



SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 27, 2025

In spite of all we have heard and all that we have seen, it is often hard to believe. Because it is hard to believe, we will invest ourselves in the Easter mystery for fifty days (a week of weeks). Because it is hard to believe, the gospel according to John will provide sign after sign celebrating our Lord's victory over death. Because it is hard to believe, the risen Christ will return to us again and again in the mystery of the Holy Communion, inviting us to touch and taste his presence and offering us his peace.

Prelude

O Savior, Precious Savior

arr. Rafael Scarfullery
(b. 1969)

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!

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.



☐ Lord, have mer - cy.

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



☐ Lord, have mer - cy.

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.



☐ Lord, have mer - cy.

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



☐ Lord, have mer - cy.

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

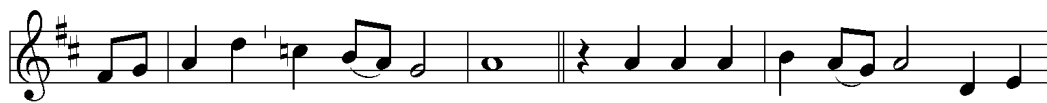


☐ A - men

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. ☐ Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was



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

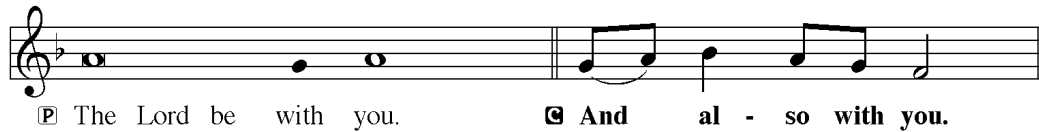

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. **II** Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and
strength, and hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his.


This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. **I** 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. **III** 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: O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath, revive our faith in your mercy and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, 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 5:27–32

Peter has been arrested for proclaiming the good news of Jesus of Nazareth's death and resurrection. His response to the charges of the high priest summarizes the early church's proclamation of forgiveness of sin through repentance.

²⁷When they had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." ²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 118:14-29

(sung in unison)

This psalm is a festival hymn sung in procession in praise of the Lord's salvation and deliverance.

¹⁴The LORD is my strength | and my song,
and he has become | my salvation.

¹⁵There is a sound of exulta- | tion and victory
in the tents | of the righteous:

¹⁶"The right hand of the | LORD has triumphed!
The right hand of the LORD is exalted! The right hand of the | LORD has triumphed!"

¹⁷I shall not | die, but live,

and declare the works | of the LORD.

¹⁸The LORD has pun- | ished me sorely,
but he did not hand me o- | ver to death.

¹⁹Open for me the | gates of righteousness;
I will enter them; I will offer thanks | to the LORD.

²⁰"This is the gate | of the LORD;
he who is righ- | teous may enter."

²¹I will give thanks to you, for you | answered me
and have become | my salvation.

²²The same stone which the build- | ers rejected
has become the chief | cornerstone.

²³This is | the LORD's doing,
and it is marvelous | in our eyes.

²⁴On this day the | LORD has acted;
we will rejoice and be | glad in it.

²⁵Hosanna, | LORD, hosanna!
 LORD, send us | now success.
²⁶Blessed is he who comes in the name | of the LORD;
 we bless you from the house | of the LORD.
²⁷God is the LORD; he has | shined upon us;
 form a procession with branches up to the horns | of the altar.
²⁸"You are my God, and | I will thank you;
 you are my God, and I | will exalt you."
²⁹Give thanks to the LORD, for | he is good;
 his mercy en- | dures forever.

Second Lesson - Revelation 1:4–8

The book of Revelation recounts a mystical vision of the risen Christ, experienced by a Christian prophet named John. Here, he describes the Christ as a timeless redeemer, the beginning, present, and end of all time.

⁴John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ⁷Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. ⁸"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

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.



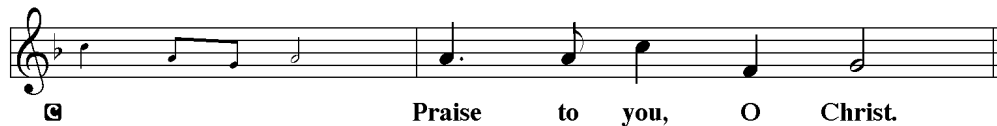
¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced 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 love:

