



FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 28, 2024

In Deuteronomy, God promises to raise up a prophet like Moses who will speak for God; in Psalm 111, God shows the people the power of God's works. For the Church, these are ways of pointing to the unique authority people sensed in Jesus of Nazareth's actions and words. We encounter that authority in God's word, around which we gather, the word that prevails over any lesser spirit that would claim power over us, freeing us to follow the risen Christ.

Prelude

Prelude and Fugue in E Minor

J. S. Bach
(1685-1750)

Order for Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be God – Father, ✙ Son, and Holy Spirit – who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: **Amen**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God, the whole company of heaven, and our sisters and brothers in this community.

silence for reflection

P: Holy and gracious God,

C: **we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have lived only for the present, without regard for generations to come. We have sought the realms of this world, rather than your promised reign of justice and peace. Have mercy on us, forgive our sins, and bring us to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

P: How blessed are those whose sins are forgiven. In the mercy of almighty God, I announce to you the entire forgiveness of your sins. In the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen**

ENTRANCE RITE

Entrance Hymn

Let the Whole Creation Cry



1 Let the whole cre - a - tion cry, "Glo - ry to the Lord on high!"
2 War - riors fight - ing for the Lord, proph - ets burn - ing with his word,
3 Men and wom - en, young and old, raise the an - them loud and bold,



Heav'n and earth, a - wake and sing, "Praise him, our al - might - y king!"
those to whom the arts be - long add their voic - es to the song.
and let chil - dren's hap - py hearts in this wor - ship take their parts;



Praise him, an - gel hosts a - bove, ev - er bright and fair in love;
Kings of knowl - edge and of law, to the glo - rious cir - cle draw;
from the north to south - ern pole let the might - y cho - rus roll:



sun and moon, lift up your voice; night and stars, in God re - joice.
all who work and all who wait, sing, "The Lord is good and great!"
"Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly One; glo - ry be to God a - lone!"

Text: Stopford A. Brooke, 1832–1916, alt.
Music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze, 1622–1702, adapt.

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

(sung in unison)



Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, — have mer - cy.



Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, — have mer - cy. Lord, — have



mer - cy. Lord, — have — mer - cy. Lord, — have



mer - cy, have — mer - cy.

Hymn of Praise



1. Glo - ry be to God in heav - en; peace, good - will to all the earth.
2. Glo - ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3. Ho - ly One we now ac - claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:

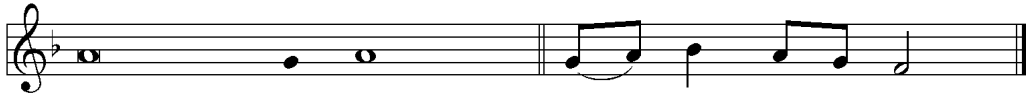


we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

Salutation and Prayer of the Day



☩ The Lord be with you.

☩ And al - so with you.

P: Let us pray.

ALL: Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Lesson - Deuteronomy 18:15–20

Today's reading is part of a longer discourse in Deuteronomy, an updating of the law for the Israelite community as the people wait to enter the promised land. Here, Moses assures the people that God will continue to guide them through prophets who will proclaim the divine word.

¹⁵The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet.

¹⁶This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." ¹⁷Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. ¹⁸I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. ¹⁹Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. ²⁰But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak — that prophet shall die."

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalms 111

(sung in unison)

This psalm is a song of praise to the mighty and awesome Lord who is steadfast and full of compassion.

**Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with | my whole heart,*
in the assembly of the upright, in the | congregation.**

²Great are the deeds | of the LORD!*

They are studied by all who de- | light in them.

