



SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 12, 2026

Today's gospel tells the story about the risen Christ appearing to the disciples and giving them the gift of peace. Even amid doubts and questions, we experience the resurrection in our weekly gatherings around word and meal and in our everyday lives. Throughout the coming Sundays of Easter, the first two readings will be from the Acts of the Apostles and the first letter of Peter. Even as the early Christians proclaimed the resurrection, we rejoice in the new birth and living hope we receive in Holy Baptism.

Prelude

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!

arr. David Schelat
(b. 1955)

ENTRANCE RITE

Hymn

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice and sing! Now is the
2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; bring flow'rs of
3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that
4 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to -



tri - umph of our king! To all the world glad news we bring:
song to strew his way; let all the world re - joice and say:
life which can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
day with one ac - cord, the life laid down, the life re - stored:



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

Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872–1955, alt.
Music: GELOBT SEI GOTT, Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615

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Easter Acclamation & Apostolic Greeting

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

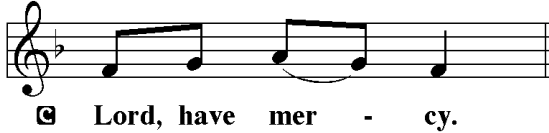
C: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

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

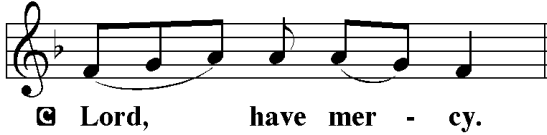
C: **And also with you.**

Kyrie

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



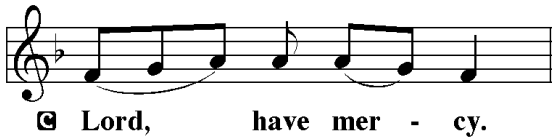
P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



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.



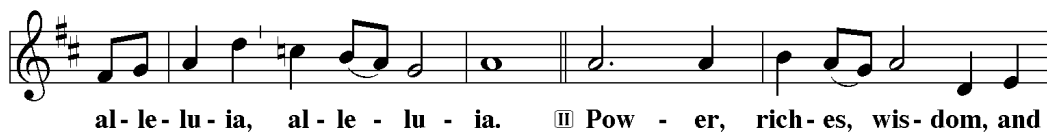
P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



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



Hymn of Praise



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

☐ The Lord be with you. ☐ And al - so with you.

P: Let us pray.

ALL: Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Lesson - Acts 2:14a, 22–32

After the Holy Spirit came to the apostles on Pentecost, Peter preaches the gospel to the gathered crowd. He tells them that Jesus of Nazareth, who obediently went to his death and was raised from the dead by God. Finally, he appeals to scripture, quoting Psalm 16:8-11, to show that Jesus is the Messiah: though crucified, the risen Christ is now enthroned.

^{14a}Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the people: ²²"You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know — ²³this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. ²⁴But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ²⁵For David says concerning him,

'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;

²⁶therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
moreover my flesh will live in hope.

²⁷For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
or let your Holy One experience corruption.

²⁸You have made known to me the ways of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

²⁹Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

'He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.'

³²This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 16

(sung in unison)

*Contentment, refuge, and joy are found in the presence of the Lord.
To the faithful one, God will show the path of life.*

**Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;*
I have said to the LORD, "You are my LORD, my good above all other."**

**²All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land,*
upon those who are noble among the people.**

**³But those who run after other gods*
shall have their troubles multiplied.**

**⁴Their libations of blood I will not offer,*
nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.**

**⁵O LORD, you are my portion and my cup;*
it is you who hold my lot.**

**⁶My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;*
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.**

**⁷I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel;*
my heart teaches me night after night.**

**⁸I have set the LORD always before me;*
because he is at my right hand, I shall not fall.**

⁹My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spir- | it rejoices;*
 my body also shall | rest in hope.
¹⁰For you will not abandon me | to the grave,*
 nor let your holy one | see the pit.
¹¹You will show me the | path of life;*
 in your presence there is fullness of joy,
 and in your right hand are pleasures for- | evermore.

Second Lesson - 1 Peter 1:3-9

This epistle was written to encourage Christ-followers experiencing hardships and suffering because of their faith. The letter opens by blessing God for the living hope we have through the Christ's resurrection even in the midst of difficult circumstances and surroundings.

³Blessed 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, ⁴and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷so 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. ⁸Although 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, ⁹for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Alleluia Verse

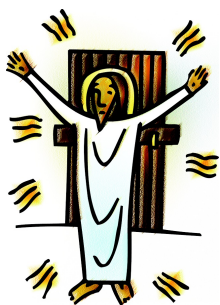


Holy Gospel - John 20:19–31

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



The risen Christ appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. However, one of their number is missing and Thomas' pragmatic realism prompts another visit from the risen Lord.



¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of those who had crucified Jesus, the risen Christ came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

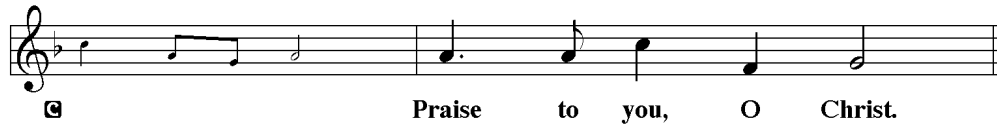
²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."



³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book.

³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



Sermon

Pastor Roberts

silence for reflection

Hymn of the Day

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight



1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with
 2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor
 3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and
 4 That, when our life of faith is done, in



gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as
 fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise
 may our faith a - bound to call on you when
 realms of clear - er light we may be - hold you



none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."
 we re - joice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"
 you are near and seek where you are found:
 as you are, with full and end - less sight.

Text: Henry Alford, 1810-1871, alt.
 Music: DUNLAP'S CREEK, Samuel McFarland, fl. 1816

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: Almighty God, you give life to the dead and call into existence things that do not exist. Breathe your Spirit upon us, that our faith may be renewed day by day. Merciful God,

C: **receive our prayer.**

A: Maker of heaven and earth, your mercies are new every morning. Open us to the wonders of creation, from the beauty of flowers to the complexity of subatomic particles. Merciful God,

C: **receive our prayer.**

A: God of peace, in every place where conflict rages, sow seeds of calm and openness to reconciliation. Strengthen the resolve of leaders and citizens to work for peace in their nations. Merciful God,

C: **receive our prayer.**

A: Healing God, come alongside all who are doubting, fearful, or suffering in any way. Reveal to them your presence and assure them of the inheritance you have prepared for them. Merciful God,

C: **receive our prayer.**

A: Giver of joy, let this congregation be a place of genuine love and mutual affection. Deepen our care for one another and help us to embody your forgiving and sacrificial love. Merciful God,

C: **receive our prayer.**

A: Eternal One, we give thanks for saints who were faithful unto death and have joined the Church triumphant. Inspire us by their witness and bring us with them into your glorious presence. Merciful God,

C: **receive our prayer.**

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

O Sons and Daughters of the King

Paul Sjolund
(b. 1935)

*O sons and daughters of the King, Whom heavenly hosts in glory sing,
Today the grave has lost its sting : Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia!*

*On this most holy day of days To God your hearts and voices raise
In songs of joy and shouts of praise: Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia!*

*And we the holy Church unite, As evermore is just and right,
In glory to the King of light.*

*O sons and daughters of the King, Whom heavenly hosts in glory sing,
Today the grave has lost its sting: Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia!*

(text: Jean Tisserand, d. 1494)

Offertory

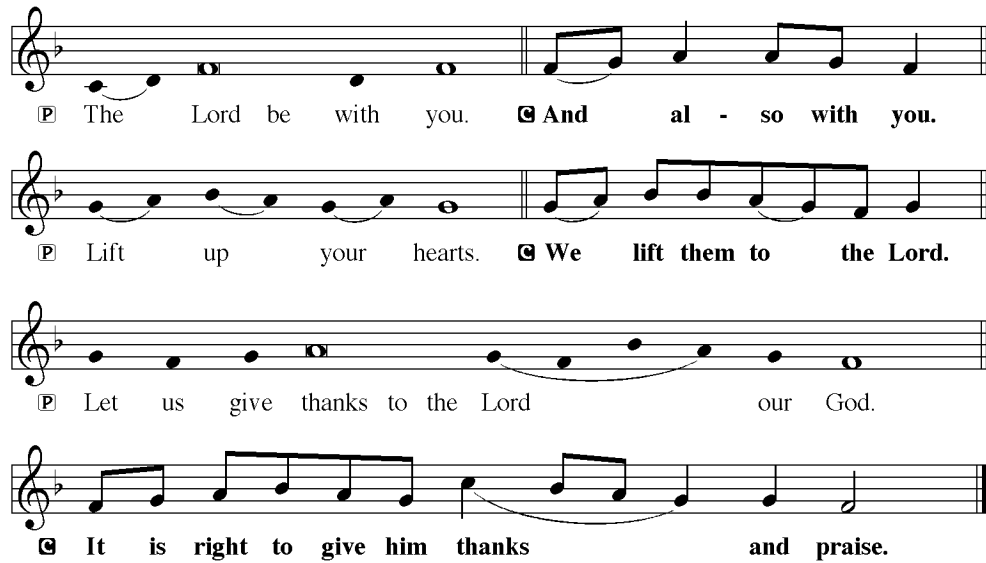
Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your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

