



heartlight.org

For everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith.

- 1 John 5:4 -

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024 9:00 a.m.

Pastor Willie Rosin's Email
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Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 5, 2024
Zion Lutheran Church
Worship Leader – Tyler Baars
Presiding Minister – Rev. Martha Lang
Assisting Minister – Sarah Evans
Music Minister – Jennifer Rosin
Holy Communion, ELW Setting 1
Blessing of High School Graduates

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

WORSHIP NOTES:

Thank you for joining us! If you are visiting us today, please fill out a Visitor Card, located in your pew rack, if you would like to have us contact you.

We practice an open communion table at Zion. All who believe in Christ as Lord and Savior are welcome to celebrate Holy Communion with us, from the youngest to the oldest members of the body of Christ present in worship.

Children are welcome to fully participate in worship. What could be better than the whole family of God being together in worship? There are Children's worship bags available near the usher's table in the narthex. Should you or your child need a break, there is a nursery located across from Fellowship Hall for your use.

Nursing mothers are welcome to use the Mothers' Room, just one door down the hall from the nursery. Please knock before entering.

+ Indicates that you are invited to rise as you are able

BOLD PRINT INDICATES CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSES

Hymn numbers are the large numbers at the top of the page in the red hymnal, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, which is located in the pew racks.

Thank you for silencing all electronic devices.

PRELUDE

Jennifer Rosin

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BELL CALLS US TO WORSHIP

‡ **GATHERING** ‡

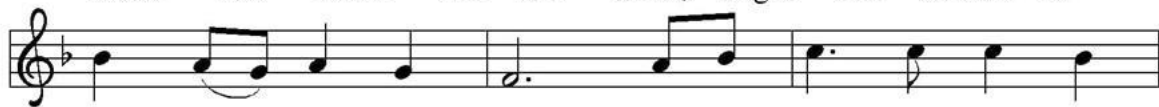
The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
 heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in
 strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an
 laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
 claim the faith of Je - sus:
 Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
 end to fear and dan - ger:
 claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the worship leader begins

+ CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,
 and of the † Son,
 and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

+ GREETING

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.

+ KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Christ, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy

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

Christ, have mercy

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

Amen

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.

+ GREETING

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.

+ PRAYER OF THE DAY

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed, hallelujah!

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

Amen.

ANTHEM

I Feel the Spirit

Zion Choir

‡ **WORD** ‡

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

FIRST READING Acts 10:44-48

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

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 98

¹O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.

²**The LORD has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.**

³He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴**Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.**

⁵Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.

⁶**With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.**

⁷Let the sea roar and all that fills it, the world and those who live in it.

⁸**Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy**

⁹at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

SECOND READING 1 John 5:1-6

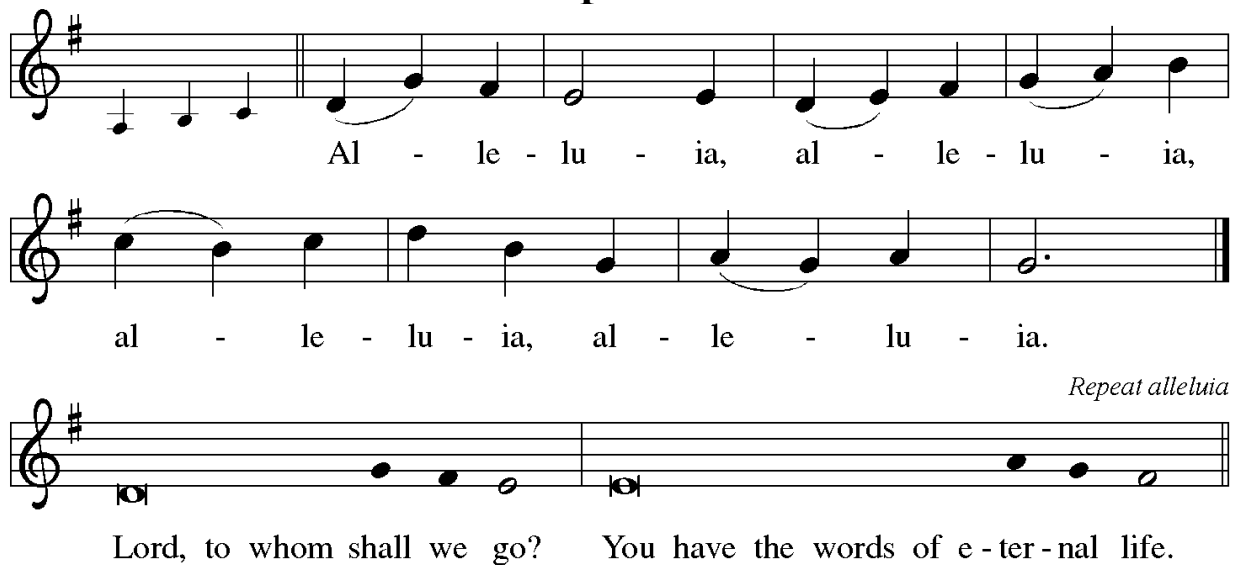
¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are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