**³His work is full of majes- | ty and splendor,*
and his righteousness en- | dures forever.**

**⁴He makes his marvelous works to | be remembered;*
the LORD is gracious and full | of compassion.**

⁵He gives food to | those who fear him;*
 he is ever mindful | of his covenant.
⁶He has shown his people the power | of his works*
 in giving them the lands | of the nations.
⁷The works of his hands are faithful- | ness and justice;*
 all his command- | ments are sure.
⁸They stand fast forev- | er and ever,*
 because they are done in | truth and equity.
⁹He sent redemption to his people; he commanded his cove- | nant forever;*
 holy and awesome | is his name.
¹⁰The fear of the LORD is the begin- | ning of wisdom;*
 those who act accordingly have a good understanding. His praise en- | dures forever.

Second Lesson - 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Paul is concerned about how some Corinthian Christians use their freedom in Christ as license to engage in non-Christian behavior that sets a damaging example to other, impressionable, believers. Christians have a responsibility to each other that their behavior does not cause a sister or brother to sin.

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. ²Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; ³but anyone who loves God is known by him.

⁴Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one." ⁵Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth — as in fact there are many gods and many lords — ⁶yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

⁷It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. ⁸Food will not bring us close to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. ⁹But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? ¹¹So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. ¹²But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. ¹³Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Alleluia Verse

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



The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he has anointed me to preach good news. (R)

Holy Gospel - Mark 1:21-28

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.



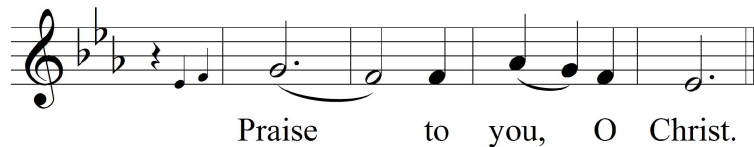
The story has barely begun, and already the battle is joined. Jesus of Nazareth sides with humanity against every force that would bring death and disease. These forces recognize Jesus and know what his power means for them.

This, however, is only the first fight. The war will go on much longer.



²¹Jesus and his disciples went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. ²²They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. ²³Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, ²⁴and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." ²⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" ²⁶And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching — with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." ²⁸At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



Sermon

Pastor Roberts

silence for reflection

Hymn of the Day

Cast Out, O Christ

 The hymn is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are as follows:

1 Cast out, O Christ, cast far a - way the
 2 Our rag - ing griefs, our jeal - ous fears are
 3 Once long a - go, from Gal - i - lee, you
 4 Your word breathes life and health and hope that
 5 So come, O Christ, and cast a - way the

de - mons that de - stroy: the haunt - ing dreads that
 Le - gion in their name. Our shack - led hearts im -
 sailed to storm - tossed shores. And still, in pow'r, you
 break through e - vil's thrall. You send us, strength - ened,
 de - mons that de - stroy. Trans - form our lives to

choke our souls, the hates that sti - fle joy.
 plore your grace to loose our bind - ing shame.
 brave new paths to breach our bolt - ed doors.
 home in peace to live your gos - pel call.
 sense your love and spread a - broad your joy.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davison, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816

Text © 2006 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

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: Loving God, we pray that your example of teaching with confidence and authority builds up your Church in love. May all church leaders and teachers honor your instruction and model your inclusive ways. God of grace,
- C: receive our prayer.**
- A: Renewing God, we pray for all of creation, that waterways flow clean and clear, natural spaces are protected, and our planet is healed. Let us commit to thoughtful care of the earth. God of grace,
- C: receive our prayer.**
- A: Justice-seeking God, we pray for those in government and community leadership, that they lead with honor and mindfulness. May they remember their covenants and be upright in their ways. God of grace,
- C: receive our prayer.**
- A: Compassionate God, we pray for all in need, especially those who have known rejection, any who struggle with long-term illness or chronic pain, those without access to safe housing or health care, and any who suffer. God of grace,
- C: receive our prayer.**
- A: Still-speaking God, we pray for our congregation, for its artists and musicians, for its educators and caregivers, that all gifts are used to care for those in need and to live out your example of accompaniment, gospel witness, and love. God of grace,
- C: receive our prayer.**
- A: Eternal God, we remember all who have been teachers, mentors, and companions in the Church and in our lives. We trust that all who have died rest in your loving care. God of grace,
- 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

