

Sunday, April 16, 2023
Second Sunday of Easter

Service Theme
HE LIVES TO GIVE ME PROOF AND PEACE

Thomas had been taught and trained by Christ. He heard Jesus predict his death and resurrection. Yet, even after hearing the eyewitness testimony of friends, who saw the resurrected Jesus, Thomas had doubts: "Rising from the dead. That can't be possible!" Today is a day of great comfort for any follower of Jesus who wrestles with doubt concerning Christ's promises or doubts about God's Word. Jesus does not come to rebuke Thomas' weak faith. He comes to strengthen Thomas' faith, giving him proof of the mind-bending reality of the resurrection. Jesus didn't reject Thomas. Jesus engaged Thomas and gave him peace. Today Jesus comes to his disciples in Word and sacrament. The living Lord speaks to us. He lets us partake of his true body and blood. When we show weakness of faith, he does not reject us. Just as he did with Thomas, Jesus engages us, giving us proof and peace.

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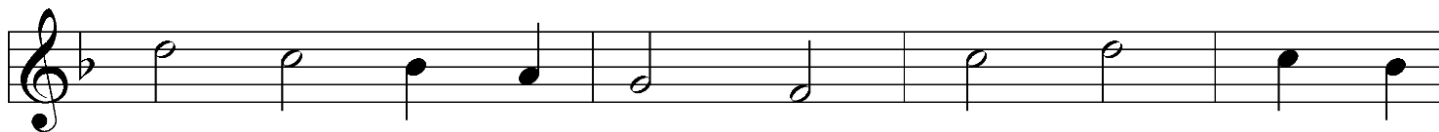
Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain



1 Come, you faith - ful, raise the strain Of tri - um - phant
 2 All the win - ter of our sins, Long and dark, is
 3 But to - day a - mong his own Christ ap - peared, be -



glad - ness! God has brought his Is - ra - el
 fly - ing From his light, to whom we give
 stow - ing Bless - ed peace, which ev - er - more



In - to joy from sad - ness. See the spring of
 Laud and praise un - dy - ing. Nei - ther could the
 Pass - es hu - man know - ing. Come, you faith - ful,



souls to - day: Christ has burst his pris - on And from
 gates of death Nor the tomb's dark por - tal Nor the
 raise the strain Of tri - um - phant glad - ness! God has



three days' sleep in death As a sun has ris - en.
 watch - ers nor the seal Hold him as a mor - tal.
 brought his Is - ra - el In - to joy from sad - ness.

Order of Service: Divine Service 1

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen!**

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**



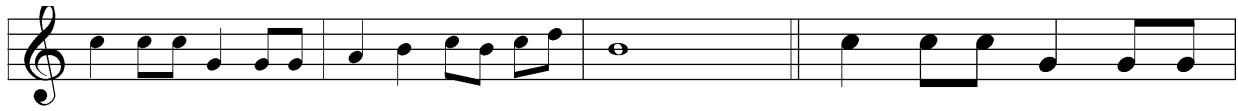
Lord, have mer-cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy
on us. Lord, have mer-cy on us. A - men.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: *(spoken)* **Amen.**

PRAYER AND PRAISE

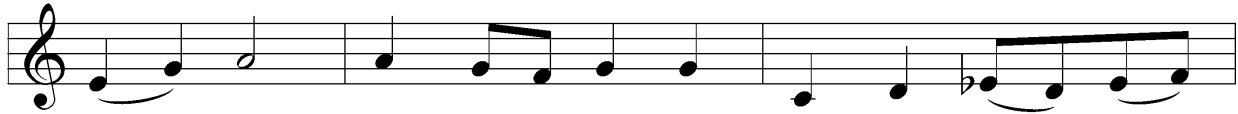
M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



Glo - ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and



Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we



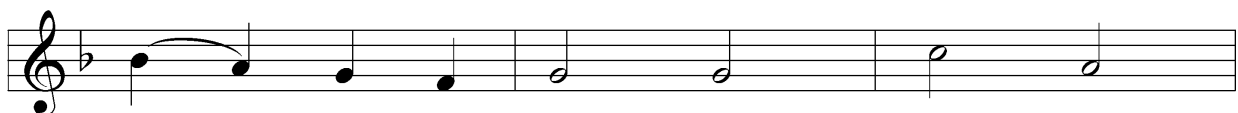
praise you for your glo - ry! Glo - ry to God in the