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

The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

+ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW p. 102



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Repeat alleluia
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

+ GOSPEL READING

John 15:9-17

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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

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

so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

This is the gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

+ HYMN OF THE DAY

Born-ing Cry

ELW 732



- 1 “I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I’ll be there when you are old.
- 2 “When you heard the won - der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
- 3 “In the mid - dle a - ges of your life, not too old, no lon - ger young,



I re - joiced the day you were bap - tized to see your life un - fold.
you were raised to praise the liv - ing Lord, to whom you now be - long.
I’ll be there to guide you through the night, com - plete what I’ve be - gun.



I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;
If you find some - one to share your time and you join your hearts as one,
When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you shut your wea - ry eyes,



in a blaze of light you wan - dered off to find where de - mons dwell.”
I’ll be there to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun.”
I’ll be there as I have al - ways been, with just one more sur - prise.”



- 4 “I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I’ll be there when you are old.



I re - joiced the day you were bap - tized to see your life un - fold.”

BLESSING OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Jackson Brendel

Avery Schroeder

Clayton Smith

Gabriella Steele

The leader invited the graduates to the front of the sanctuary and may address the graduates with these or similar words.

We are delighted to honor you as you graduate from high school. We are proud of you! It is our privilege to affirm you as members of this congregation. You have completed an important phase of your lives and you are entering another.

The graduates stand. The leader addresses the graduates.

I ask you to affirm your commitment to a life of faith in the body of Christ.

Graduates, as you celebrate your achievements and prepare for your new endeavors, do you thank God for the many ways your faith has been your strength and guide?

Response: With God's help, I do.

As you consider the next steps of your journey of life, do you acknowledge God going with you, before you, behind you, below you, above you, and within you?

Response: With God's help, I do.

As you make choices about your new endeavors, will you offer your gifts to the world as part of the body of Christ and welcome the support of a family of faith?

Response: With God's help, I will.

The assembly stands. The leader addresses the assembly with these or similar words.

People of Zion Lutheran Church, listen: Do you claim these graduates as siblings in Christ, called to ministry according to their talents?

In God's love, we claim them.

As their home congregation, do you promise to support them, take an interest in their future, be with them in their celebration and sadness, and welcome them whenever they return to Zion Lutheran Church?

In God's love, we support them.

Do you promise to faithfully pray for these young people, placing their futures into God's loving hands as they make their choices?

In God's love, we pray for them.

Let us pray.

Gracious God, you bless your servants with many achievements. We give thanks especially today for the milestones that these graduates have attained. As they begin new phases of their lives, may they know your love in all the experiences they have. Bless the parents of these students, who have raised their children and nourished them in Christian faith. Give them strength in your holy presence, and give them many joyful reunions with their children, those who are leaving home to go far away, and those staying close by. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

The leader addresses the graduates and the assembly.

Go out into the world in peace;
be of good courage;
hold fast to what is good;
return no one evil for evil;
strengthen the fainthearted;
support the weak;
help the suffering;
honor all people;
love and serve God,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

+ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news, responding to each petition with “hear our prayer”.

Lord, in your mercy
Receive our prayer

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

Amen.

+ SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you

Please share a sign of peace with one another at this time.