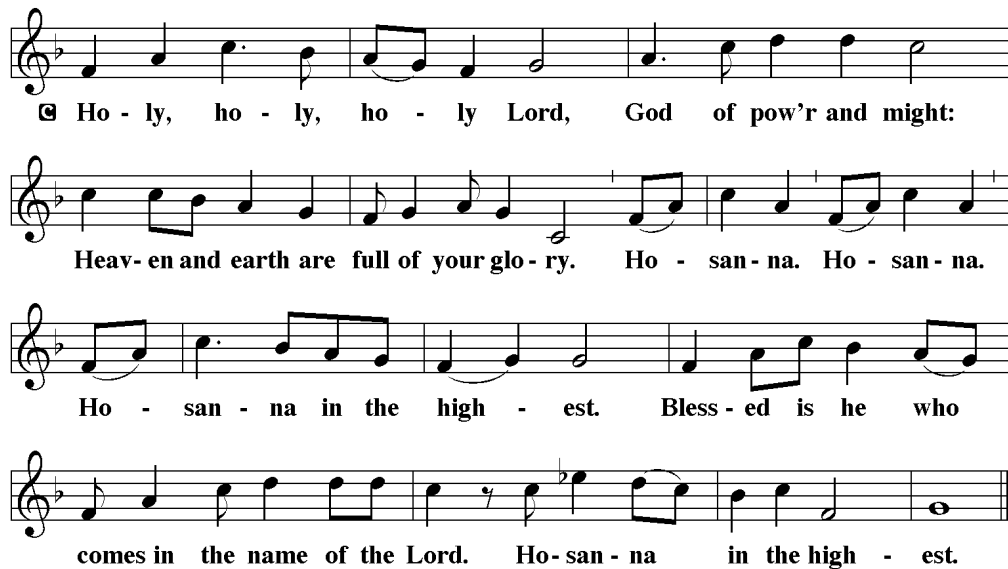
Ⓟ Lift up your hearts. ☩ We lift them to the Lord.

Ⓟ 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.

