

Paschal Triduum



Three Sacred Days

Maundy Thursday, March 28, 2024

Good Friday, March 29, 2024

Holy Saturday, March 30, 2024

Services at 7:00 pm

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Durham, NC 27705

Explanation of the Paschal Triduum

Since the earliest days of the church the Paschal Triduum, the three sacred days of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday, have been experienced as one celebration marking the central events of the Christian faith.

On **Maundy Thursday**, the disciplines of Lent are concluded with a remembrance of the New Command (Maundy being an Old English word for commandment) to love one another as Christ loves us. This first day's worship concludes with the stripping of the altar. Symbolically, Christ, now stripped of his power and glory, is in the hands of his captors.

On **Good Friday** the baptized, who could not watch with Jesus one hour in Gethsemane, fled from the Place of the Skull. Come to hear the story of community's (our) disobedience and Christ's obedience even unto death for our benefit. This is done by reading of the Passion. By grace we are given the gift of laying our burdens down at the foot of the cross.

Neither Maundy Thursday nor the Good Friday liturgy ends with a benediction. As the benediction ("good word" from our God) concludes the worship; it is reserved for the end of the Vigil of Easter.

The Vigil of Easter is the earliest form of Easter worship in the church. Gathering in the darkness of sin and death, the church marks the gift of light at creation, and in readings marks the mighty acts of salvation that bring us to the new creation in Christ, the light of the world. This new life of the resurrection is then celebrated in remembrance of the Holy Bath of Baptism and the foretaste of the heavenly banquet at Holy Communion. The three-day service is concluded with the benediction followed by a time of festive celebration.

Table of Contents

Order of Worship for Maundy Thursday	3
Order of Worship for Good Friday.	9
Order of Worship for the Vigil of Easter	13

***Hymns are found in the red hymnals in the pews,
numbers are at the top of the page.***



*Order of Worship
for
Maundy Thursday*

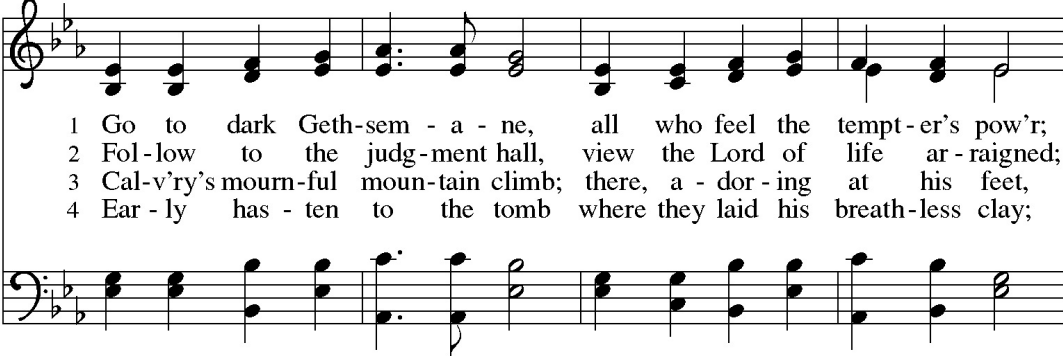
March 28, 2024 at 7:00 pm

Enter in Silence

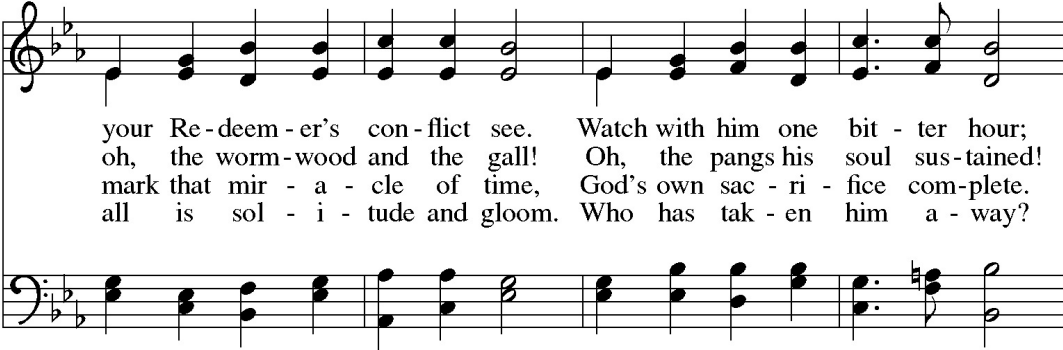
Hymn - Go to Dark Gethsemane

ELW 347

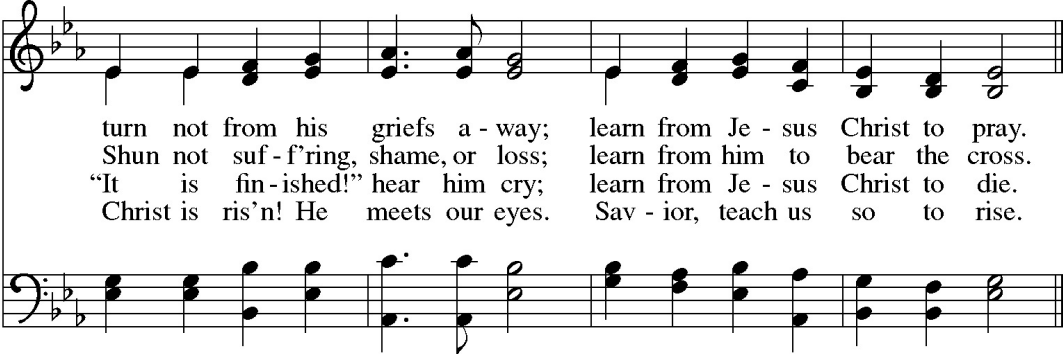
Go to Dark Gethsemane



1 Go to dark Geth-sem - a - ne, all who feel the tempt-er's pow'r;
2 Fol-low to the judg-ment hall, view the Lord of life ar-raigned;
3 Cal-v'ry's mourn-ful moun-tain climb; there, a - dor - ing at his feet,
4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb where they laid his breath-less clay;



your Re-deem-er's con-flict see. Watch with him one bit - ter hour;
oh, the worm-wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sus-tained!
mark that mir - a - cle of time, God's own sac - ri - fice com-plete.
all is sol - i - tude and gloom. Who has tak - en him a - way?



turn not from his griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
Shun not suf - f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.
"It is fin - ished!" hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.
Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854
Music: GETHSEMANE, Richard Redhead, 1820-1901

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 12:1-14

¹The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: ²This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you.

³Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. ⁴If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. [⁵Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. ⁶You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. ⁷They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. ⁸They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. ⁹Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs.