‡ **MEAL** ‡

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

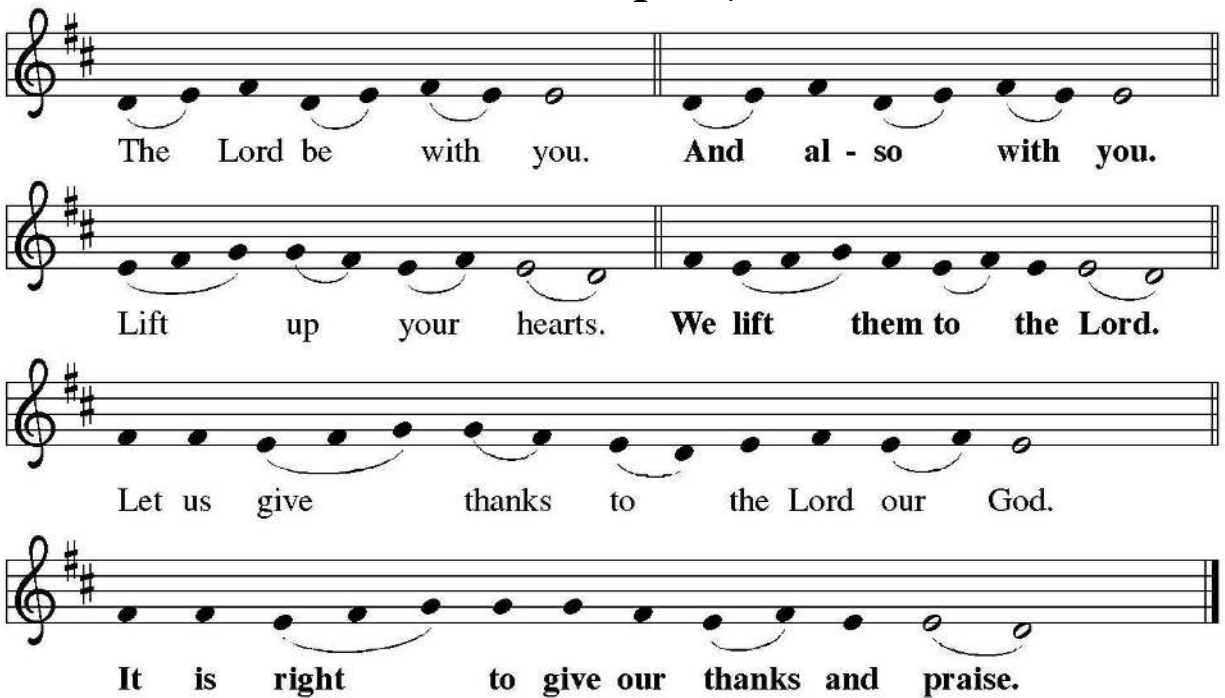
MUSICAL OFFERING

Jennifer Rosin

+ OFFERING PRAYER

Risen One,
you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. **Amen.**

+ THE GREAT THANKSGIVING ELW p. 107

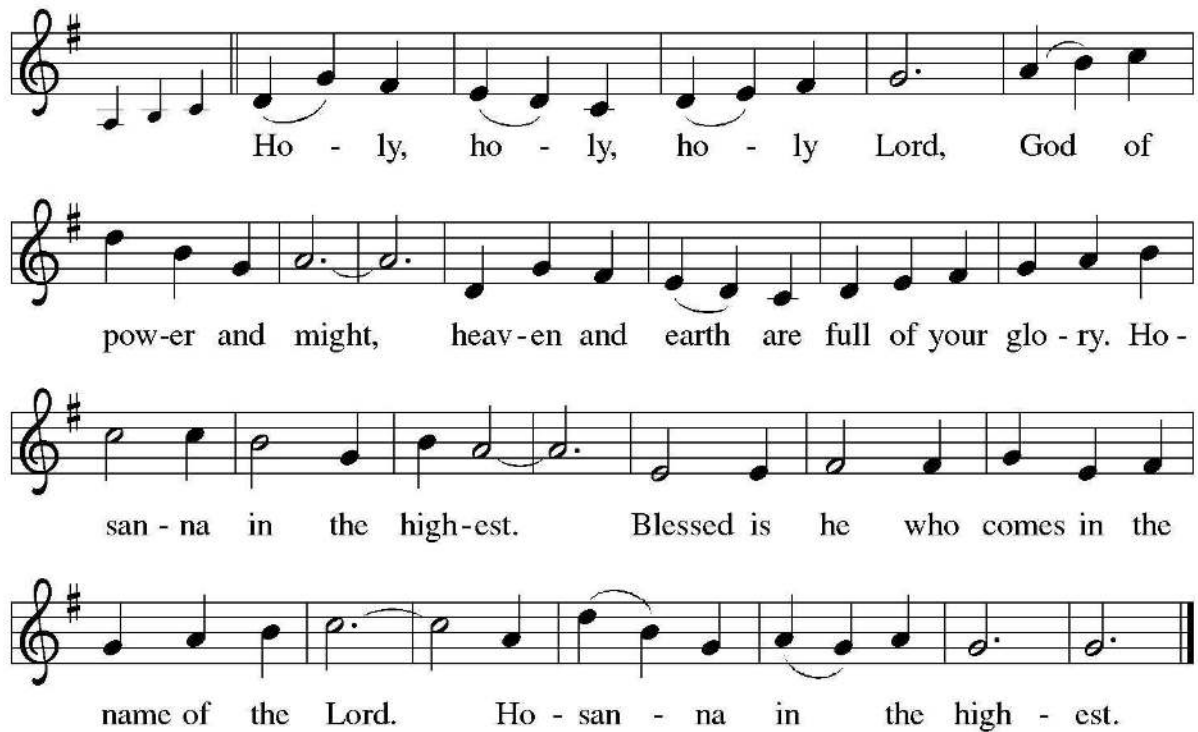


The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

+ PROPER PREFACE FOR EASTER

It is right, our duty, and our joy.....and join their unending hymn.