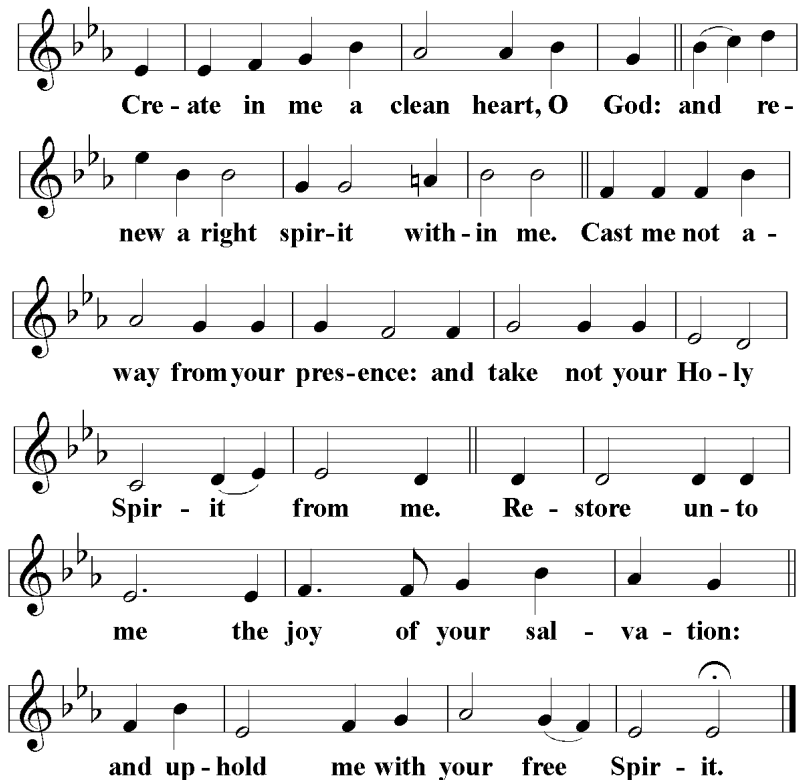
Hallelujah, Amen, from Judas Maccabeus

G. F. Handel
(1685-1759)

Hallelujah, amen. O Judah, rejoice in songs divine! With cherubim and seraphim harmonious join.

Offertory

Unison



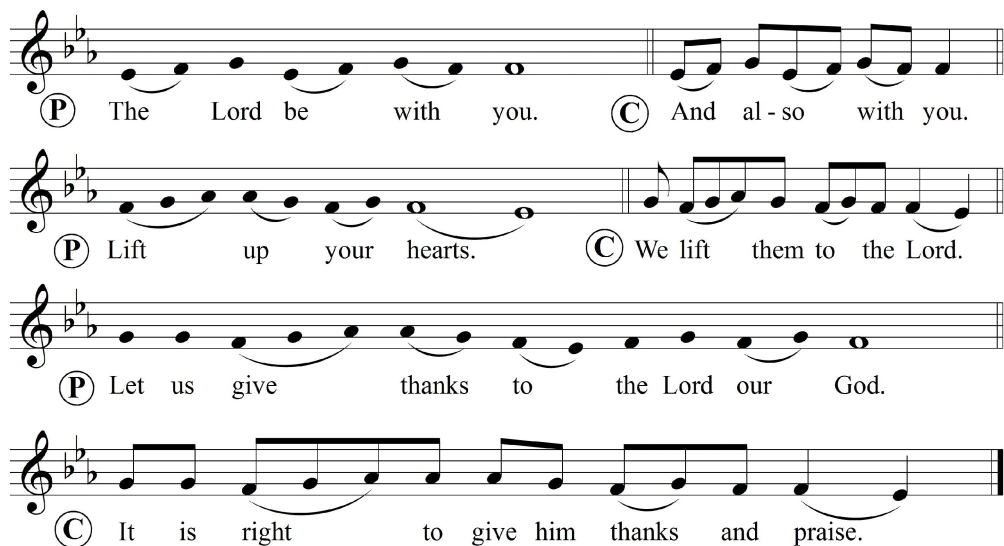
Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God: and re -
new a right spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a -
way from your pres-ence: and take not your Ho - ly
Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to
me the joy of your sal - va - tion:
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Offertory Prayer