¹⁰You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn.] ¹¹This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD. ¹²For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. ¹³The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

¹⁴This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

Sermon

Exhortation

P In this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to intensify our struggle against sin, death, and the devil – all that keeps us from loving God and each other. This is the struggle to which we were committed at Baptism; God's forgiveness and the power of his Spirit to amend our lives continue with us because of his love for us in Jesus, our Savior.

Within the community of his Church, God never wearies of giving peace and new life. In the words of absolution we receive forgiveness as from God himself. This absolution we should not doubt, but firmly believe that thereby our sins are forgiven before God in heaven, for it comes to us in the name and by the command of our Lord.

We who receive God's love in Jesus Christ are called to love one another, to be servants to each other as Jesus became our servant. Our commitment to this loving service is signified in the washing of feet, following the example the Lord gave us on the night before his death.

It is, however, in the Holy Communion that the members of Christ's body participate most intimately in his love. Remembering our Lord's last supper with his disciples, we eat the bread and share the cup of this meal. Together we receive the Lord's gift of himself and participate in that new covenant which makes us one in him. The Eucharist is the promise of the great banquet we will share with all the faithful when our Lord returns, the culmination of our reconciliation with God and each other.

Confession

P Let us kneel and make confession to God.

C Almighty God, merciful Father:

I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended you and for which I justly deserve your punishment. But I am sorry for them, and repent of them, and pray for your boundless mercy. For the sake of the suffering and death of your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being; forgive my sins, give me your Holy Spirit for the amendment of my sinful life, and bring me to life everlasting. Amen

Declaration of Forgiveness

P Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. Through his Holy Spirit he cleanses us and gives us power to proclaim the mighty deeds of God who called us out of darkness into the splendor of his light. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

Offering

Offertory - *Panis Angelicus* by Cesar Franck

Panis Angelicus translation

*Panis angelicus
fit panis hominum;
Dat panis caelicus
figuris terminum:
O res mirabilis!
Manducat Dominum
pauper, servus et humilis*

*Thus Angels' Bread is made
the Bread of life today;
the living Bread from heaven
with figures dost away:
O wondrous gift indeed!
the poor and lowly may
upon their Lord and Master feed.*

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal, Jesus gave his disciples a new commandment: To love one another as he had loved them. By your Holy Spirit write this commandment on our hearts; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

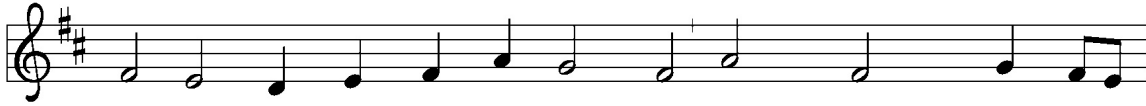
C Amen

The Lesson

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

²³For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, ²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." ²⁶For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness



1 Soul, a - dorn your - self with glad - ness, leave the gloom - y
 2 Has - ten as a bride to meet him, ea - ger - ly and
 3 Now in faith I hum - bly pon - der o - ver this sur -
 4 Je - sus, source of last - ing plea - sure, tru - est friend, and



haunts of sad - ness, come in - to the day - light's splen - dor,
 glad - ly greet him. There he stands al - read - y knock - ing;
 pass - ing won - der that the bread of life is bound - less
 dear - est trea - sure, peace be - yond all un - der - stand - ing,



there with joy your prais - es ren - der. Bless the one whose grace un -
 quick - ly, now, your gate un - lock - ing, o - pen wide the fast - closed
 though the souls it feeds are count - less; with the choic - est wine of
 joy in - to all life ex - pand - ing: hum - bly now, I bow be -



bound - ed this a - maz - ing ban - quet found - ed; Christ, though heav'n - ly,
 por - tal, say - ing to the Lord im - mor - tal: "Come, and leave your
 heav - en Christ's own blood to us is giv - en. Oh, most glo - rious
 fore you, love in - car - nate, I a - dore you; wor - thi - ly let



high, and ho - ly, deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.
 loved one nev - er; dwell with - in my heart for - ev - er."
 con - so - la - tion, pledge and seal of my sal - va - tion.
 me re - ceive you, and, so fa - vored, nev - er leave you.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–1677; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
 Music: SCHMÜCKE DICH, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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Before the reading:

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 13th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

¹Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ²The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper ³Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. ⁵Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. ⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" ⁷Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." ⁸Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." ⁹Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." ¹¹For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

¹²After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you?" ¹³You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them."

^{31b}"Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

After the reading:

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Where True Charity and Love Abide

Ubi caritas et amor



U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor, De - us i - bi est.
Where true char - i - ty and love a - bide, God is dwell - ing there.



1 We are gath - ered by the one love of Christ Je - sus;
2 Since we are all one in the Lord, as we gath - er,
3 All sur - round - ed by the blest saints, we shall see you



let us lift our voic - es to God and be joy - ful.
let us be watch - ful that no strife still di - vide us.
face to face in glo - ry and light, O Christ Je - sus.



In ho - ly won - der let us love the liv - ing God,
Con - ten - tion, en - vy, ill will, spite— may these all cease;
With ho - ly joy far be - yond thought we shall be full,



and may our hearts ev - er be one in faith - ful love.
with us, a - bid - ing in our midst, is Christ our God.
from age to age, world with - out end, for - ev - er - more.

Text: Latin, 9th cent.; tr. composite
Music: UBI CARITAS, plainsong mode VI
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Prayers

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

Trusting in Jesus who gave his life for the world, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

God who kneels to wash our feet, gather your church around the world during this holy week. Humble the powerful and lift up any who are marginalized. Renew our faith and make us bold in service and love to our neighbors. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God who blesses the grain of the soil and the fruit of the vine, inspire in us a reverent care for the earth. Sustain fields, gardens, and wild places, that all people are fed and every living thing flourishes. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God whose greatest commandment is love, guide all who govern by the principle of love. Transform unjust human systems that oppress some for the gain of others. Restore communities as places of justice and concern for those who are vulnerable. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God who was betrayed, comfort people everywhere who have suffered abuse at the hands of someone they knew and trusted. Heal the bodies, minds, and hearts of victims of exploitation. Help all in pain to know that you are near (*especially*), Barbara, Jan, Janet, Joyce, Ida, Phyllis and Larry, Bob and Ellie, Mary, John, Tom, Doug, Alice, Charlie, Pat, Karl and Otti, Larry, Karen, Anna, Deb, Fran, Pat, Bill, and others we may name aloud or quietly in our hearts. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God who sits at the table with us, grant the joy of your presence to people celebrating first communion today, and to all who share the meal. Strengthen communities of faith in grace and courage. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God who brings new life out of death, we pray with thanks for the lives of those who have joined the communion of saints (*especially*). In our holy meal, connect us to the faithful who have gone before us, and nourish us as your people living today. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Receive these prayers, loving God, for the sake of the One who loved us to the end, Jesus Christ, our redeemer.

Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

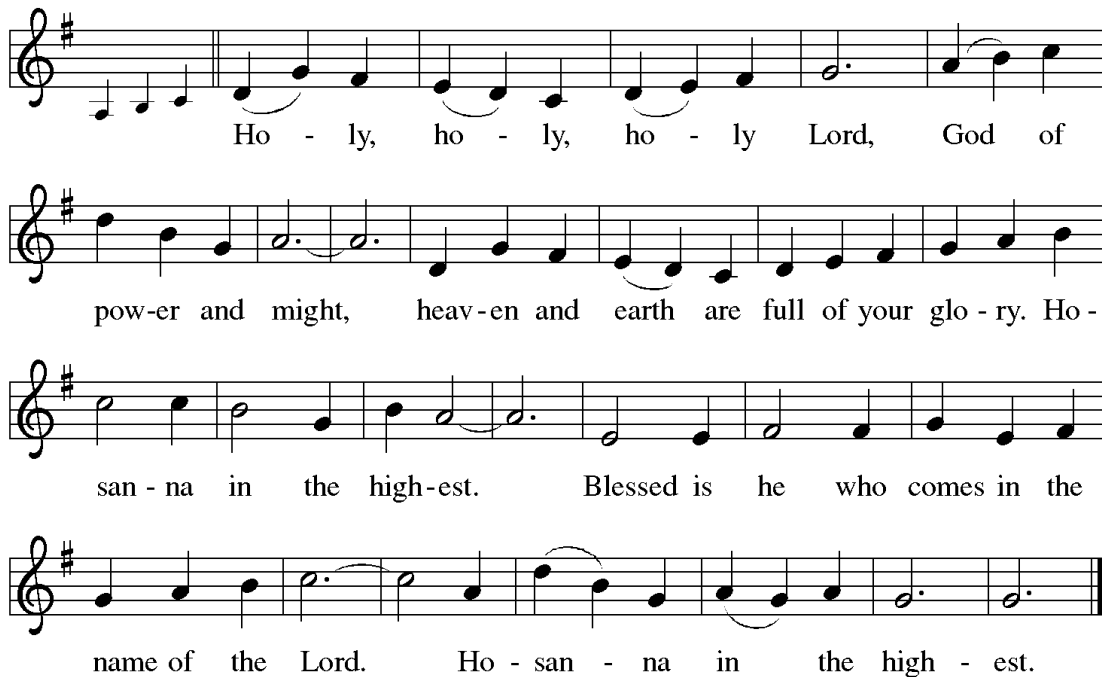
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
whose suffering and death gave salvation to all.
You gather your people around the tree of the cross,
transforming death into life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Thanksgiving at the Table

P Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, in the beginning you formed the heavens and earth and created us in your likeness.

You made us guardians of your good creation and left the earth in our care.

All through our weary years and our silent tears,

you did not abandon us to ourselves, but sought us out in love.

When we were captives in Egypt, you did not abandon us.

When we wandered in the wilderness, you did not abandon us.

When we turned to false gods, you did not abandon us.

Through your holy prophets you called us to return to your graciousness,
to your mercy, and to your steadfast love.

In the crowning act of love you gave your only Son,
that whoever believes in him will have eternal life.

For you sent Jesus not to condemn the world, but to save the world from sin.

Through his death on the cross,

we who were once far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,

we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P With this bread and cup, we remember Christ's life among us;

his association with outcasts, his eating with sinners,

his healing of the sick, his care for the poor.

Send, we pray, your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and wine,

that we who share this meal may become a holy communion,

the body of Christ in the world.

**C Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen**

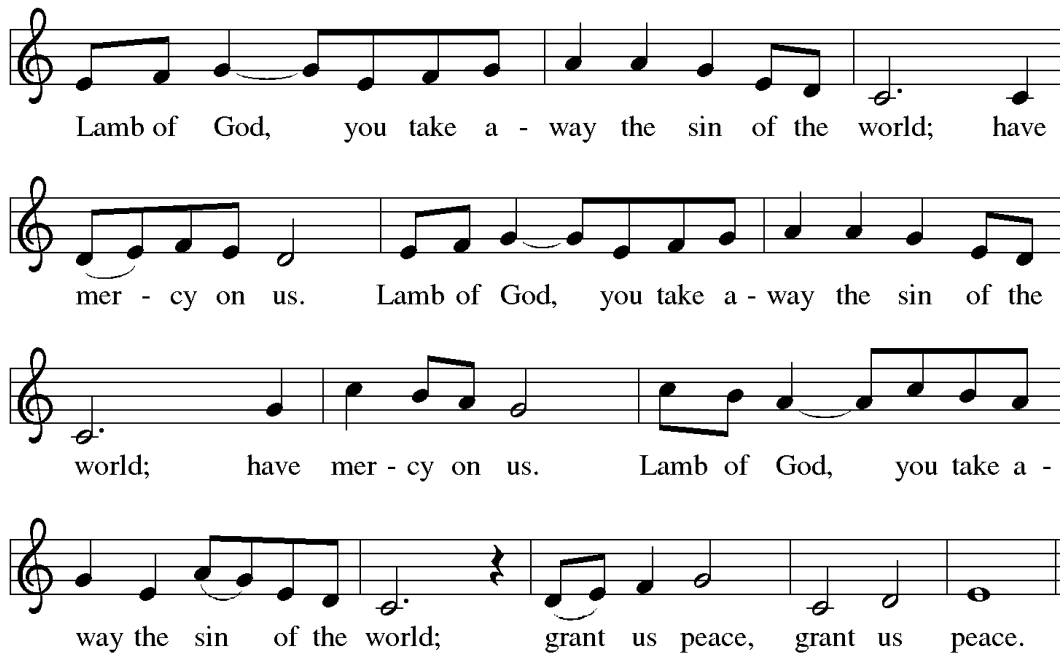
The Lord's Prayer

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

Invitation to Communion

P Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

Communion Song - Lamb of God



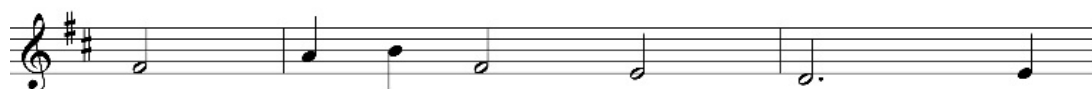
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