+ HOLY, HOLY, HOLY ELW p. 108



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.

+ THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night in which he was betrayed....do this in remembrance of me.

+ THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

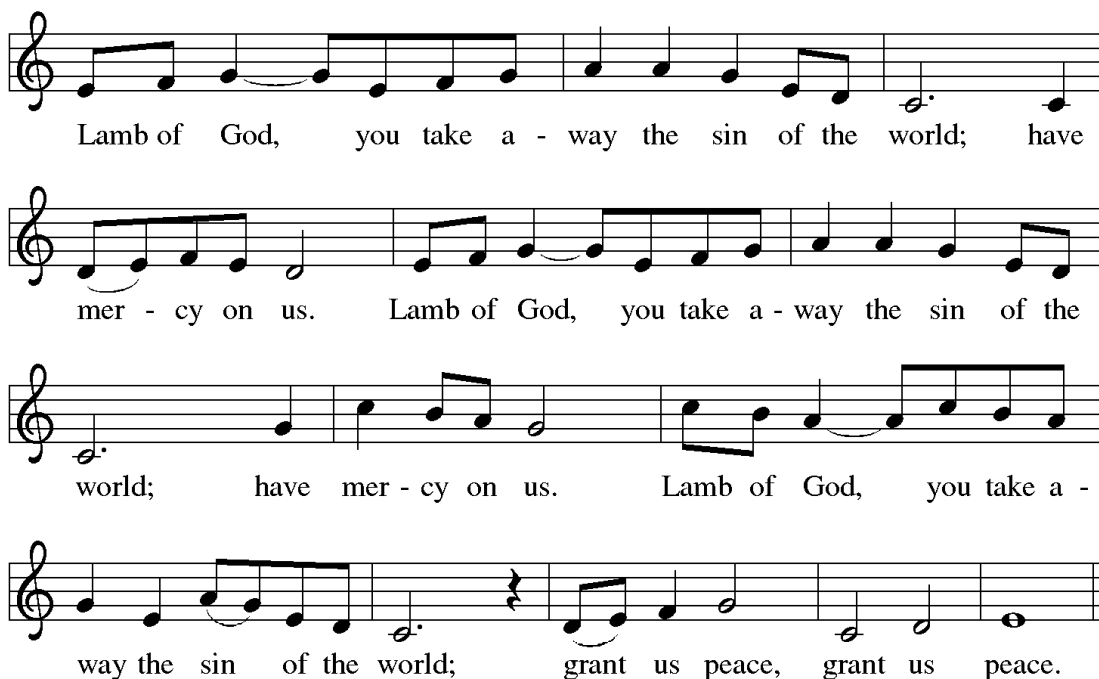
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

+ INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.
Come and eat at God's table.