A: Let us pray. God our provider,

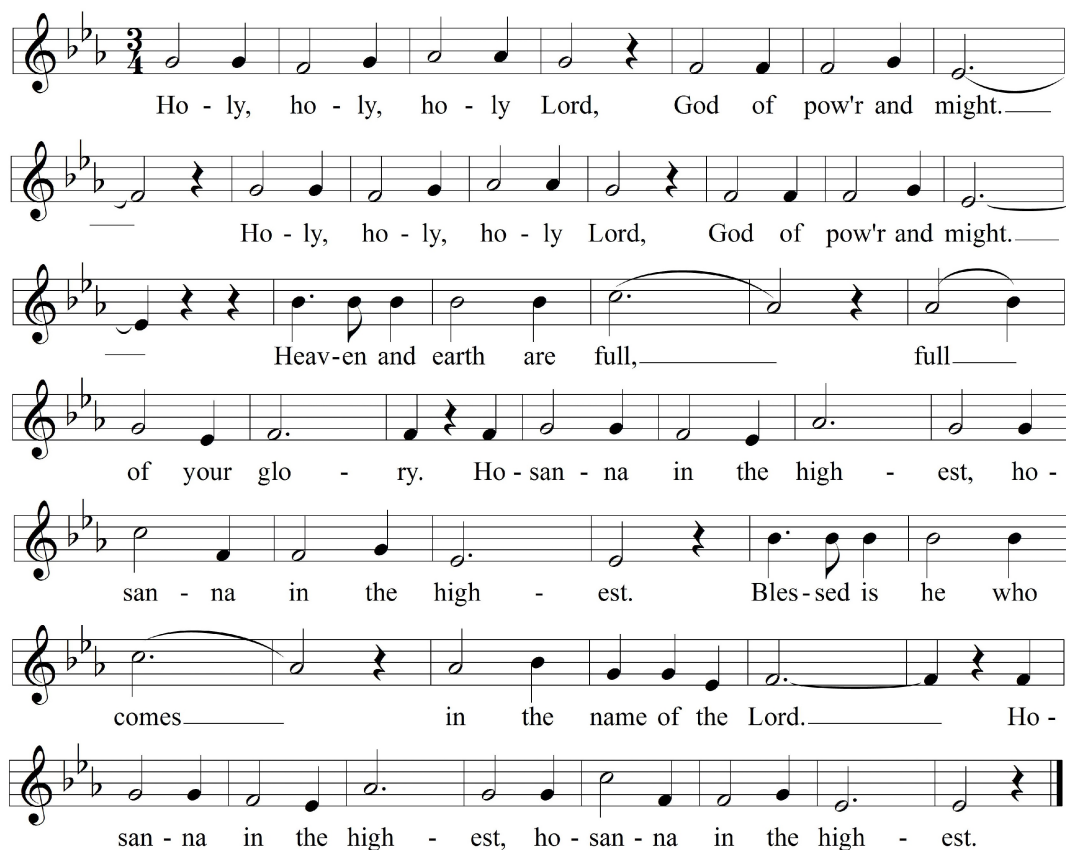
C: **you have not fed us with bread alone but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts which we receive from your bounty; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen**