The Distribution

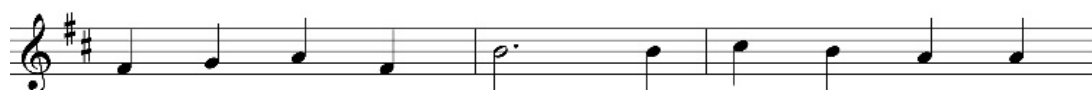
Hymn - My Song Is Love Unknown

343

My Song Is Love Unknown



1. My song is love un - known, My
 2. He came from his blest throne, Sal -
 3. Some - times they strew his way And
 4. Why, what has my Lord done? What
 5. They rise and needs will have My
 6. In life, no house, no home My
 7. Here might I stay and sing, No



Sav - ior's love for me, Love to the love - less
 va - tion to be - stow, But all made strange, and
 his sweet prais - es sing, Re - sound - ing all the
 makes this rage and spite? He made the lame to
 dear Lord made a - way; A mur - der - er they
 Lord on earth might have; In death, no friend - ly
 sto - ry so di - vine; Nev - er was love, dear



shown That they might love - ly be. O
 none The longed - for Christ - would know. But
 day Ho - san - nas to their King. Then
 run, He gave the blind their sight. Sweet
 save: The prince of life they slay. Yet
 tomb But what a stran - ger gave. What
 King, Nev - er was grief like thine. This



who am I That for my sake My
 O my friend, My friend in - deed, Who
 "Cru - ci - fy!" Is all they breathe, And
 in - jur - ies! Yet they at these Them -
 cheer - ful he To suf - f'ring goes, That
 may I say? Heav'n was his home; But
 is my friend, In whose sweet praise I



Lord shall take Frail flesh, and die?
 at my need His life did spend.
 for his death They thirst and cry.
 selves dis - please, And 'gainst him rise.
 he his foes, From thence might free.
 mine the tomb Where - in he lay.
 all my days Could glad - ly spend.

Text: Samuel Crossman, c.1624-1683
 Tune: LOVE UNKNOWN, 6 6 6 6 4 4 4; John Ireland, 1879-1962, © John Ireland Trust

Blessing

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

C Amen

Post-Communion Prayer

A Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

The Stripping of the Altar

*The congregation may kneel or sit throughout
the Stripping of the Altar as Psalm 22 is sung by cantor(s).*

After the Psalm, the worshipers exit in silence.



*The Order of Worship
for
Good Friday*

March 29, 2024 at 7:00 pm

Enter in Silence

A silent prayer may be said upon entering the church:

Lord Jesus, you carried our sins in your own body on the tree so that we might have life. May we, and all who remember this day, find new life in You now and in the world to come – where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Invocation

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

Confession and Forgiveness

read in unison

C I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from Eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord; who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, secured and delivered me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with silver and gold, but with His holy and precious blood, and with His innocent sufferings and death; in order that I might be His, live under Him in His Kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness; even as He is risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.



1 Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast thou of - fend - ed that we to
 2 Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on thee? A - las, my
 3 Lo, the Good Shep - herd for the sheep is of - fered; the slave hath
 4 For me, kind Je - sus, was thine in - car - na - tion, thy mor - tal
 5 There - fore, kind Je - sus, since I can - not pay thee, I do a -



judge thee have in hate pre - tend - ed? By foes de - rid - ed,
 trea - son, Je - sus, hath un - done thee. 'Twas I, Lord Je - sus,
 sin - ned, and the Son hath suf - fered; for our a - tone - ment,
 sor - row, and thy life's ob - la - tion; thy death of an - guish
 dore thee, and will ev - er pray thee; think on thy pit - y



by thine own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed.
 I it was de - nied thee; I cru - ci - fied thee.
 while we noth - ing heed - ed, God in - ter - ced - ed.
 and thy bit - ter pas - sion, for my sal - va - tion.
 and thy love un - swerv - ing, not my de - serv - ing.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Robert Bridges, 1844–1930, alt.
 Music: HERZLIEBSTER JESU, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

Prayer of the Day

P Eternal giver of life and light, this holy night shines with the radiance of the risen Christ. Renew your church with the Spirit given us in baptism, that we may worship you in sincerity and truth and may shine as a light in the world, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

A Service of Light and Darkness

The distinctive feature of this service is the contrast of light and shadows, symbolizing the apparent victory of death and evil. In reality, however, we witness and testify to their failure to defeat Him who is the Light of the World. The service is divided into seven parts. After each reading of the lessons, a candle on the altar will be extinguished. During this time a period of silent prayer will be observed and concluded with a prayer by Pastor Anderson before the hymn is sung. The sanctuary will grow darker as the service continues.

1. Father, Forgive Them For They Know Not What They Do.

Lesson of Prophecy

Isaiah 53:3

³He was despised and rejected by others;
a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity;
and as one from whom others hide their faces
he was despised, and we held him of no account.

Passion Story

Luke 23:32-38

³²Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. ³³When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. [[³⁴Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" ³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, ³⁷and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

Silent Meditation

Prayer

Almighty God, to whom your crucified Son prayed for the forgiveness of those who did not know what they were doing, grant that we, too, may be included in that prayer. Whether we sin out of ignorance or intention, be merciful to us and grant us your acceptance and peace: in the name of Jesus Christ, our suffering Savior. Amen.

Organ Selection: *Herzliebster Jesu* by Helmut Walcha (ELW 349)

2. Today You Will Be With Me In Paradise.

Lesson of Prophecy

Isaiah 53:10-11

¹⁰Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with pain.

When you make his life an offering for sin,
he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days;
through him the will of the LORD shall prosper.

¹¹Out of his anguish he shall see light;
he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.
The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous,
and he shall bear their iniquities.

Passion Story

Luke 23:39-43

³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying,
"Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him,
saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of
condemnation? ⁴¹And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are
getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong."

⁴²Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." ⁴³He
replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Silent Meditation

Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ, who promised to the repentant the joy of paradise, enable us by the Holy Spirit to repent and to receive your grace in this world and in the world to come. Amen.

Choir Anthem – *O Saviour of the World* by John Goss

3. Woman, Behold Your Son. Son, Behold Your Mother.

Lesson of Prophecy

Isaiah 53:12

¹²Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great,
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong;
because he poured out himself to death,
and was numbered with the transgressors;
yet he bore the sin of many,
and made intercession for the transgressors.

Passion Story

John 19:23-27

²³When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. ²⁴So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it." This was to fulfill what the scripture says,

"They divided my clothes among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots."

²⁵And that is what the soldiers did.

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." ²⁷Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

Silent Meditation

Prayer

O Blessed Savior, who in your hour of greatest suffering expressed compassion for your mother and made arrangements for her care, grant that we who seek to follow your example may show our concern for the needs of others, reaching out to provide for those who suffer in our human family. Hear this our prayer for your mercy's sake. Amen.

Hymn - Were You There

353

Were You There

1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?
 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
 5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

Refrain

Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

Text: African American spiritual
 Music: WERE YOU THERE, African American spiritual
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4. My God, My God, Why Have You Forsaken Me?