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, inspire the Church with the breath of your Holy Spirit, that we sing the good news of the resurrection. Inspire all the baptized to boldly proclaim your love for all people. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.**
- A: Preserve the earth as a safe home for all creatures. Help us restore habitats contaminated by pollution or overuse, strengthen efforts to shape more sustainable communities, and make us mindful of the impacts of our daily lives on the well-being of creation. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.**
- A: Kindle in the nations a spirit of cooperation and mutual care. Raise up creative and courageous leaders committed to shaping just solutions to complex challenges in our local and global communities. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.**
- A: Embrace all who carry wounds, that they may know your compassion. Draw near to those with chronic pain or anxiety, and all for whom death is near. Comfort individuals and communities suffering in any way. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.**
- A: Transform our fear into curiosity and love, especially across differences in race, religion, sexuality, gender identity, and economic situation. Help us unravel stereotypes that lead to discrimination, and destroy oppressive systems that marginalize vulnerable communities. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.**
- A: We remember the faithful departed from all times and places, giving thanks this day for the ministry of Pope Francis. Confident that you are the Alpha and Omega, we pray for your wisdom and guidance until our earthly pilgrimage is complete. 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

Blow Ye the Trumpet, Blow

Thomas Clark
(1775-1859)

Blow ye the trumpet, blow; The gladly solemn sound;
Let all the nations know, To earth's remotest bound.
The year of jubilee is come: Return, ye ransomed sinners, home.

Extol the Lamb of God, The all-atoning Lamb;
Redemption through his blood Throughout the world proclaim.
The year of jubilee is come: Return, ye ransomed sinners, home.

The gospel trumpet hear; The news of heavenly grace;
And, saved from earth, appear Before your Savior's face:
The year of jubilee is come: Return, ye ransomed sinners, home.

(text: Charles Wesley)

Offertory



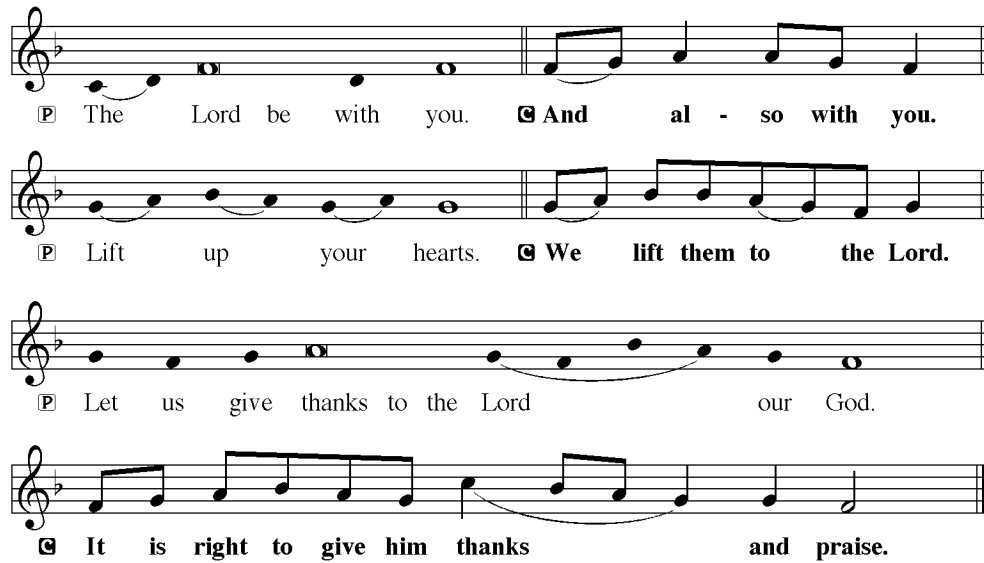
Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your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

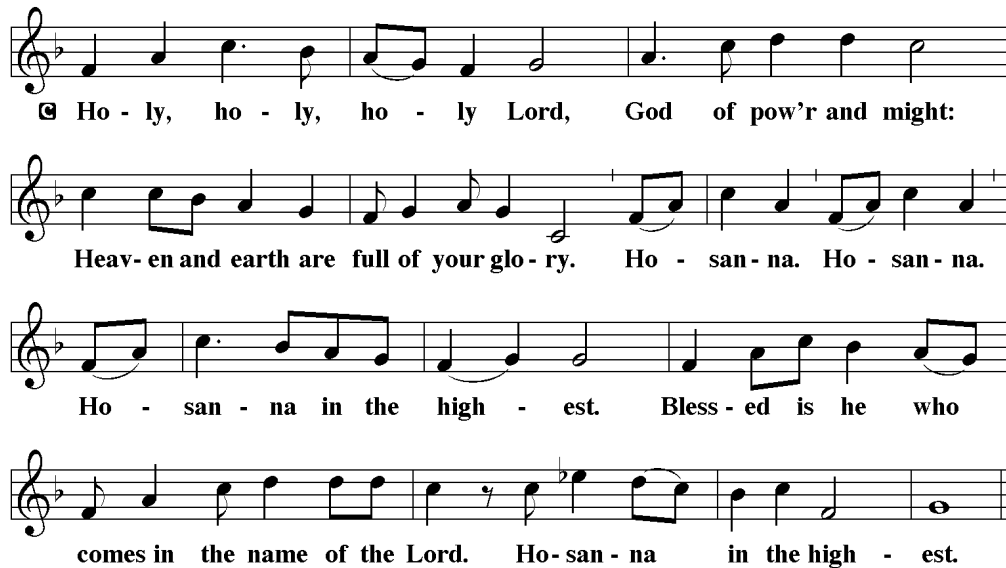
Ⓐ Lift up your hearts. ☩ We lift them to the Lord.

