

**INTRODUCTION**

This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.

**GATHERING**

*Congregational Responses in Bold Print*

\* *With One Voice (blue book)*

\*\**Evangelical Lutheran Worship (cranberry book)*

**PRELUDE**     *Gelobt Sie Gott*     MANZ

**GREETING**

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

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

*Just as God's work of creation never ends,  
so the gifts received in baptism are renewed every day.  
Let us give thanks together for the life given in baptism.*

*We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life:*

*for water to bathe in, water to drink,  
for waters to play in and waters that inspire wonder,  
for water that gives life to our planet.*

**We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life.**

*We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of this place:  
for water from our tap, for rain and snow.*

**We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of this place.**

*We give you thanks for your salvation through water:  
for delivering Noah and his family through the floodwaters,  
for leading your people Israel through the sea into freedom,  
for preserving your prophet Elijah through the time of drought,  
for guiding your people across the Jordan into a new land,  
for quenching the Samaritan woman's thirst with living water.*

**We give you thanks for your salvation through water.**

*We give you thanks for the life of all the baptized,  
and for all who gather here;  
for godparents and baptismal sponsors,  
for children and grandchildren,  
for our brothers and sisters in Christ  
whom we have never seen but to whom we are bound.*

**We give you thanks for the life of all the baptized.**

*We give you thanks for life in Christ through your Holy Spirit:  
for our entry into Jesus' death through these waters,  
for our new birth into a life of freedom and service,  
for our calling to be your people, sent out for the life of the world.*  
**We give you thanks, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. Amen.**

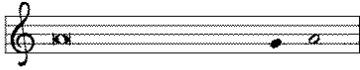
**HYMN**

WOV 748\*

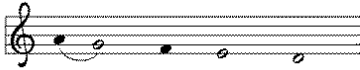
***Bind Us Together***

BIND US TOGETHER

**KYRIE**



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



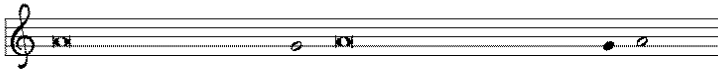
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



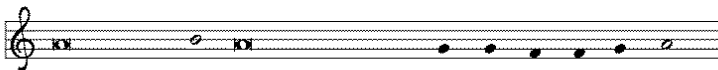
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



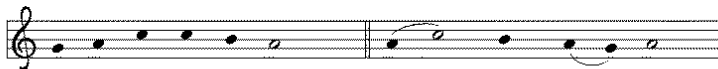
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

*Refrain*  
Assisting minister



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

All



1 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.

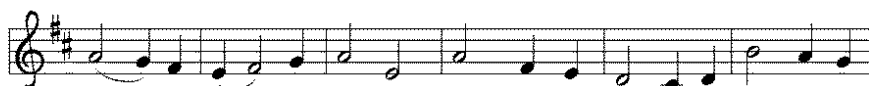
*Refrain*



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



2 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.

*Final refrain*



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.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

*Let us pray together. O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

## WORD

### FIRST READING: Acts 10: 44-48

*While Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.*

<sup>44</sup>While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. <sup>45</sup>The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, <sup>46</sup>for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, <sup>47</sup>“Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” <sup>48</sup>So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

**Thanks be to God.**

### SECOND READING: 1 John 5: 1-6

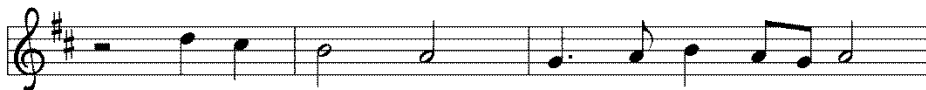
*God’s children believe that Jesus is the Messiah and love God by keeping God’s commandments. Thus the world is conquered not through military might but through love and faith.*

<sup>1</sup>Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. <sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. <sup>3</sup>For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, <sup>4</sup>for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

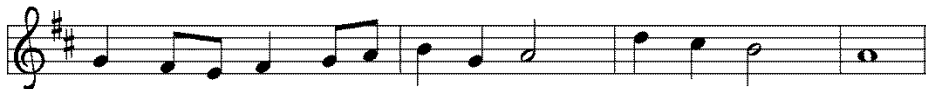
<sup>6</sup>This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

## HOLY GOSPEL

*The Holy Gospel according to John the 15th chapter.*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

## GOSPEL      **John 15: 9-17**

*On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead. Here, he repeats the most important of all his commands, that they love one another.*

[Jesus said:] <sup>9</sup>“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

<sup>12</sup>“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup>I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. <sup>17</sup>I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

*Rev. Robert Cochran*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**    WOV 749\*    *When Love Is Found*    O WALY WALY

## NICENE CREED

*With the whole Church, let us confess our faith*

**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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.**

## THE PRAYERS

*Rejoicing in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we pray for the witness of the church, the wholeness of creation, and all who are in need. (A brief silence.)*

*... Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.***

*We entrust all our prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them by the power of the Holy Spirit and the love of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.***

## MEAL

### INTRODUCTION TO THE PEACE

*The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.*

*Let us share that peace with one another!*

**OFFERING** Miriam Gibson (8:15) *Arrival of the Queen of Sheba* HANDEL  
Senior Choir (10:45) *This Is My Commandment* LARRY SHACKLEY  
Allie Jagoda - Cello