Lesson of Prophecy

Isaiah 53:6

⁶All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have all turned to our own way,
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

Passion Story

Matthew 27:45-46

⁴⁵From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon.
⁴⁶And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema
sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

Silent Meditation

Prayer

O Lord, I call for help by day, and in the night I still must cry. Regard me, listen to my prayer. My soul is troubled, I am weak, cut off as one whom you forsake, forgotten near the pit of death. Your wrath weighs heavy on me here. Your angry waves upon me break. Friends watch in horror from afar. I am shut in without escape. My eyes are dim because I weep. My hands are lifted up to you. Do you work wonders for the dead? Can graves tell out your mighty deeds? There, who can know that you can save? Lord, do not hide your face from me. You have afflicted me from youth. Your anger is destroying me. Your flood of anger closes in. The darkness is my closest friend – shunned and forsaken, all alone.

Hymn - Lamb of God, Pure and Sinless

357

Lamb of God, Pure and Sinless



Lamb of God, pure and sin - less, once on the cross an of - f'ring,



pa - tient, low - ly, guilt - less, for - sak - en in your suf - f'ring:



from sin's grasp you have torn us, from gloom to hope have borne us.



- 1 Grant us your mer - cy, O Je - sus.
- 2 Grant us your mer - cy, O Je - sus.
- 3 Your peace be with us, O Je - sus. A - men.

Text: Nikolaus Decius, 1485-1550; tr. composite
Music: O LAMM GOTTES, UNSCHULDIG, Nikolaus Decius
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5. I Thirst

Lesson of Prophecy

Isaiah 53:7

⁷He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.

Passion Story

John 19:28-29

²⁸After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), "I am thirsty." ²⁹A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth.

Silent Meditation

Prayer

O blessed Savior, whose lips were dry and whose throat was parched, grant us the water of life that we who thirst after righteousness may find it quenched by your love and mercy, leading us to bring this same relief to others. Amen.

Organ Selection – *O Lamm Gottes, unschuldig* by J. S. Bach (*O Lamb of God, Innocent, ELW 357*)

6. It Is Finished

Lesson of Prophecy

Isaiah 53:4-5

⁴Surely he has borne our infirmities
and carried our diseases;
yet we accounted him stricken,
struck down by God, and afflicted.

⁵But he was wounded for our transgressions,
crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the punishment that made us whole,
and by his bruises we are healed.

Passion Story

John 19:30-37

³⁰When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished." Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

³¹Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the Sabbath, especially because that Sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed. ³²Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. ³³But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs.

³⁴Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. ³⁵(He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.) ³⁶These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, "None of his bones shall be broken." ³⁷And again another passage of scripture says, "They will look on the one whom they have pierced."

Silent Meditation

Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ, who finished the work that you were sent to do, enable us by your Holy Spirit to be faithful to our call. Grant us strength to bear our crosses and endure our sufferings, even unto death. Enable us to live and love so faithfully that we also become good news to the world, joining your witness, O Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

7. Father, Into Thy Hands I Commit My Spirit.

Lesson of Prophecy

Isaiah 53:8-9

⁸By a perversion of justice he was taken away.
Who could have imagined his future?
For he was cut off from the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people.
⁹They made his grave with the wicked
and his tomb with the rich,
although he had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in his mouth.

Passion Story

Luke 23:44-49

⁴⁴It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, ⁴⁵while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last. ⁴⁷When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, "Certainly this man was innocent." ⁴⁸And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. ⁴⁹But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

Silent Meditation

Prayer

Father, into whose hands your Son Jesus Christ commended his spirit, grant that we, too, following his example, may in all of life and at the moment of our death entrust our lives into your faithful hands of love. In the name of Jesus who gave his life for us all. Amen.

Hymn – O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

351

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded



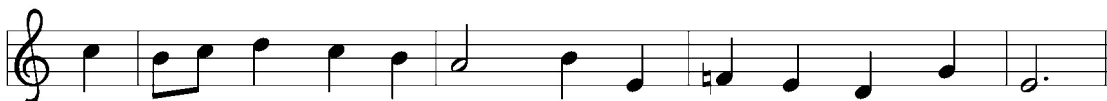
1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down,
 2 How pale thou art with an - guish, with sore a - buse and scorn;
 3 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,
 4 Lord, be my con - so - la - tion; shield me when I must die;



now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;
 how does thy face now lan - guish, which once was bright as morn!
 for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pit - y with - out end?
 re - mind me of thy pas - sion when my last hour draws nigh.



O sa - cred head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!
 Thy grief and bit - ter pas - sion were all for sin - ners' gain;
 Oh, make me thine for - ev - er, and should I faint - ing be,
 These eyes, new faith re - ceiv - ing, from thee shall nev - er move;



Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.
 mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.
 Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.
 for all who die be - liev - ing die safe - ly in thy love.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, based on Arnulf of Louvain, d. 1250; tr. composite
 Music: HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN, German melody, c. 1500; adapt. Hans Leo Hassler, 1564–1612

The Light of the World is gone, but not extinguished. A loud noise is sounded which signifies the quaking of the earth and the opening of the graves at the death of Jesus (Matthew 28:51).

The Christ Candle will now be processed out, signifying the burial of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Lord's Prayer *(Whispered by all in unison)*

P Taught by our Lord, we humbly pray...

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.

You may remain in the sanctuary for as long as you like, meditating on what God has done for you through Jesus' death on the cross.

Depart in Silence

A benediction is not said on Maundy Thursday or Good Friday because the Holy Week services are connected as one service called the "Triduum" which concludes with the Vigil of Easter.

Please place your offering in the plate in the narthex.



*The Order of Worship
for the
Great Vigil of Easter
Holy Saturday*

March 30, 2024 at 7:00 pm

Light

The congregation gathers in Creation Garden near the fire pit. The new fire is lit.

Blessing of the New Fire

- A Dear friends in Christ, on this most holy night, when our Lord Jesus Christ passed from death to life, the Church invites her children throughout the world to come together in vigil and prayer. This is the Passover of the Lord: as we honor the memory of his death and resurrection by hearing his word and celebrating his mysteries, we also share his victory over death and live with him forever.
- P The Lord be with you.
- C **and also with you.**
- P O God, you are like a refiner's fire and your Spirit kindles our hearts with faith. Bless this flame as we celebrate this Easter festival, so that, burning with desire for life with you, we may be found fit to take part in that festival of light which has no end, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C **Amen**

Blessing of the Paschal Candle

The paschal candle is blessed and is lit from the new fire and the candles of the worshipers are also lighted.