Ⓐ 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.

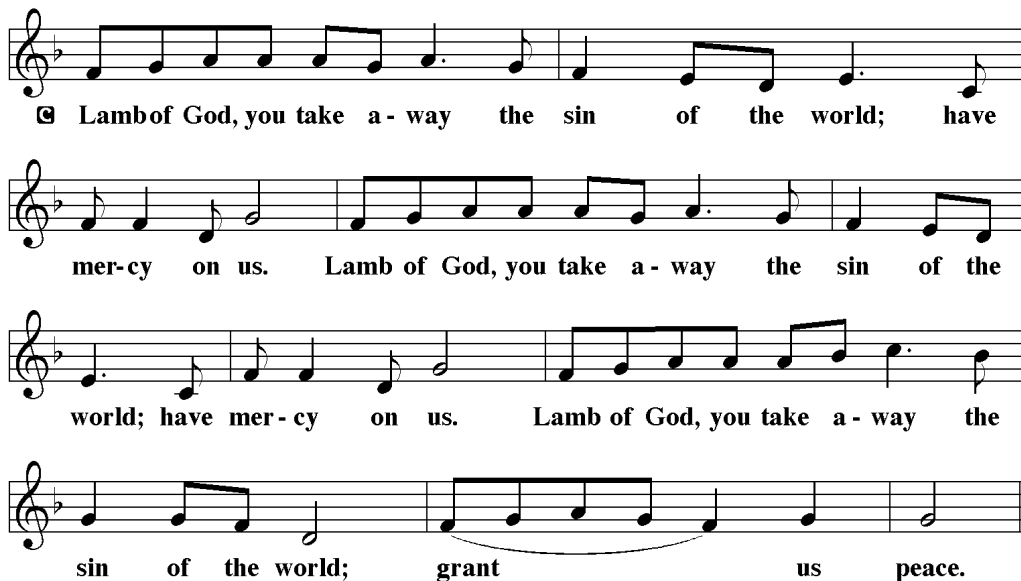
Eucharistic Prayer

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

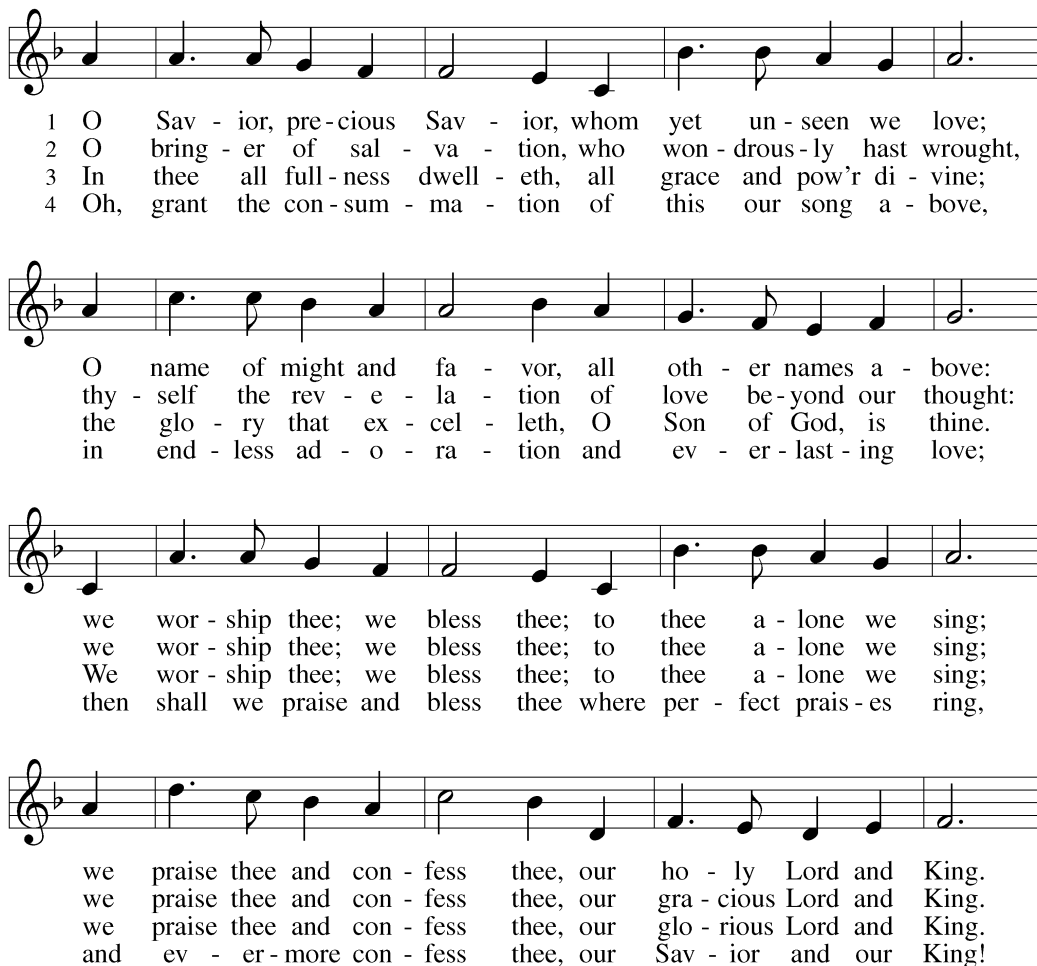
Agnus Dei



♩ 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

O Savior, Precious Savior



1 O Sav - ior, pre - cious Sav - ior, whom yet un - seen we love;
2 O bring - er of sal - va - tion, who won - drous - ly hast wrought,
3 In thee all full - ness dwell - eth, all grace and pow'r di - vine;
4 Oh, grant the con - sum - ma - tion of this our song a - bove,
O name of might and fa - vor, all oth - er names a - bove:
thy - self the rev - e - la - tion of love be - yond our thought:
the glo - ry that ex - cel - leth, O Son of God, is thine.
in end - less ad - o - ra - tion and ev - er - last - ing love;
we wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;
we wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;
We wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;
then shall we praise and bless thee where per - fect prais - es ring,
we praise thee and con - fess thee, our ho - ly Lord and King.
we praise thee and con - fess thee, our gra - cious Lord and King.
we praise thee and con - fess thee, our glo - rious Lord and King.
and ev - er - more con - fess thee, our Sav - ior and our King!

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

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features a melody line with lyrics underneath. The first two lines are for two parts: Part 1 (soprano) and Part 2 (alto). The third line is a refrain. The fourth line is for the tenor part. The fifth line is for the bass part. The sixth line is a refrain. The seventh line is for the soprano part. The eighth line is for the alto part. The ninth line is a refrain. The tenth line is for the tenor part. The eleventh line is for the bass part. The score ends with a double bar line.