Great Thanksgiving



(P) The Lord be with you. (C) And al - so with you.
(P) Lift up your hearts. (C) We lift them to the Lord.
(P) Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
(C) It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface and Sanctus



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

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

Heav-en and earth are full, — full —

of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho -

san - na in the high - est. Bles - sed is he who

comes — in the name of the Lord. — Ho -

san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

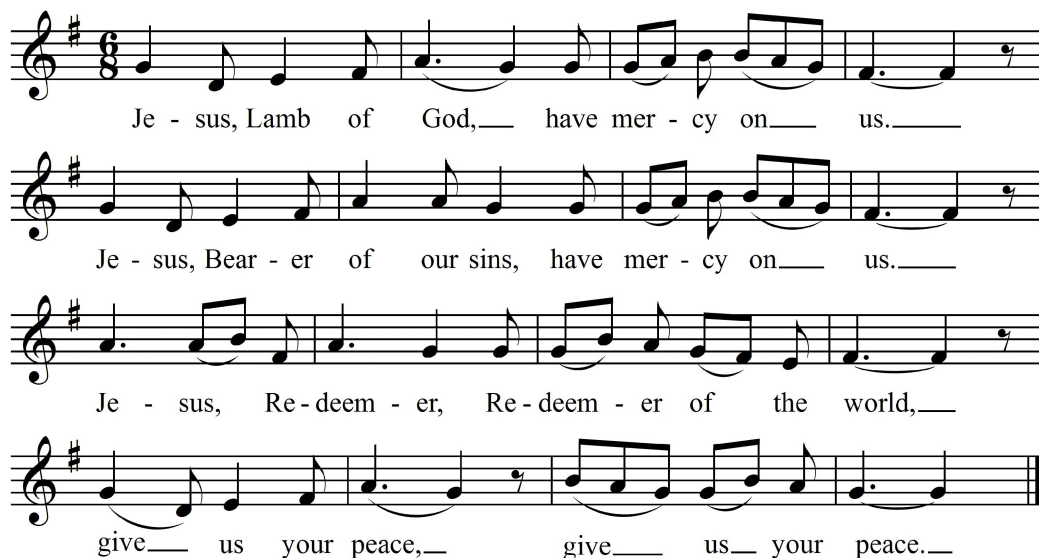
Eucharistic Prayer

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



Je - sus, Lamb of God, — have mer - cy on — us. —

Je - sus, Bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on — us. —

Je - sus, Re - deem - er, Re - deem - er of the world, —

give — us your peace, — give — us — your peace. —

Hymn

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing



1 Oh, for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great re-deem-er's praise,
2 My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim,
3 The name of Je-sus charms our fears and bids our sor-rows cease,
4 He breaks the pow'r of can-cel'd sin; he sets the pris-'ner free.
5 To God all glor-y, praise, and love be now and ev-er giv'n



the glo-ries of my God and king, the tri-umphs of his grace!
to spread through all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of your name.
sings mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.
His blood can make the foul-est clean; his blood a-vails for me.
by saints be-low and saints a-bove, the church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829

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 Hymn



Come with us, O bless-ed Je-sus, with us ev-er-more to be.



And, in leav-ing now thine al-tar, let us nev-er-more leave thee!



Let thy bright ce-les-tial cho-rus nev-er cease the heav'n-ly strain;



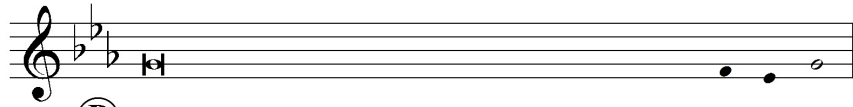
but in us, thy lov-ing chil-dren, come with peace, good will to reign.

