



# *The Great Vigil of Easter*

March 30, 2024 ☩ 7:00 p.m.



**Albany  
Lutherans  
Together**

# WELCOME

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*This is the night of salvation! At the Vigil of Easter, we gather around fire, word, water, bread, and wine, proclaiming through story and song that ours is a God who continuously brings life out of death. On this night we experience again the heart of God's baptismal promise and the center of our faith: we are claimed and cleansed, renewed in the death and resurrection of Christ. We gather with all the saints of every time and place to celebrate the good news: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!*

## **The online assembly is invited to connect remotely.**

- † Go to **FirstLutheranAlbany.org/Zoom**,
- † or dial **929.436.2866** and input **meeting ID 518 463 1326** and **passcode 1** when prompted.

## **We also invite you to prepare your physical space to experience the liturgy fully:**

- † As we gather around the new fire and listen to the stories of salvation history in the glow of candlelight, dim the lights of your home and light a candle nearby.
- † As the resurrection gospel is proclaimed and the lights in the sanctuary are brightened, turn on the lights in your home and set out some flowers.
- † Prepare a bowl of water during the affirmation of baptism, and dip your finger into the cool water to make the sign of the cross in remembrance of your own baptism.
- † Set out some bread (or a plain cracker) and wine (or juice) as we taste the sweetness of the first Eucharist of Easter together.

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## GATHERING

### **GREETING & WELCOME**

*The assembly gathers outdoors around the new fire.*

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

**And also with you.**

Friends in Christ, on this most holy night  
when our Savior Jesus Christ passed from death to life,  
we gather with the church  
throughout the whole world in vigil and prayer.

This is the passover of Jesus Christ.

Through light and the word,  
through water and oil, bread and wine,  
we proclaim Christ's death and resurrection,  
share Christ's triumph over sin and death,  
and await Christ's coming again in glory.



## BLESSING OF THE NEW FIRE

Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

Eternal God, in Jesus Christ you have given the light of life to all the world.

Bless this new fire, and increase in us a desire to shine forth with the brightness of Christ's rising, until we feast at the banquet of eternal light; through the Sun of righteousness, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

*The presiding minister traces the following inscription on the paschal candle:*

✝ Christ, yesterday and today,  
**A Ω** the beginning and the ending.

**2** To Christ belongs all time

**0** and all the ages;

**2** to Christ belongs all glory and dominion

**4** now and forever.

**Amen.**

*The presiding minister lights the paschal candle from the new fire and says:*

The light of Christ, rising in glory,  
dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

## PROCESSION

*The assembly follows the assisting minister, bearing the paschal candle, into the sanctuary. As you make your way to your seat, please remain standing, as you are able.*

*As the procession begins, the cantor sings:*



*Midway through the procession, the cantor sings again:*



*As the procession concludes, the cantor sings a third time:*







**FIRST READING**

Creation  
Genesis 1:1—2:4a

*Traditionally, the Easter Vigil includes as many as twelve readings. Tonight, we use five, including the four core readings never omitted.*

*The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the beginning of life for us all. Just as the creator God forms the earth out of chaotic waters and shines light onto primeval darkness, so the resurrection of Christ pulls us from death through baptism into fruitful life with all the good earth and enlightens our life in Christ.*

*Response following the reading:*  
Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSE**

Creating God,  
Your Fingers Trace

Text:  
Jeffery Rowthorn

Music:  
William Walker  
arr. Ralph Johnson

*The choir sings:*

Creating God, your fingers trace the bold designs of farthest space;  
let sun and moon and stars and light and what lies hidden praise your might.

Sustaining God, your hands uphold earth's myst'ries known or yet untold;  
let water's fragile blend with air, enabling life, proclaim your care.

Redeeming God, your arms embrace all now despised for creed or race;  
let peace, descending like a dove, make known on earth your healing love.

Indwelling God, your gospel claims one fam'ly with a billion names;  
let ev'ry life be touched by grace until we praise you face to face.

Until we praise you face to face.

*~ silence ~*

**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.**

**SECOND READING**

Flood  
Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18;  
8:6-18; 9:8-13

*In the story of the flood, God re-creates the world by sending forty days of rain to destroy all that is evil. In the resurrection of Christ, God is making all things new, and in our baptism, we are cleansed and brought to new life.*

*Response following the reading:*  
Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSE

The Lord of Hosts  
Is with Us  
(Psalm 46)

Setting by:  
Rawn Harbor &  
Daniel Schwandt

*The refrain is sung once by the cantor and repeated by all:*

*Refrain*

The musical notation consists of two staves of music in G major, 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the refrain: 'The LORD of hosts is with us, the God of Ja-cob our'. The second staff contains the melody for the second line: 'strong - hold, the God of Ja-cob our strong - hold.' The lyrics are written below the notes.