- P Christ yesterday and today – the beginning and the end – Alpha and Omega – his are times and all ages to him be glory and dominion forever and ever.
- C **Amen**
- A May the light of Christ risen in glory scatter the darkness of our hearts and our minds.
- C **Come let us worship Christ.**

Procession

*Led by the light of Christ, the congregation moves into the sanctuary as we sing **three** times:*

- A The light of Christ
- C **Thanks be to God.**
- When all are in place:*
- A The light of Christ
- C **Thanks be to God.**

Exsultet: The Easter Proclamation

Five nail heads with five grains of incense, symbolizing the five wounds of Christ, are inserted into the candle during the Exsultet.

(Please extinguish candles at the conclusion)

Office of the Readings

P Brothers and sisters in the Lord, let us hear now the record of God's saving deeds and mighty acts on our behalf and how, with a mighty arm and outstretched hand, God called people to return to their God.

First Reading

Genesis 1:1 - 2:4a

Hymn – Crashing Waters at Creation

455

Crashing Waters at Creation

1 Crash - ing wa - ters at cre - a - tion, or - dered by the Spir - it's breath,
2 Part - ing wa - ter stood and trem - bled as the cap - tives passed onthrough,
3 Cleans - ing wa - ter once at Jor - dan closed a - round the one fore - told,
4 Liv - ing wa - ter, nev - er end - ing, quench the thirst and flood the soul.

first to wit - ness day's be - gin - ning from the bright - ness of night's death.
wash - ing off the chains of bond - age—chan - nel to a life made new.
o - pened to re - veal the glo - ry ev - er new and ev - er old.
Well - spring, source of life e - ter - nal, drench our dry - ness, make us whole.

The musical score consists of two systems. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment line on a bass clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: STUTTGART, attr. Christian F. Witt, 1660–1716; adapt. Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805–1876

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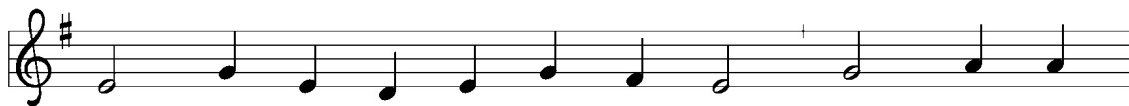
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Prayer

Almighty God,
you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature
and yet more wonderfully restored it.
In your mercy, let us share the divine life of the one
who came to share our humanity,
Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your word; curb those who
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are
 3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, send peace and



by de - ceit or sword would wrest the king - dom from your Son
 Lord of lords a - lone; de - fend your ho - ly church, that we
 u - ni - ty on earth; sup - port us in our fi - nal strife



and bring to naught all he has done.
 may sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
 and lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
 Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

Prayer

O God, strength of the powerless
 and light in all darkness:
 Look in mercy upon your church,
 a wonderful and sacred mystery,
 that it may be an ark of peace in the midst of chaos.
 Let the whole world come to see
 that what was fallen is being raised up,
 that what was old is being made new,
 and that all things are being restored to wholeness
 through the one from whom they first took being,
 Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Hymn – O Word of God Incarnate

514

O Word of God Incarnate



1 O Word of God in - car - nate, O Wis - dom from on high,
 2 The church from you, dear Mas - ter, re - ceived the gift di - vine;
 3 Oh, make your church, dear Sav - ior, a lamp of bur - nished gold



O Truth un - changed, un - chang - ing, O Light of our dark sky:
 and still that light is lift - ed o'er all the earth to shine.
 to bear be - fore the na - tions your true light, as of old;



we praise you for the ra - diance that from the hal - lowed page,
 It is the chart and com - pass that, all life's voy - age through,
 oh, teach your wand - 'ring pil - grims by this their path to trace,



a lan - tern to our foot - steps, shines on from age to age.
 mid mists and rocks and quick - sands still guides, O Christ, to you.
 till, clouds and dark - ness end - ed, they see you face to face.

Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, alt.

Music: MUNICH, *Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch*, Meiningen, 1693

Prayer

O God, whose wonderful deeds of old
 shine forth even to our own day:
 By the power of your mighty arm
 you once delivered your chosen people
 from slavery under Pharaoh,
 a sign for us of the salvation offered to everyone
 by the water of baptism.
 Grant that all the peoples of earth
 may partake in the salvation of the Israelites
 and together dance on the safe side of the sea,
 through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Hymn – If You But Trust in God to Guide You

769



1 If you but trust in God to guide you with gen - tle
 2 What gain is there in anx - ious weep - ing, in help - less
 3 The Lord our rest - less hearts is hold - ing, in peace and
 4 Sing, pray, and keep God's ways un - swerv - ing, of - fer your



hand through all your ways, you'll find that God is there be -
 an - ger and dis - tress? If you are in your Sav - ior's
 qui - et - ness con - tent. We rest in God's good will un -
 ser - vice faith - ful - ly. Trust heav - en's word; though un - de -



side you when cross - es come, in try - ing days. Trust then in
 keep - ing, in sor - row will he love you less? For Christ who
 fold - ing, what wis - dom from on high has sent. God, who has
 serv - ing, you'll find God's prom - ise true to be. This is our



God's un - chang - ing love; build on the rock that will not move.
 took for you a cross will bring you safe through ev - 'ry loss.
 cho - sen us by grace, knows ver - y well the fears we face.
 con - fi - dence in - deed: God nev - er fails in time of need.

Text: Georg Neumark, 1621–1681; tr. composite
 Music: WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT, Georg Neumark
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Prayer

Living God,
 by the death and resurrection of your Son
 you have brought us out of sin into righteousness
 and out of death into life.
 Breathe into us your life-giving Spirit,
 that receiving the gifts of word and sacrament,
 we may live in the hope of all your blessings to come,
 through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

O God, Our Help in Ages Past



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
 2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;
 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,
 4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
 suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
 from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.
 short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
 bears all our years away;
 they fly forgotten, as a dream
 dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
 our hope for years to come,
 still be our guard while troubles last
 and our eternal home.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
 Music: ST. ANNE, William Croft, 1678–1727

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Prayer

Sovereign God,
 by the resurrection of your Son
 you offer us victory in our struggles,
 a city for our refuge,
 the joy of the beloved,
 and festival celebration.
 Gather all the outcast into your mercy,
 and restore your whole creation
 through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Hymn – Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

834

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
 we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
 all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!
 thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt.
 Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional

Prayer

Almighty and eternal God, the only hope of the world,
 by the proclamation of your prophets
 you declare to us the word of salvation.
 By the grace of your Spirit
 increase the devotion of all the baptized,
 that, strengthened by your presence,
 we may withstand hardship and sorrow
 and be united with your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Holy Baptism

The Blessing of Baptismal Water

The water is poured into the font.