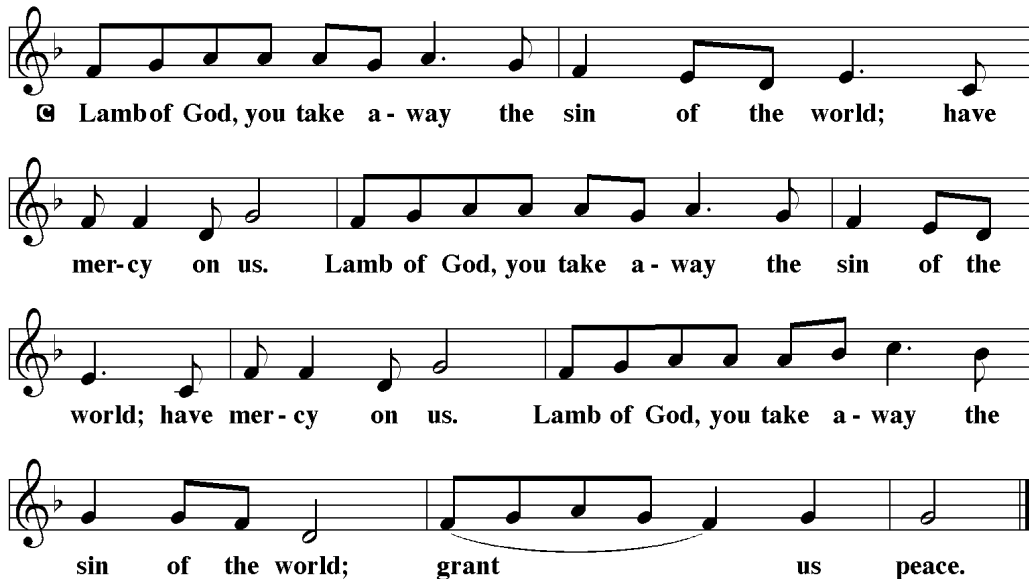
Eucharistic Prayer

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

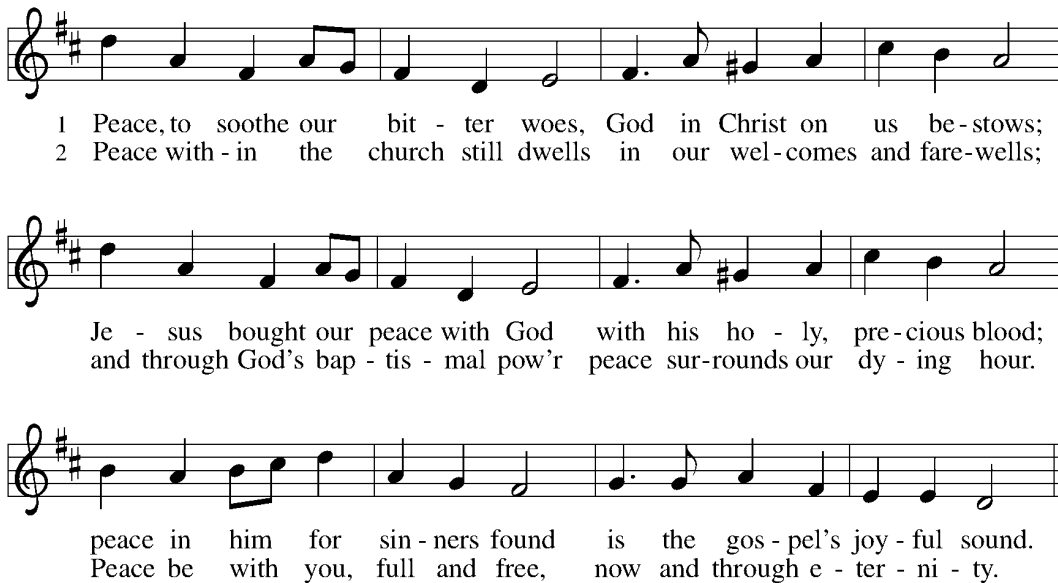
Agnus Dei



♩ 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

Peace, to Soothe Our Bitter Woes



1 Peace, to soothe our bit - ter woes, God in Christ on us be - stows;
2 Peace with - in the church still dwells in our wel - comes and fare - wells;
Je - sus bought our peace with God with his ho - ly, pre - cious blood;
and through God's bap - tis - mal pow'r peace sur - rounds our dy - ing hour.
peace in him for sin - ners found is the gos - pel's joy - ful sound.
Peace be with you, full and free, now and through e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. George T. Rygh, 1860–1943, alt.
Music: FRED TIL BOD, Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887

Let Us Break Bread Together



1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;



let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.

Refrain



When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing



sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.



3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;



let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

Refrain

Text: African American spiritual

Music: BREAK BREAD TOGETHER, African American spiritual

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.



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, † Son,
and Holy Spirit, bless you now . . . and for - ever. **A - men**

Hymn


Thine Is the Glory




1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the
2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-



vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment
greet thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness
out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,



rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan



Refrain
where thy bod - y lay.
death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring
to thy home a - bove.



Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

Text: Edmond Budry, 1854–1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875–1939
Music: JUDAS MACCABAEUS, George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759

Dismissal

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



The altar flowers are given to the glory of God in memory of Arnold "Jake" Paulson from the Paulson Family.

The candles are given to the glory of God by Mike Rooney in honor of Christine Rooney for their fifty-seventh wedding anniversary.

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY	
Sunday, April 12	8:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion and Home Communion
	9:30 a.m. Sunday Church School for all ages
	10:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion with Livestream via YouTube and Home Communion
	11:45 a.m. Intermediate Youth (grades three - five)
Monday, April 13	Flea Market Setup Begins
	9:00 a.m. Strength and Balance Exercise Class
	9:30 a.m. Chair Yoga Class 6:00 p.m. Kids' Haven Dinner
Tuesday, April 14	5:40 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 p.m. Church Council
Wednesday, April 15	12:10 p.m. Service of Holy Communion
	7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, April 16	9:00 a.m. Parish Nurse in office (until 10:00 a.m.)
	11:00 a.m. Sermon Discussion Group
Friday, April 17	9:00 a.m. Strength and Balance Exercise Class (Blackwater Creek Trail)
	9:30 a.m. Chair Yoga Class (Blackwater Creek Trail)
Saturday, April 18	6:45 a.m. Holy Trinity Youth & Parents
	7:00 a.m. Flea Market (until 12:00 p.m.)
Sunday, April 19	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
	5:30 p.m. Senior Youth (grades nine - twelve)

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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: Deb Serio
Organist-Choirmaster: J. William Greene
Parish Administrator: Carol Dee Robertson
Parish Nurse: Gail Midkiff

Pastor: Dennis S. Roberts
Director of Youth and Campus Ministries:
Susan H. Williams
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