*The cantor sings the verses, and the refrain is repeated by all where indicated.*

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.  
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,  
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;  
though its waters rage and foam,  
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult. **Refrain**

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.  
God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;  
God shall help it at the break of day.  
The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;  
God speaks, and the earth melts away. **Refrain**

Come now, regards the works of the LORD,  
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;  
behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;  
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.  
“Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations;  
I will be exalted in the earth. **Refrain**

*~ silence ~*

## 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.**



### THIRD READING

Deliverance at  
the Red Sea  
Exodus 14:10-31, 15:20-21

Setting by:  
Rory Cooney

*In this archetypal story, God vanquishes evil and liberates the oppressed. By the resurrection, God liberates us from slavery to sin and brings us through the waters of baptism to safety.*

*The reading includes sung responses echoing the cantor, as indicated below.*

[ ... ] when I receive glory through Pharaoh and his chariots and charioteers!

**Refrain I** ♩=108-110

*clap* *Cantor, All repeat* *Cantor, All repeat*

Sing the song of free - dom! God has won the vic - t'ry.

*Cantor, All repeat* *To Sections B-D*

Horse and char - i - ot are cast in - to the sea.

[ ... ] coming any closer together all night long. **Refrain I (above)**

[ ... ] like a wall to their right and to their left. **Refrain I (above)**

[ ... ] fighting for them against the Egyptians.

**Refrain II** *Cantor, All repeat* *Cantor, All repeat*

Sing the song of free - dom! God has won the vic - t'ry.

*Cantor, All repeat* *To Sections E-G*

Horse and char - i - ot are cast in - to the sea.

[ ... ] when the Lord hurled them into its midst! **Refrain II (above)**

[ ... ] saved Israel on that day from the power of the Egyptians!

**Refrain II (above)**

[ ... ] sang this song to the Lord:

**H** Slowly ♩=72-76 *accel.*

*Cantor, All repeat* *Cantor, All repeat*

Sing the song of free - dom! God has won the vic - t'ry.

*accel.* *Cantor, All repeat*

Horse and char - i - ot are cast in - to the sea.

*a tempo* *Cantor, All repeat* *Cantor, All repeat*

Sing the song of free - dom! God has won the vic - t'ry.

*Cantor, All repeat*

Horse and char - i - ot are cast in - to the sea.

*Millennia of the oppression of peoples and groups have not taught us to live in justice. If anything, humankind has only perfected the means of oppression. The liberation theologians of this century plead that the whole church, like the God of Exodus, hears the cries of the suffering people, that we like Moses lead the people to freedom and like Miriam dance at the demise of oppressors. [ ... ] The narrative of the deliverance from Egypt gives Easter a metaphor for Christ's resurrection: The Spirit of God is turning human life upside down.*

—Gail Ramshaw  
from *Words Around the Fire*



**Final Refrain**  
Cantor, All repeat

1. Horse and char - i - ot, fear and lone - li - ness,  
2. Horse and char - i - ot, hate and prej - u - dice,  
Cantor, All repeat

death and emp - ti - ness; Horse and char - i - ot are cast in - to the sea.  
chains and slav - er - y;

**D.S.** (last time)

*Response following the reading (spoken):*

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSE**

I Will Sing to the Lord  
(Exodus 15)

Setting by:  
Julie Lindorff

*The refrain is sung once by the cantor and repeated by all:*

*Refrain*

I will sing to the Lord, who has tri-umphed glo - rious - ly;  
for the horse and the rid - er God has thrown in - to the sea!

*The cantor sings the verses, and the refrain is repeated by all where indicated.*

Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in pow'r,  
your right hand shatters the enemy!

Who among the gods is like you, O Lord?

Who is like you, majestic in holiness,  
awesome in splendor, doing wonders! **Refrain**

In your mercy you led forth the people you set free;  
you guided them in your strength to your holy habitation.