THE DISTRIBUTION

LAMB OF GOD ELW p. 112-113



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.

DISTRIBUTION SONGS

<i>Here I am, Lord</i>	ELW 574
<i>Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee</i>	ELW 836
<i>O Living Bread from Heaven</i>	ELW 542



1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
 2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
 3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
 I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
 I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
 Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Text: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946

Music: HERE I AM, LORD, Daniel L. Schutte

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1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
 2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
 stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
 teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922

Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.



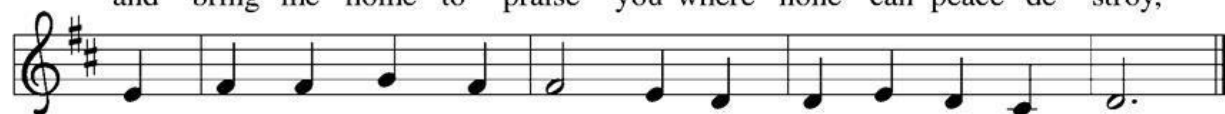
1 O liv - ing Bread from heav - en, how well you feed your guest!
 2 My Sav - ior, you have led me with - in your ho - liest place,
 3 You gave me all I want - ed; this food can death de - stroy.
 4 Oh, grant me then, well - strength - ened with heav'n - ly food, while here



The gifts that you have giv - en have filled my heart with rest.
 and here your - self have fed me with trea - sures of your grace;
 And you have free - ly grant - ed the cup of end - less joy.
 my course on earth is length - ened, to serve you, free from fear;



O won - drous food of bless - ing! O cup that heals our woes!
 for you have free - ly giv - en what earth could nev - er buy,
 My Lord, I do not mer - it the fa - vor you have shown,
 and bring me home to praise you where none can peace de - stroy,



My heart, this gift pos - sess - ing, in thank - ful song o'er - flows!
 the bread of life from heav - en, that now I shall not die.
 and all my soul and spir - it bow down be - fore your throne.
 where I will ev - er raise you glad songs in end - less joy.

+ POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Now may this body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ, strengthen us and keep us in his grace. **Amen**

+ POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

Be Not Afraid

ELW 388

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

+ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Shepherding God,

you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

‡ **SENDING** ‡

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

+ **BLESSING**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

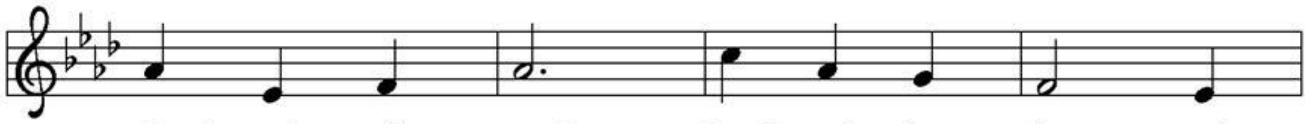
The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope † bless you now and always.

Amen.

+ SENDING HYMN

Earth and All Stars

ELW 731



1 Earth and all stars! Loud rush - ing plan - ets!
 2 Trum - pet and pipes! Loud clash - ing cym - bals!
 3 En - gines and steel! Loud pound - ing ham - mers!
 4 Class-rooms and labs! Loud boil - ing test tubes!
 5 Knowl - edge and truth! Loud sound - ing wis - dom!



Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!



Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blow - ing snow - storm!
 Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud hum - ming cel - los!
 Lime - stone and beams! Loud build - ing work - ers!
 Ath - lete and band! Loud cheer - ing peo - ple!
 Daugh - ter and son! Loud pray - ing mem - bers!



Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!
 Sing to the Lord a new song!

Refrain



God has done mar - vel - ous things.



I too sing prais - es with a new song!

+ DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Jennifer Rosin