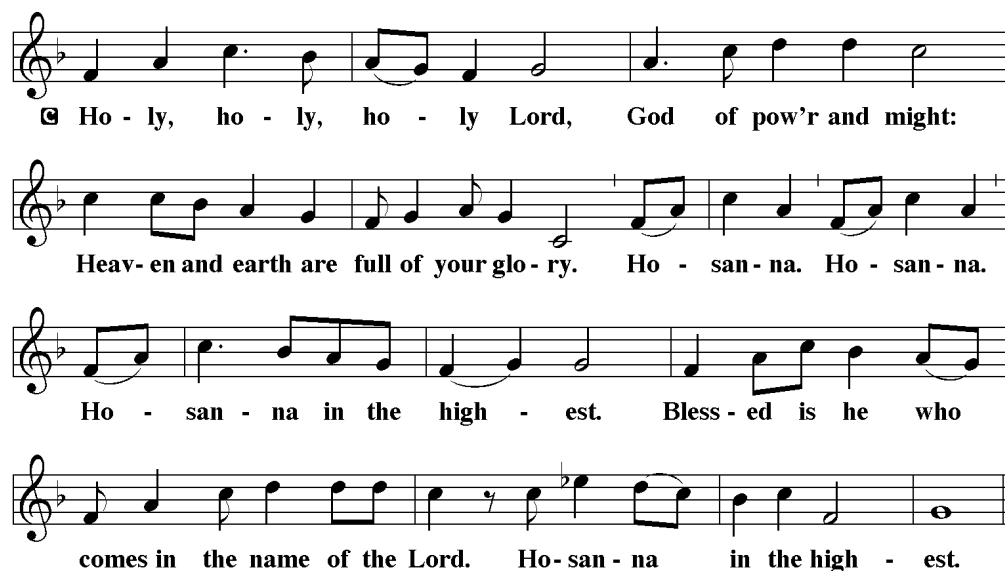
♩ Lift up your hearts. ☩ We lift them to the Lord.

♩ 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

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.

Hymns

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart *Gift of Finest Wheat*

Refrain

You sat - is - fy the hun - gry heart with gift of fin - est wheat.
Come give to us, O sav - ing Lord, the bread of life to eat.

- 1 As when the shep-herd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;
- 2 With joy - ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat - i - tude
- 3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out-poured?
- 4 The mys - t'ry of your pres-ence, Lord, no mor - tal tongue can tell:
- 5 You give your-self to us, O Lord; then self - less let us be,

Refrain

so when you call your fam-'ly, Lord, we fol - low and re - joice.
that you should count us wor - thy, Lord, to share this heav'n-ly food.
Do not one cup, one loaf, de - clare our one - ness in the Lord?
whom all the world can - not con-tain comes in our hearts to dwell.
to serve each oth - er in your name in truth and char - i - ty.

Now the Silence

Now the si - lence Now the peace Now the emp - ty hands up - lift - ed

Now the kneel - ing Now the plea Now the Fa - ther's arms in wel - come

Now the hear - ing Now the pow'r Now the ves - sel brimmed for pour - ing

Now the bod - y Now the blood Now the joy - ful cel - e - bra - tion

Now the wed - ding Now the songs Now the heart for - giv - en leap - ing

Now the Spir - it's vis - i - ta - tion Now the Son's e - piph - a - ny

Now the Fa - ther's bless - ing Now Now Now

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Now the Silence'. It consists of seven staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below each staff. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final cadence on the last staff.

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919
Music: NOW, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929
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Post-Communion Blessing

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

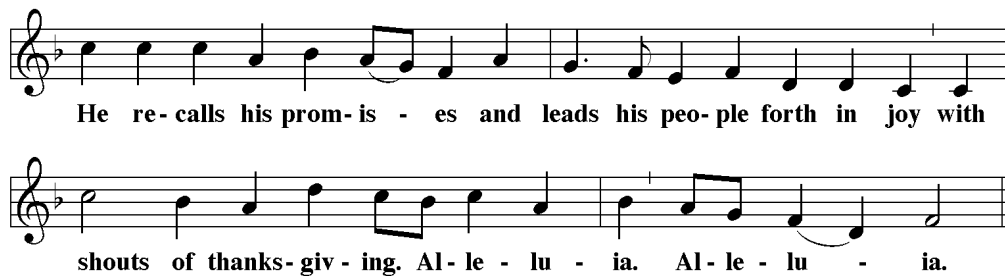
C: **Amen**

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 - joice and proud-ly bear his name.

The image shows a musical score for the Post-Communion Canticle. It consists of two staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a cross symbol (☞). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final cadence on the second staff.



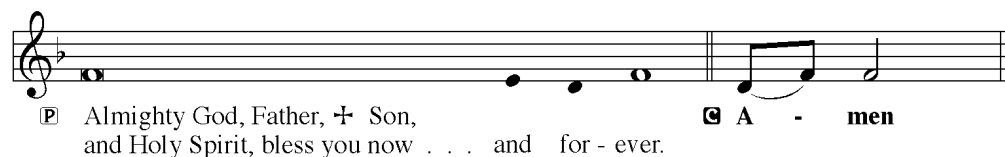
Post-Communion Prayer

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



Hymn

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us



1 Sav - ior like a shep-herd lead us; much we need your ten - der care.
2 We are yours; in love be - friend us, be the guard-ian of our way;
3 You have prom-ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;
4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor, ear - ly let us do your will;



In your pleas-ant pas-tures feed us, for our use your fold pre-pare.
keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.
you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.



Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.



Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.

Dismissal

A: Our service now begins. Go in peace. Serve the risen Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Epilogue

William Lloyd Webber



The altar flowers are given to the glory of God by the Schwab Family
in memory of Tom's brother, Bob Schwab.

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

Sunday, April 30	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
Monday, May 1	9:15 a.m.	Strength and Balance Exercise Class
	9:50 a.m.	Chair Yoga Class
Tuesday, May 2	5:40 p.m.	Handbell Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday, May 3	10:00 a.m.	Women's Sewing Group
	12:10 p.m.	Service of Holy Communion
	7:00 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, May 4	9:00 a.m.	Parish Nurse in office (until 10:00 a.m.)
Friday, May 5	9:15 a.m.	Strength and Balance Exercise Class
	9:50 a.m.	Chair Yoga Class
Saturday, May 6	10:00 a.m.	Altar Guild
Sunday, May 7	8:30 a.m.	Service of Holy Communion
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Church School
	10:30 a.m.	Service of Holy Communion and Rite of Confirmation with Livestream via YouTube
	11:30 a.m.	Reception for Confirmands
	4:00 p.m.	Holy Trinity Youth

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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**

Ministers: The People of Holy Trinity

President: Eric R. Kenny

Pastor: Dennis S. Roberts

Organist-Choirmaster: J. William Greene

Director of Youth and Campus Ministries:

Parish Administrator: Carol Dee Robertson

Susan H. Williams

Parish Nurse: Gail Midkiff

Sextons: Linda Woody and Patricia Wiggington

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