You will bring them in and plant them on the mount  
that is your own! **Refrain**

~ silence ~

**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.**



## FOURTH READING

Salvation Freely  
Offered to All  
Isaiah 55:1-11

*In this reading from Isaiah, resurrection is like a free feast, baptism like water for the thirsty, God like rain on the earth.*

*Response following the reading:*

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSE

With Joy You Will  
Draw Water  
(Isaiah 12:2-6)

Setting by:  
Zebulon M. Highben

*The refrain is sung once by the cantor and repeated by all:*

*Refrain*

The musical notation is written on two staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for the words "With joy you will draw wa - ter". The second staff contains the melody for the words "from the wells of sal - va - tion." The lyrics are written below the notes.

*The cantor sings the verses, and the refrain is repeated by all where indicated.*

Surely God is my salvation, I will trust, and will not be afraid,  
for the Lord God is my strength and my might;  
and God has become my salvation. **Refrain**

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the Lord, call on God's name,  
make know the deeds of the Lord among the nations;  
proclaim that this name is exalted. **Refrain**

Sing praises to the Lord, who has done gloriously;  
let this be known in all the earth.

Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. **Refrain**

*~ silence ~*

## PRAYER

Holy God, you created all things by the power of your Word, and you renew the whole earth by your Spirit. Give now the water of life to all who thirst for you, that, rejoicing in your covenant of mercy, we may bring forth abundant fruit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**



## FIFTH READING

Deliverance from  
the Fiery Furnace  
Daniel 3:1-29

For each of us there will be a time when we are engulfed by fire. Because of the resurrection of Christ, we can be confident that the Son of God will be with us, no matter what or where the furnace.

Response following the reading:

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSE

The assembly stands to sing the response, facing the rear of sanctuary.

All Your Works of God,  
Bless the Lord  
(Song of the Three 35-65)

Text paraphrase:  
Stephen P. Starke

Music:  
Linstead  
(Jamaican folk song)  
adapt. Doreen Potter



1 All you works of God, bless the Lord! All you an - gels, now  
2 Sing, you sun and you moon a - bove, stars of heav - en, now  
3 Frost of win - ter with song so cold, dews of sum - mer, your  
4 Hills and moun - tains, now sing his worth, all you green things that



bless the Lord; come, you heav - ens and pow'rs that be,  
sing his love; dew and show - ers, you winds that blow,  
song un - fold; light and dark - ness, you day and night,  
grow on earth; seas and riv - ers, you springs and wells,

### Refrain



praise the Lord and his maj - es - ty:  
heat and fire, . . . you ice and snow: Raise your voic - es high,  
clouds of thun - der, you light-nings bright:  
beasts and cat - tle, you birds and whales:



praise and mag - ni - fy, all you works of God, bless the Lord!

5 Come, humanity, sing along,  
sing, you people of God, a song;  
priests and servants, your Lord now bless,  
join, you spirits and souls at rest: *Refrain*

6 Bless the Lord, all you pure of heart;  
all you humble, his praise impart;  
God the Father and Son adore,  
bless the Spirit forevermore! *Refrain*



~ silence ~

## 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.**

His Cross stands empty  
 in a world grown silent  
 through hours  
 of anguish and of dread;  
 in stillness  
 earth awaits the  
 resurrection,  
 while Christ goes down  
 to wake the dead.

–Stanbrook Abbey  
 Midday Prayer  
 for Holy Saturday

Please extinguish your candles at this time. (If you have a glow stick, please place it in your bag/purse or under your coat.)

An extended period of silence is kept.



**GOSPEL  
 ACCLAMATION**

As the lights in the church are turned up and the altar candles lighted, the assembly sings the first alleluias of Easter to welcome the gospel. Please turn and follow the procession as it makes its way around the sanctuary. As the procession passes by, you may reverently bow towards the cross, honoring the mystery of our salvation.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

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

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
 2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.  
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and  
 Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to

*Refrain*

hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.  
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

*Refrain*

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

**GOSPEL** *Throughout the Three Days we hear from John's gospel. The details of this beloved story, like those in other Johannine narratives, superimpose the human Jesus, conversing with others, with the divine Christ, drawing us from death into the presence of the living God. Mary's address to the gardener, "Sir," turns into her proclamation of "the Lord."*

John 20:1-18

*As the gospel is announced, you may trace a small cross on your forehead, lips, and breast, a prayer that the Word may dwell in our minds, on our lips, and in our hearts.*

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Response following the reading:*

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**EASTER  
ACCLAMATION**

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

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

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



## HYMN OF THE DAY

We Know That  
Christ Is Raised  
(ELW 449)

Text:  
John B. Geyer

Music:  
ENGBERG  
Charles V. Stanford



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.  
2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.  
3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.  
4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows



Em - braced by death, he broke its fear - ful hold,  
Re - born, we share with him an Eas - ter life,  
The Spir - it's fis - sion shakes the church of God.  
as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.  
as liv - ing mem - bers of our Sav - ior Christ.  
Bap - tized, we live with God the Three in One.  
The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing:



Hal - le - lu - jah!

## AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

*With our siblings in faith  
around the world, we gather  
around the font this night to  
give thanks for the gift of  
baptism and new life in  
Christ, and we rejoice with  
those who are baptized into  
the family of God this night.*

Dear friends, on this joyful night, we give thanks for the gift of baptism as we come before God to make public affirmation of baptism into Christ.

Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you that you have made us your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called us to yourself, enlightened us with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished us in the community of faith. Uphold us and all your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

**Amen.**

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

**I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

**I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

**I renounce them.**

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

*What then is the significance of such a baptism with water? It signifies that the old person in us with all sins and evil desires is to be drowned and die through daily sorrow for sin and through repentance, and on the other hand that daily a new person is to come forth and rise up to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.*

–Martin Luther  
*Small Catechism*



## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?  
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?  
**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

**I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

People of God,  
do you promise to support and pray for one another in your life in Christ?  
**We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in your people the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence both now and forever.  
**Amen.**

*Response following each petition:*  
Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the risen Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The assembly is invited to greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace in whatever way you feel most comfortable. This may include a handshake, a peace sign, a hug, or a bow, respecting the boundaries and honoring the consent of our neighbors.*

*At the sound of the bell, the assembly is seated.*

## MEAL

### OFFERING



Tonight we gather an offering for the mission of the church and the work of Global Refuge (formerly Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service). **Checks should be payable to St. John's Lutheran Church with "ALT Lent" on the memo line, and loose cash should be placed in a envelope marked for "ALT Lent."** You may also give online, using the QR code to the left or text "[Amount] ALT" to 84321. (Standard message and data rates apply.)

*During this time, the choir sings, and the assisting minister prepares the table for the first Eucharist of Easter.*

### CHORAL ANTHEM

Easter Rejoicing  
arr. James Biery

Rejoice, you hosts of heav'nly saints,

O sing, exultant choirs of angels,

Sound the trumpet of salvation, Our Christ from death has arisen!

Be joyful, joyful, Mary, for with the whole Church

Humankind joins all creations newly resplendent in Christ's illumination:

Acclaim him Source and Fulfillment – O Risen One!

Be enlightened, Jerusalem, God's glory has risen upon you.

O divine, beloved, sweetest voice,

Hope confirmed through resurrection, resurrection, resurrection.

May the light of Christ, rising in glory,

Dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

Paschal Christ, Wisdom, Word and Light from Light,

Bread of life, may we dwell with you always –

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!