P It is truly right and just that we should at all times and in all places, give you thanks, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God; who by your unseen presence makes your sacraments effective in an amazing way. At the very dawn of creation your Spirit breathed on the waters, making them the wellspring of all holiness. The waters of the great flood you made a sign of the waters of Baptism, that make an end of sin and a new beginning of goodness.

The celebrant breathes upon the water in the sign of the Cross.

P Through the waters of the Red Sea you led Israel out of slavery, to be an image of God's holy people, set free from sin by Baptism.

The celebrant divides the water with his hand.

P Your Son willed that water and blood should flow from his side as he hung upon the cross. After his Resurrection he told his disciples, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

The celebrant sprinkles the water in the four directions of the earth.

P Father, look now with love upon your Church, and unseal for her the fountain of Baptism. By the power of the Holy Spirit give to the water of this font the grace of your Son. You created us in your own likeness: cleanse all from sin in a new birth of innocence by water and the Spirit. We ask you, Father, with your Son to send the Holy Spirit upon the waters of this font.

The Paschal Candle is lowered into the water.

P May all who are buried with Christ in the death of Baptism rise also with him to newness of life. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

P We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you
created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.
Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.
We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace,
and love.
To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C Amen.

New Testament Reading

Romans 6:3-11

³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were
baptized into his death? ⁴Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism
into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the
Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be
united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was
crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no
longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸But if we
have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know
that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer
has dominion over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the
life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to
sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

A Word of God, word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

Dressing of the Altar during the hymn

Christ Jesus Lay in Death’s Strong Bands



1 Christ Je - sus lay in death’s strong bands for our of - fens - es giv - en;
 2 Our Sav - ior Je - sus, God’s own Son, here in our stead de - scend - ed;
 3 Here the true Pas - chal Lamb we see, whom God so free - ly gave us,
 4 So let us keep the fes - ti - val to which the Lord in - vites us;
 5 Then let us feast this Eas - ter day on Christ the bread of heav - en;



but now at God’s right hand he stands and brings us life from heav - en.
 the knot of sin has been un - done, the claim of death is end - ed.
 who died on the ac - curs - ed tree— so strong God’s love!—to save us.
 Christ is the ver - y joy of all, the sun that warms and lights us.
 the Word of grace has purged a - way the old and e - vil leav - en.



There - fore let us joy - ful be and sing to God right thank - ful - ly
 Christ has crushed the pow’r of hell; now there is naught but death’s gray shell—
 See, his blood now marks our door; faith points to it; death pas - ses o’er,
 Now his grace to us im - parts e - ter - nal sun - shine to our hearts;
 Christ a - lone, our ho - ly meal, the hun - gry soul will feed and heal;



loud songs of hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!
 its sting is lost for - ev - er. Hal - le - lu - jah!
 and Sa - tan can - not harm us. Hal - le - lu - jah!
 the night of sin is end - ed. Hal - le - lu - jah!
 faith lives up - on no oth - er! Hal - le - lu - jah!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. composite
 Music: CHRIST LAG IN TODESBANDEN, J. Walter, *Geistliche Gesangbüchlein*, 1524
 Text st. 2 © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.

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Holy Gospel

John 20:1-18

before the reading

P The Holy Gospel according to John.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

after the reading

P The Gospel of the Lord

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

P Alleluia. Christ is risen.

C **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Hymn – Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings,
 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love;
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring



in praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has
 there - fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has
 set heart and will on things a - bove that we
 and with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has



tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of
 tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Now still he
 con - quer through your tri - umph; grant grace suf -
 tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the



an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry
 comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all
 fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly
 Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 strife. "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



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

Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876–1947, alt.
 Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623
 Text © 1958 *Service Book and Hymnal*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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Offering

Offertory – *Improvisation on Sonne der Gerechtigkeit*

Offertory Response - **Create in Me a Clean Heart**

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 to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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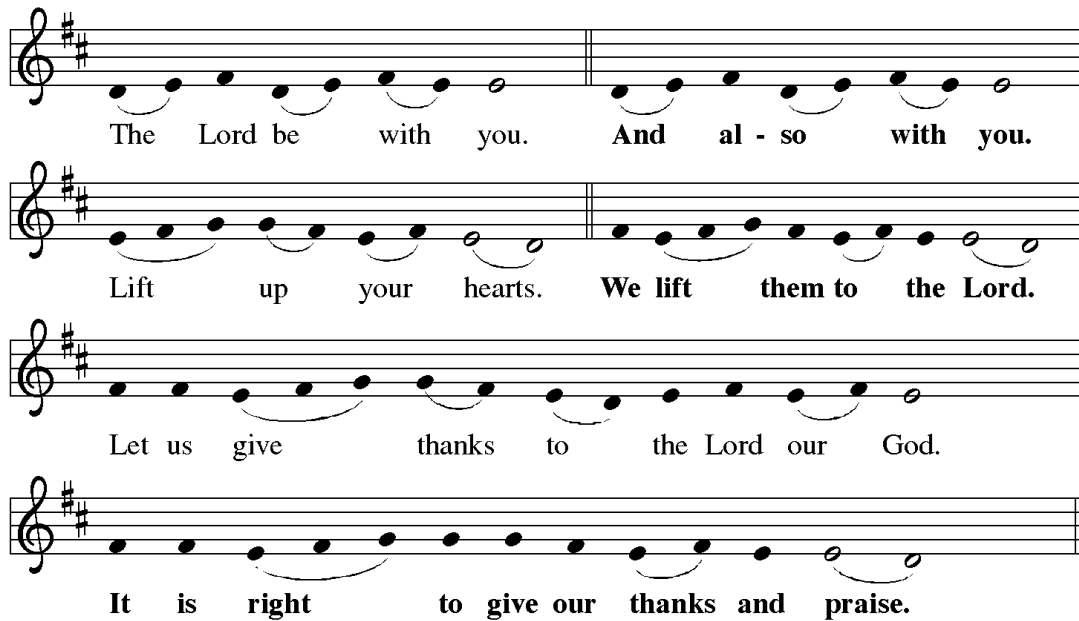
Offertory Prayer

A Let us pray. Everlasting God, the whole universe sings a new song of praise: the rivers clap their hands, the hills ring out for joy. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us voices ready to cry out for justice and proclaim resurrection joy wherever your Spirit leads us. In Jesus' name we boldly pray.

C Amen.

Sacrament of Holy Communion

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 our thanks and praise.

Preface

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;
who in dying has destroyed death, and in 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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
 pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Thanksgiving at the Table

P 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

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

Invitation to Communion

P Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

C Therefore, let us keep the feast! Alleluia!

