

New Jerusalem Lutheran Church



4th Sunday of Easter
April 30, 2023
Worship Service



New Jerusalem Lutheran Church

12942 Lutheran Church Road, Lovettsville, Virginia 20180

www.njlclovettsville.org

Church Office
Pastor

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OUR MISSION: *Responding to God's grace, we are a welcoming congregation growing in Christian faith through worship, learning, serving, and fellowship.*

OUR VISION: *NJLC is a compassionate community of disciples that values everyone & expresses faith by connecting with God, the Gospel of Jesus Christ, & all creation.*

WELCOME TO NEW JERUSALEM

A few items of note to help you in your time here today:

MASKS — Masks are optional for worship and events at New Jerusalem, though we encourage mask wearing for anyone who chooses to do so.

NEWCOMERS — Visitors are always welcome and we invite you to sign our guestbook located in the entryway or fill out a pew card from the pew rack in front of you.

COMMUNION — Welcome to the table of Christ where we believe Christ is fully present to us in, with, and under these elements of bread and wine. You are invited to participate whether a member here or come to us from any other denominational tradition. Those not ready to receive Christ in body and blood, may still come forward to receive Christ in blessing. Follow the directions of the ushers who will dismiss each pew. As you come to the top of the center aisle, the pastor will place a wafer in your hands and invite you to step to the side to take an individual cup of wine (first tray) or grape juice (second). Please receive and then discard cups in the receptacle along the altar rail. If you cannot come forward, communion can be brought to you after all have communed at the front.

CHILDREN — We seek to be a family-friendly congregation who enjoys having children among us, including the littler ones. We have a Cherub's Corner in the fellowship hall downstairs with age appropriate toys, books, etc. and the worship service can be heard over the speakers. Should you have the need/desire to utilize our staffed Sunday Morning Nursery, it is located in the end room of the education building.

HANDICAP ACCESSABILITY — Handicap accessible restrooms are located downstairs at the back of our Fellowship Hall or across in our Education Building. Someone is available to run the lift should you need to get up and down between levels.

We hope that in your time among us, you will encounter the love of God in Spirit!



ALTAR FLOWERS

The altar flowers are a beautiful and meaningful addition to the worship service each week and a joyful way to give glory to God and honor our family and friends.

To provide altar flowers for an upcoming Sunday, sign-up on the 2023 Flower Chart located in the church hallway or contact the church office.

Introduction

Today is sometimes called “Good Shepherd Sunday.” Jesus 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 guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world’s violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God’s tender care to all creation.

GATHERING

PRELUDE **“The Head That Once Was Crowned With Thorns”** Mark A. Fletcher
F.G. Waldock

Please refrain from conversation as we honor and enjoy the gifts of our musicians.

WELCOME

Please stand as you are able.

EASTER ACCLAMATION

Pastor: Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed!

Pastor: Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed!

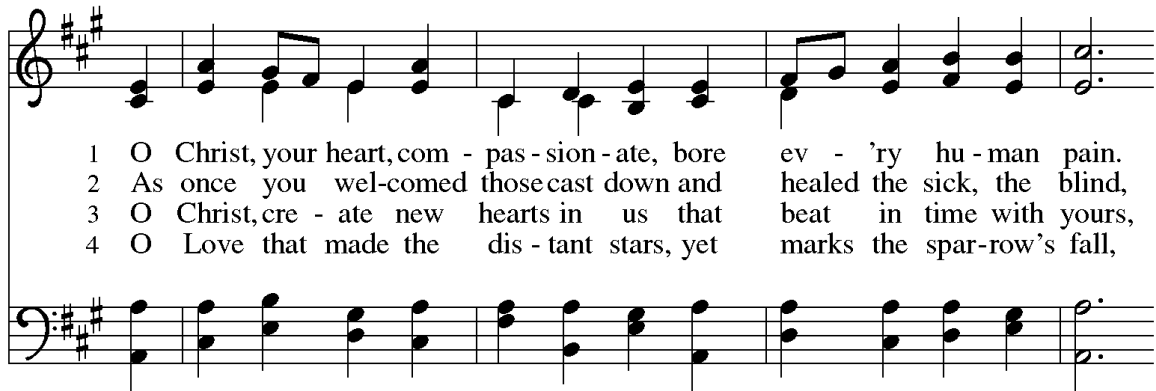
Pastor: Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