### OFFERTORY #531 *The Trumpets Sounds*

The trumpets sound the angels sing The feast is ready to begin

The gates of heav'n are open wide And Jesus welcomes you inside

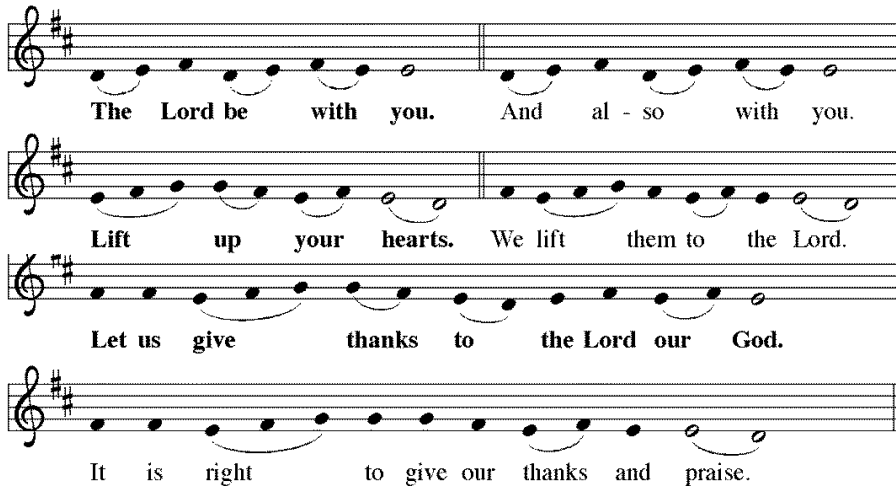
Sing with thankfulness Songs of pure delight Come and revel in Heaven's love and light

Take your place at the Table of the King The feast is ready to begin The feast is ready to begin.

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

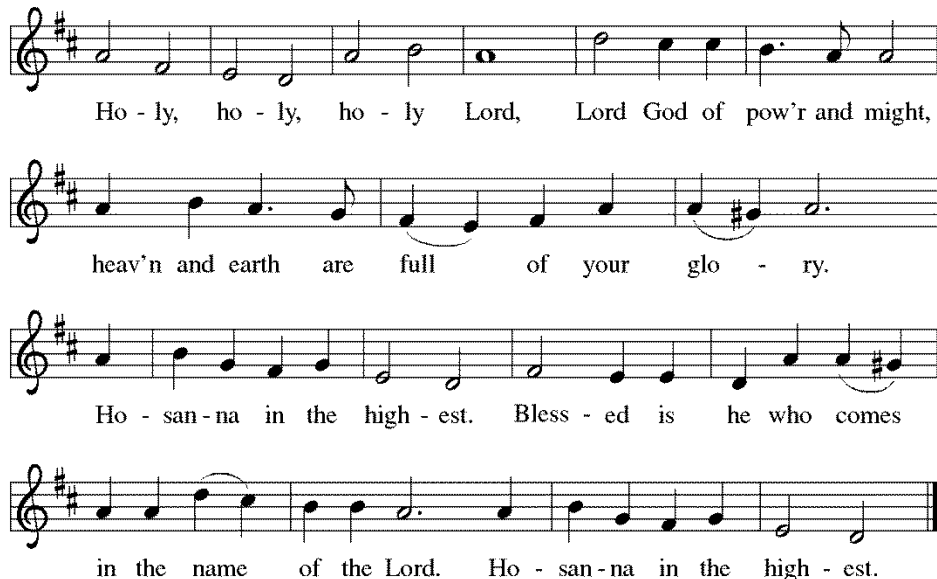
*Let us pray. Be known to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, as you were made known to the disciples. Receive these gifts, and the offering of our lives, that we may be your risen body in the world. Amen.*

### GREAT THANKSGIVING



*It is indeed right.....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:*

## HOLY, 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.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

*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.*

## LORD'S PRAYER

*Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:*

**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

*Now let us feast this Easter day on Christ, the bread of heaven. Hallelujah!*

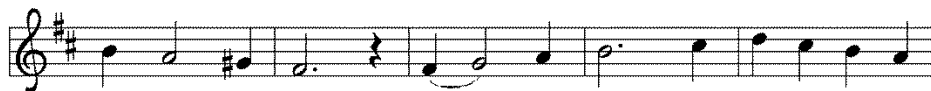
## LAMB OF GOD



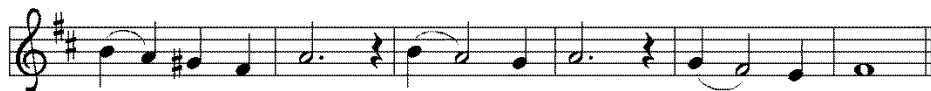
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



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, grant us peace.

## SONGS DURING COMMUNION

ELW 496\*\* *One Bread, One Body*

ELW 742\*\* *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

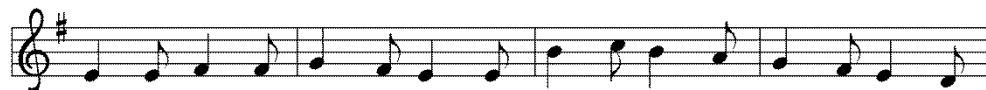
*The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen.*



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.



## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*Let us pray* **Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of heaven to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.**

## SENDING

### BLESSING

*May the good Lord bless and keep you. May grace follow wherever you go.  
May the light of Christ illumine your life And turn to joy your woe.  
May the arms of God enfold you In nights of sweet release  
May the Spirit of Love descend like a dove And bring you blessed peace.  
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.***

**SENDING HYMN**    **WOV 671**    ***Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks***    ALLELUIA NO. 1

### DISMISSAL

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

*You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go in peace. Share the good news.*  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia.**

**POSTLUDE**    ***Prelude in C Major***    BACH

*Moving One Step Closer to God.*

*www.1stLutheranChurch.org*

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