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.

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features a melody line with lyrics underneath. The first line is for the soprano part. The second line is for the alto part. The third line is for the tenor part. The fourth line is for the bass part. The score ends with a double bar line.

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

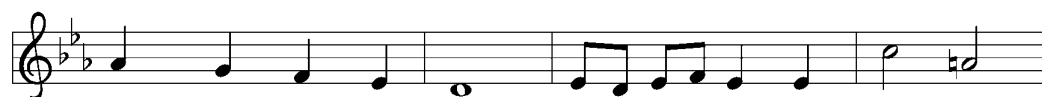
Thine Is the Glory



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



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 by Sally and Jeff Schneider
in honor of Sally's aunt Betty on her 103rd birthday.

The candles are given to the glory of God by Ann Mitchell
in memory of her father, Elton W. Mitchell, Sr.

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

Sunday, April 27	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 4:00 p.m. Organ Recital (James Hicks, organist)
Monday, April 28	9:00 a.m. Strength and Balance Exercise Class 9:30 a.m. Chair Yoga Class
Tuesday, April 29	5:40 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday, April 30	12:10 p.m. Service of Holy Communion 7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, May 1	9:00 a.m. Parish Nurse in office (until 10:00 a.m.)
Friday, May 2	9:00 a.m. Strength and Balance Exercise Class 9:30 a.m. Chair Yoga Class
Saturday, May 3	10:00 a.m. Altar Guild
Sunday, May 4	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)

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

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
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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