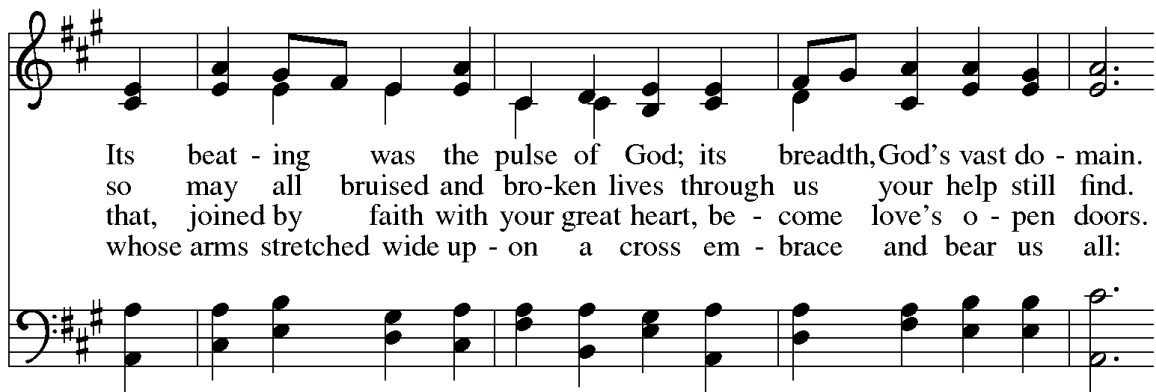
GATHERING HYMN “Oh Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate”
(see music on next page)

ELW 722

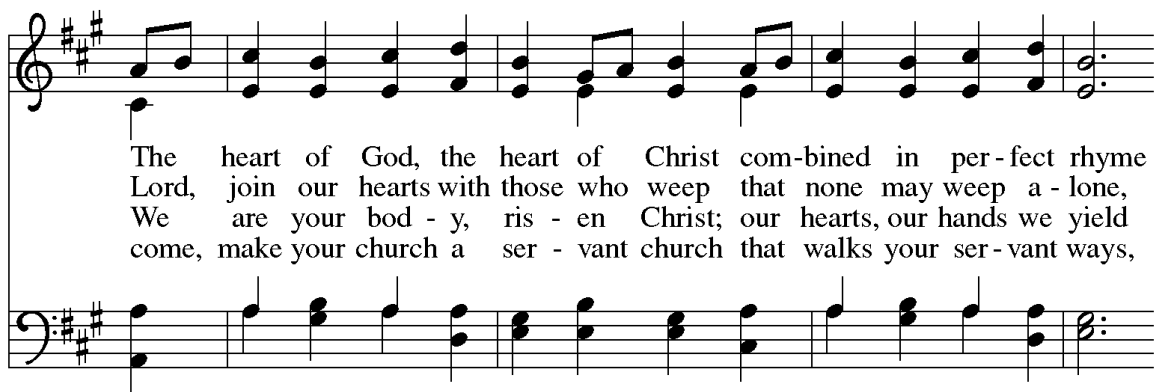
O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate



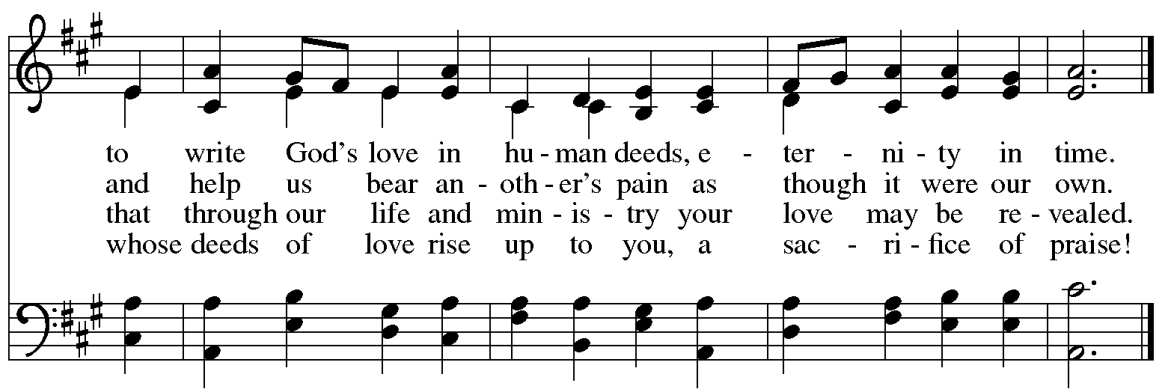
1 O Christ, your heart, com - pas - sion - ate, bore ev - 'ry hu - man pain.
2 As once you wel - comed those cast down and healed the sick, the blind,
3 O Christ, cre - ate new hearts in us that beat in time with yours,
4 O Love that made the dis - tant stars, yet marks the spar-row's fall,



Its beat - ing was the pulse of God; its breadth, God's vast do - main.
so may all bruised and bro - ken lives through us your help still find.
that, joined by faith with your great heart, be - come love's o - pen doors.
whose arms stretched wide up - on a cross em - brace and bear us all:



The heart of God, the heart of Christ com - bined in per - fect rhyme
Lord, join our hearts with those who weep that none may weep a - lone,
We are your bod - y, ris - en Christ; our hearts, our hands we yield
come, make your church a ser - vant church that walks your ser - vant ways,



to write God's love in hu - man deeds, e - ter - ni - ty in time.
and help us bear an - oth - er's pain as though it were our own.
that through our life and min - is - try your love may be re - vealed.
whose deeds of love rise up to you, a sac - ri - fice of praise!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923

Music: ELLACOMBE, German melody, 18th cent.; adapt. X. L. Hartig, *Melodien zum Mainzer Gesangbuche*, 1833

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REAFFIRMATION OF OUR BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Pastor: Sisters and brothers in Christ, hear the good news! In baptism you were buried with Christ. In baptism you were also raised to life with him, through faith in the power of God who raised Christ from the dead. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Therefore, I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, you have been made new!

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Pastor: Sisters and brothers in Christ, hear the good news! Through the birth, life, death and resurrection of Christ, the power of sin was broken and God's kingdom entered our world. Through our baptism we were made citizens of God's kingdom, and freed from the bondage of sin. Therefore, I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, you are set free!

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Pastor: Sisters and brothers in Christ, hear the good news! Our baptism is a sign and seal of our cleansing from sin, and of our being grafted into Christ. Therefore, I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Pastor: Let us therefore celebrate our freedom and redemption through the renewal of the promises made at our baptism. I ask you once again to reject sin, to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, and to confess the faith of the church, the faith in which we were baptized.

People: **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

GREETING & PEACE

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

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Having been greeted in love and peace by our Triune Godhead, I invite us to greet one another in like manner as we gather this day.

We invite you to turn and share a sign of peace with your neighbors.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray...

People: 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 Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

THE WORD

FIRST READING

Acts 2:42-47

Reader: The first reading for today is recorded in the book of Acts...

⁴²[The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.⁴³ Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles.⁴⁴ All who believed were together and had all things in common;⁴⁵ they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need.⁴⁶ Day 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,⁴⁷ praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Reader: Word of God. Word of life.

People: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 Peter 2:19-25

Reader: The second reading for today is recorded in the book of Peter...

¹⁹It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly.²⁰ If 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.²¹ For 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."²³ When 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.²⁴ He 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.²⁵ For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Reader: Word of God. Word of Life.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah”

ELW 172

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -
- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -
Hal - le - lu - jah.
lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 'Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.'

Music: Caribbean traditional; arr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954
Arr. © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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GOSPEL READING

John 10:1-10

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

People: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:]¹“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.”

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

Children’s Message

Pastor Phil Carl

Sermon

Pastor Phil Carl


Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“The Church of Christ, In Every Age”
(see music on next page)

ELW 729

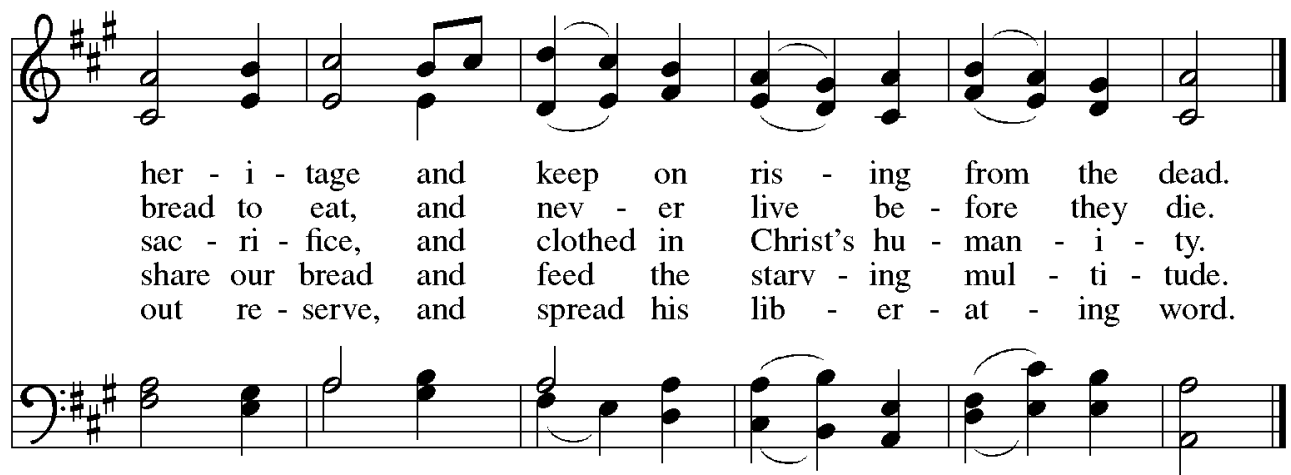
The Church of Christ, in Every Age



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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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Reader: United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need. 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.