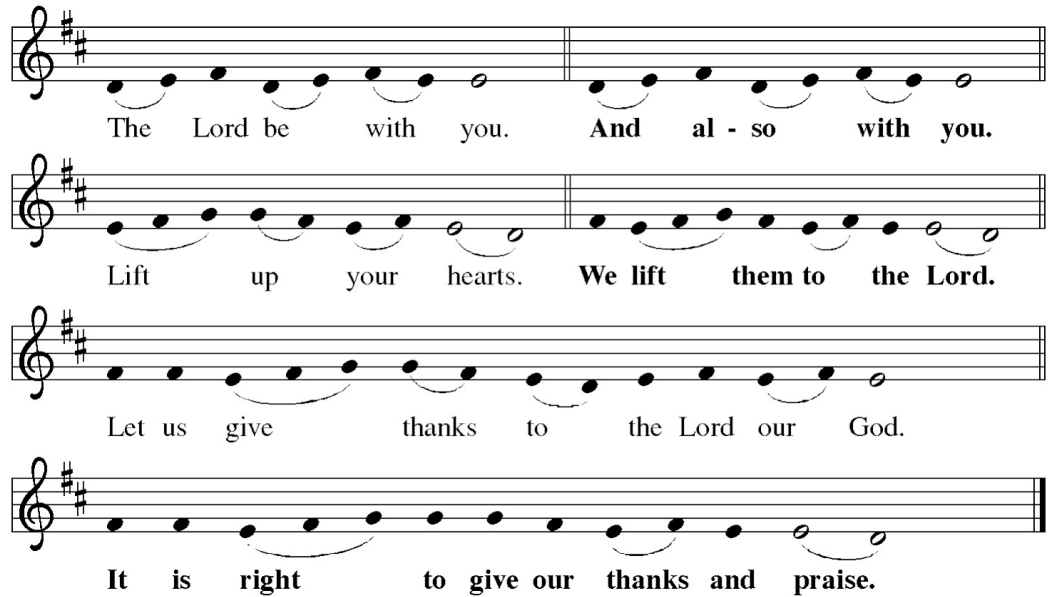
**OFFERING PRAYER**

*The assembly stands.*

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth.  
Day by day you shower us with blessings.  
As you have raised us to new life in Christ,  
give us glad and generous hearts,  
ready to praise you and to respond to those in need,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

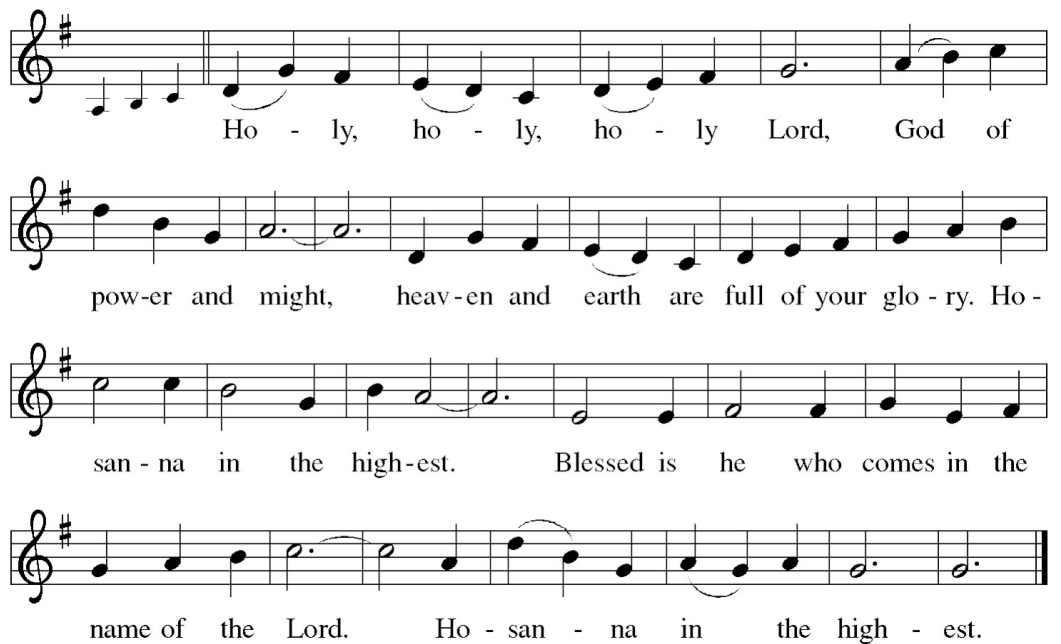


The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**PREFACE**

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

**SANCTUS**



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.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

This is the night that in joy and delight [ ... ] For Christ is risen:  
**Christ is risen indeed.**

This is the night that you gave light to the earth [ ... ] and that light is Christ:  
**Thanks be to God.**

This is the night that you broke the chains of death [ ... ] for Christ is risen:  
**Christ is risen indeed.**

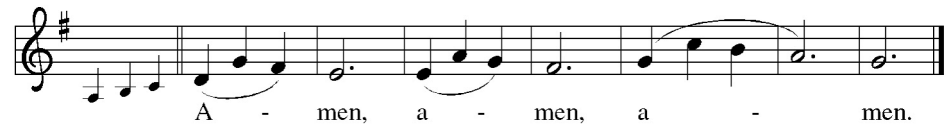
On the night before he died [ ... ] Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:



On this night, send us the power of your Holy Spirit [ ... ]  
for that light is Christ:  
**Thanks be to God.**

All holy and mighty and glorious God [ ... ] for Christ is risen:  
**Christ is risen indeed.**

Amen and amen.