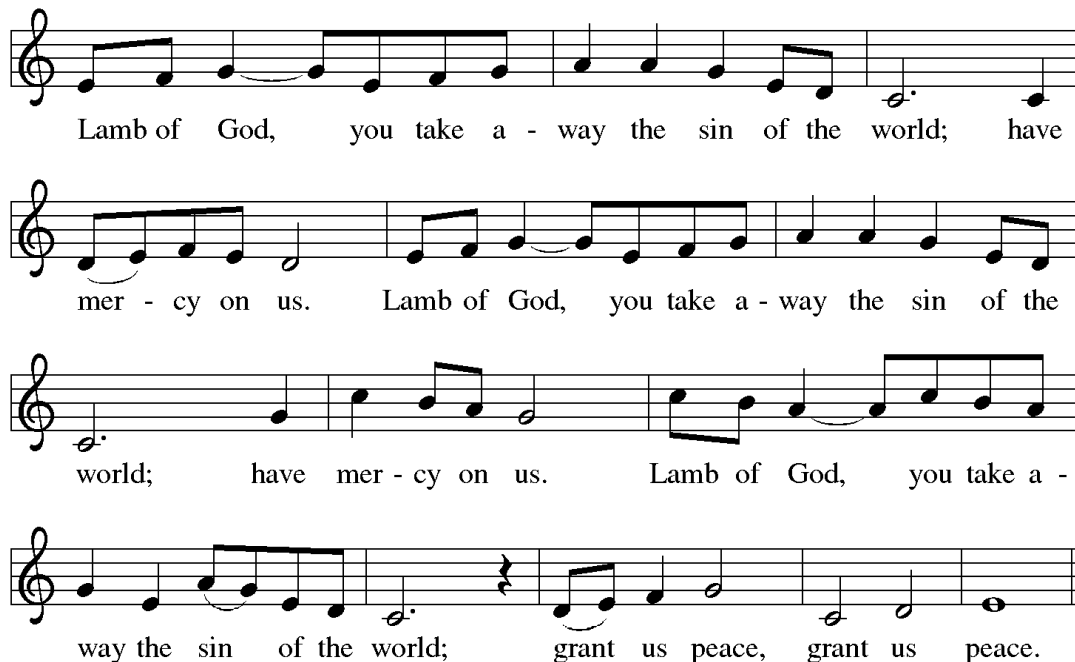
Communion

***Admission to the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper** is by invitation of our Lord, presented through the Church to those who are baptized. Those unable to partake of bread or wine are assured that we affirm our Lord's presence in, with, and under either the bread or wine alone. If you are unable to receive Holy Communion at the altar, please notify an usher in order to receive communion at your seat. All are welcome at the table for a blessing. We use red wine at communion. We offer grape juice and gluten free wafers so inform your server at the rail if you desire either.*

Distribution of the Communion Elements takes place as follows:

*Exit the pews to the side aisles. Empty cups are obtained from the trays located by the front pews. **Proceed to the altar:** Persons on the right side (lectern side) proceed to the back center position at the altar rail and continue filling in clockwise to the front center. The left side (pulpit side) proceeds to the front center at the altar rail and fills in clockwise to the rear center. Serving is continuous. After communing, depart down the center aisle to your seat, putting your cup in the basket.*

Communion Song - 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.

O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 O sons and daugh - ters, let us sing
 2 That Eas - ter morn, at break of day,
 3 An an - gel clad in white they see,
 4 That night the a - pos - tles met in fear;
Insert stanzas 5-8 if desired.
 9 On this most ho - ly day of days,



with heav'n - ly hosts to Christ our king:
 the faith - ful wom - en went their way
 who sits and speaks un - to the three,
 a - mong them came their mas - ter dear,
 be laud and ju - bi - lee and praise:



to - day the grave has lost its sting! Al - le - lu - ia!
 to seek the tomb where Je - sus lay. Al - le - lu - ia!
 "Your Lord will go to Gal - i - lee." Al - le - lu - ia!
 and said, "My peace be with you here." Al - le - lu - ia!
 to God your hearts and voic - es raise. Al - le - lu - ia!

After the final stanza



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

5 When Thomas first the tidings heard,
 that they had seen the risen Lord,
 he doubted the disciples' word.
 Alleluia!

7 No longer Thomas then denied;
 he saw the feet, the hands, the side;
 "You are my Lord and God!" he cried.
 Alleluia!

6 "My pierced side, O Thomas, see,
 and look upon my hands, my feet;
 not faithless, but believing be."
 Alleluia!

8 How blest are they who have not seen,
 and yet whose faith has constant been,
 for they eternal life shall win.
 Alleluia!

Post Communion Blessing

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

C Amen.

Prayer after Communion

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

C Amen.

Solemn Blessing

With heads bowed, we pray...

P May the Almighty God and father of us all, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the death and resurrection of his beloved Son our Lord, pour out upon you manifold blessings

C Amen

P May the God of all mercies, who through the waters of Holy Baptism has raised us from the bondage to sin into newness of life, unite you in love with Christ and his holy Church, now and forever!

C Amen

P May the God of peace and great Shepherd of the flock, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in Christ Jesus our Lord, bring you to the eternal joys of heaven.

C Amen

P The blessing of Almighty God: the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you now and forever!

C Amen

The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done



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



- 1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done; now is the vic - tor's
- 2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst; Je - sus their le - gions
- 3 The three sad days have quick - ly sped, Christ ris - es glo - rious
- 4 Christ closed the yawn - ing gates of hell; the bars from heav'n's high
- 5 Lord, by the stripes which wound-ed you, from death's sting free your



tri - umph won! Now be the song of praise be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!
 has dis - persed. Let shouts of ho - ly joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!
 from the dead. All glo - ry to our ris - en head! Al - le - lu - ia!
 por - tals fell. Let hymns of praise his tri - umph tell. Al - le - lu - ia!
 ser - vants too, that we may live and sing to you. Al - le - lu - ia!

After the final stanza



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

Text: *Symphonia Sirenum*, Köln, 1695; tr. Francis Pott, 1832–1909

Music: VICTORY, Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, 1525–1594; arr. William H. Monk, 1823–1889

Postlude – *Toccata from Organ Symphony no. 5 by Charles-Marie Widor*

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Easter Morning

Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024

- ⌘ 8:30 am Worship, live only, no recording
- ⌘ 11:00 am Worship, live streamed at <https://vimeo.com/event/1478223> and recorded for viewing on vimeo at <https://vimeo.com/stpaulsdurham/videos> (then choose the service date or event you wish to watch).
- ⌘ 9:30-10:30 am Easter Breakfast in Trinity Hall. We will be serving pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, biscuits, fruit along with beverages.
- ⌘ 10:15 am Children's Easter Egg Hunt. Assemble on the main entrance patio. Bring a basket to gather eggs from the playground and ark areas. You will keep the items from the plastic eggs, return the plastic eggs and receive an Easter bag of treats.

The Church Office will be closed April 1-5, 2024