Post-Communion Prayer

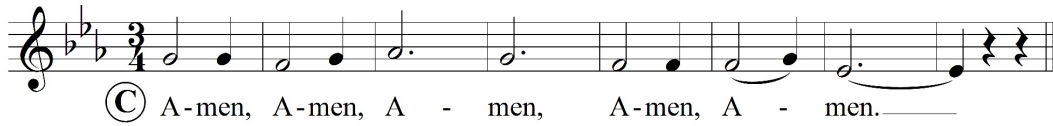
A: Let us pray.

C: **O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit, strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen**

Benediction



(P) Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and for-ever.

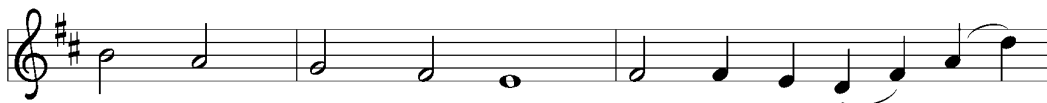


Hymn

Jesus Shall Reign



1	Je	-	sus	shall	reign	wher	-	e'er	the	sun	does	its	suc	-		
2	To		him	shall	end	-	less	prayer	be	made,	and	prais	-	es		
3	Peo	-	ple	and	realms		of	ev	-	'ry	tongue	dwell	on	his		
4	Bless	-	ings	a	-	bound	wher	-	e'er	he	reigns:	the	pris	-	'ners	
5	Let		ev	-	'ry	crea	-	ture	rise	and	bring	pe	-	cu	-	liar



ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from
throng to crown his head; his name like sweet per -
love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es
leap to lose their chains, the wea - ry find e -
hon - ors to our king; an - gels de - scend with



shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
fume shall rise with ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.
ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.
songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

Dismissal

A: Our service now begins. Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Praeludium in G Major

J. S. Bach



The altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Helene Mann
in honor of the Holy Trinity Women's Sewing Group.

The candles are given to the glory of God by Chris and Leonard Pickle
in memory of the Pickle and Eilert families.

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

Sunday, January 28	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
	2:00 p.m.	Pastor's Information Class
	5:00 p.m.	Holy Trinity Youth Bowling Party (meet at AMF Lanes)
	6:00 p.m.	International Dinner
Monday, January 29	9:15 a.m.	Strength and Balance Exercise Class
	9:50 a.m.	Chair Yoga Class
	6:00 p.m.	Youth Bible Study & Dinner (Youth House)
	7:00 p.m.	Bible Study - <i>Seeing the Bible as Your Story</i> (via Zoom)
Tuesday, January 30	5:40 p.m.	Handbell Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday, January 31	12:10 p.m.	Service of Holy Communion
	5:30 p.m.	Winter Seminar - <i>The Passion of Jesus: The Way and The Kingdom</i>
	7:00 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, February 1	9:00 a.m.	Parish Nurse in office (until 10:00 a.m.)
	11:00 a.m.	Discussion Group - <i>Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week</i>
Friday, February 2	9:15 a.m.	Strength and Balance Exercise Class
	9:50 a.m.	Chair Yoga Class
	11:00 a.m.	Book Discussion Group - <i>Eye of the Heart: A Spiritual Journey into the Imaginal Realm</i>
Saturday, February 3	10:00 a.m.	Altar Guild
Sunday, February 4	8:30 a.m.	Service of Holy Communion
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Church School
	9:30 a.m.	Holy Trinity Youth
	10:30 a.m.	Service of Holy Communion with Livestream via YouTube
	11:30 a.m.	World Hunger Soup Luncheon
	6:00 p.m.	Confirmation Class

The hymns are reprinted by permission: OneLicense.net A-725273.

German Mass by Franz Peter Schubert, adapted by Richard Proulx. © Copyright 1985 and 1989 by G.I.A. Publications, Inc., Chicago, Illinois. All rights reserved.

Used with permission.

Liturgy reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress Annual License SAS024905.

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
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
Sextons: Linda Woody and Patricia Wiggington

Church Office: 434-384-8441

email: office@holytrinitylynchburg.org

www.holytrinitylynchburg.org