People: Your mercy is great.

Reader: 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, bring healing. Where there is desolation, bring abundance. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Reader: 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.

People: Your mercy is great.

Reader; 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.

People: Your mercy is great.

Reader: You are the sheepgate that gives safety to your beloved flocks. 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.

People: Your mercy is great.

Reader: Gracious God, as we strive to call a new pastor for this congregation, send your Spirit to guide our decisions and those of all others in that process, so that the outcome reflects your will for our future. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Reader: 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 house forever. Be with those who mourn, and give them hope in the promise of resurrection. Hear us, O God.

People: Your mercy is great.

Reader: Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

People: Amen.

Please be seated.

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Pastor: Generous God,

People: in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

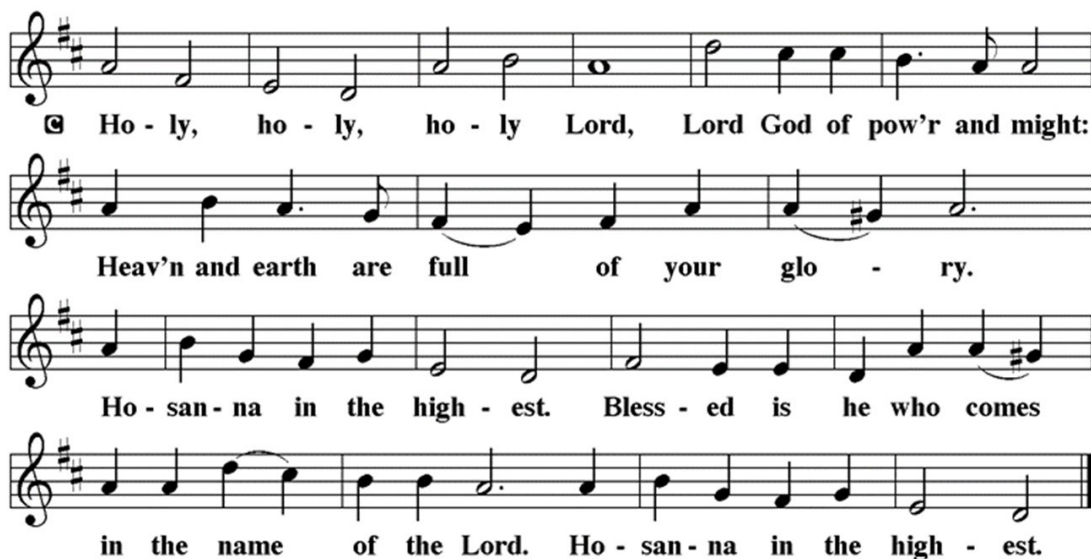
People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and ever living God. But chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by his rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Pastor: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God; you are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, that whoever believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. Having come into the world, he fulfilled for us your holy will and accomplished our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: And now, as our Savior has taught us, we are bold to say:

People: **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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Pastor: Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Please be seated.

HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION MUSIC Mark A. Fletcher

“Hymn of Praise”
(see music on next page)



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



Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.



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



Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and 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, for the Lamb who was slain



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

Please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you always in His grace.

People: **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Pastor: Let us pray... Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name.

People: **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

Pastor: The God of all, who raised Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.

People: **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

“Praise Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing”
(see music on next page)

ELW 544

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People: **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Pastor: Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Mark A. Fletcher

Renewed and strengthened by our worship together, go forth in peace to serve to the world.

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Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing



1 Praise the Lord, rise up re - joic - ing, wor - ship, thanks, de -
 2 Scat - tered flock, one shep - herd shar - ing, lost and lone - ly,
 3 Sins for - giv - en, wrongs for - giv - ing, we go forth a -



vo - tion voic - ing: glo - ry be to God on high!
 one voice hear - ing, ears at - ten - tive to your word;
 lert and liv - ing in your Spir - it, strong and free.



Christ, your cross and pas - sion shar - ing, by this eu - cha -
 by your blood new life re - ceiv - ing, in your bod - y,
 Part - ners in your new cre - a - tion, seek - ing peace in



rist de - clar - ing yours the fi - nal vic - to - ry.
 firm be - liev - ing, we are yours, and you the Lord.
 ev - 'ry na - tion, may we faith - ful fol - l'wers be.

Text: Howard C. A. Gaunt, 1902–1983, alt.
 Music: ALLES IST AN GOTTES SEGEN, Johann Löhner, 1645–1705, adapt.
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PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 23

(not read during today's service)

- ¹The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.
- ²The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.
- ³You restore my soul, O Lord,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.
- ⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they | comfort me.
- ⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
- ⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.