## LORD'S PRAYER

*While the traditional version of the Lord's Prayer (Our Father) printed here is well-known and prayed by many, you are invited to pray this ancient prayer in the language or translation of your heart.*

Rejoicing in the victory of the resurrection,  
we are bold to 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

***This is Christ's table, and all are invited to the feast.***

*Following the directions of the ushers, please come forward if you wish to receive communion. First, receive a piece of bread from the presiding minister. (The bread is gluten-free, though not prepared in a gluten-free kitchen. Individually wrapped gluten-free wafers for those with more sensitive allergies are available upon request.)*

*Then, you may either drink from the common cup (containing wine), or choose an individual cup of wine (red) or grape juice (white) from the tray, placing your empty cup in the next tray.*

*If for pressing reasons of health, you are unable to consume one element or the other, please know that communion is received fully in either element alone.*

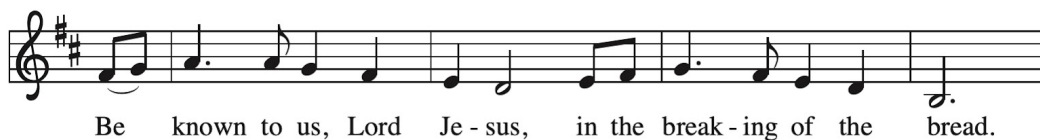
*If you would like to receive a blessing instead of communion, you may do so by crossing your arms over your chest to indicate this to the presiding minister.*

*If for reasons of limited mobility you would like communion to be brought to you where you are seated, please let an usher know.*

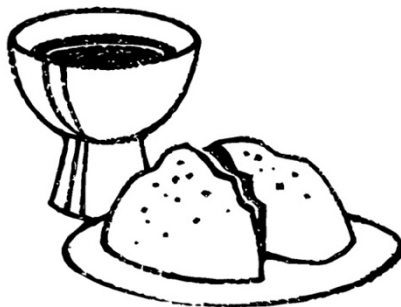
## COMMUNION SONG

Be Known to Us,  
Lord Jesus  
(ACS, Setting 12)

Text & Music:  
Anne Krentz Organ



*Additional assembly song during the distribution of communion follows on the next page.*



Soul, Adorn Yourself  
with Gladness  
(ELW 488)

Text:  
Johann Franck  
Music:  
SCHMÜCKE DICH  
Johann Crüger



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.

Eat This Bread  
(ELW 492)

Text:  
Jeremy Young  
Music:  
STONERIDGE  
Jeremy Young



*Refrain*  
Eat this bread, drink this cup. Taste and see the good - ness of God.



Bread of life, cup of love, we re - joice in your pres - ence.



1 I will bless the Lord at all times, praise with heart and voice;  
2 Look up - on the Lord, be ra - dant, nev - er turn a - way.  
3 An - gels fold their wings a - round us, guard through good and ill.  
4 Saints of God, bow down and wor - ship, bless the ho - ly name.



in my God I glo - ry for - ev - er: lis - ten and re - joice!  
 God will save in ev - 'ry af - flic - tion, hear us when we pray.  
 Those who seek the Lord will lack noth - ing; taste, and have your fill.  
 Rise to tell God's great - ness for - ev - er, won - drous deeds pro - claim!

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*The assembly stands.*

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.

**Amen.**

## SENDING

### BLESSING

The God of steadfastness and encouragement  
 grant you to live in harmony with one another,  
 in accordance with Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,  
 so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The God of all grace ✠ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**



**SENDING  
HYMN**

Day of Delight  
and Beauty Unbounded  
(ACS 933)

Text:  
Delores Dufner, OSB

Music:  
IN DIR IST FREUDE  
Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi

*As the procession moves toward the rear of the sanctuary, you may reverently bow towards the cross, honoring the mystery of our salvation.*



1 Day of de - light and beau - ty un - bound - ed, tell the news, the gos - pel  
2 Day of de - light and beau - ty un - bound - ed, tell the news, the gos - pel



spread! Day of all won - der, day of all splen - dor, praise Christ  
spread! Day of all won - der, day of all splen - dor, praise Christ



ris - en from the dead! Sing of the sun from dark - ness ap -  
ris - en from the dead! Sing now of mourn - ing turned in - to



pear - ing; sing of the seed from bar - ren earth green - ing;  
danc - ing; sing now the mys - t'ry, hope of our glo - ry;



sing of cre - a - tion, al - le - lu - ia! Sing of the  
sing with thanks - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia! Sing now of



stream from Je - sus' side flow - ing; sing of the saints in  
fast - ing turned in - to feast - ing; sing the Lord's fa - vor



wa - ter made ho - ly; sing of sal - va - tion, al - le - lu - ia!  
last - ing for - ev - er; sing, all things liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

**DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Go in peace! Share the good news!

**Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

*Please join us in the fellowship hall following the liturgy for a festive reception,  
hosted by Albany Lutherans Together.*