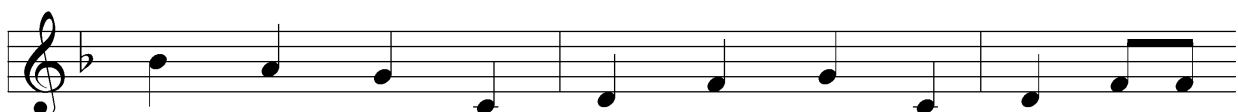
high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly



Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,



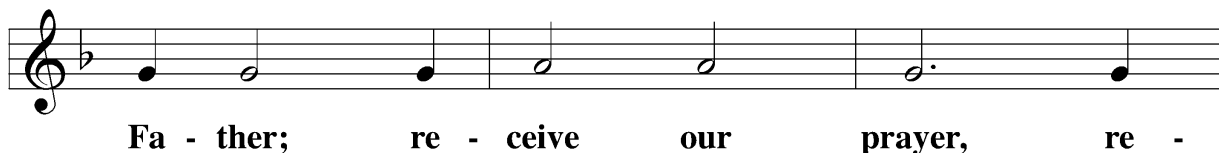
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



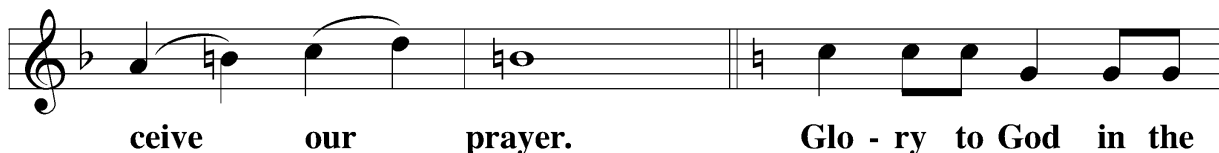
world; have mer - cy on us.



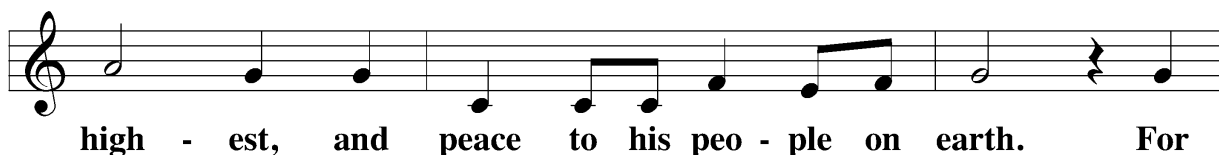
You are seated at the right hand of the



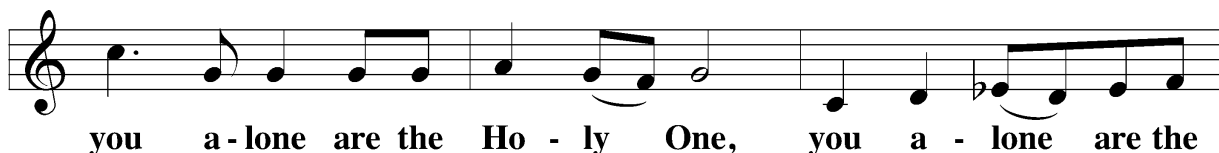
Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer, re -



ceive our prayer. Glo - ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth. For



you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the



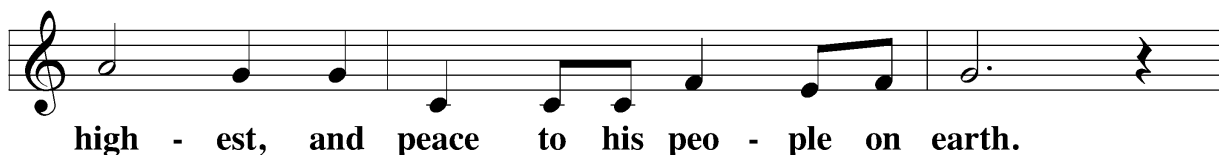
Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,



Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the



glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. Glo - ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Let us pray.

O risen Lord, you came to your disciples and took away their fears with your word of peace. Come to us also by Word and sacrament, and banish our fears with the comforting assurance of your abiding presence; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: *(spoken)* **Amen.**

First Lesson

Acts 2:14a,22-32 (EHV)

The living Lord appeared to many eyewitnesses so that they might testify to the truth of Jesus' resurrection. Through their testimony, God gives his Church proof and peace.

¹⁴Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and spoke loudly and clearly to them:

²²Men of Israel, hear these words! Jesus the Nazarene was a man recommended to you by God with miracles, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know. ²³This man, who was handed over by God's set plan and foreknowledge, you killed by having lawless men nail him to a cross. ²⁴He is the one God raised up by freeing him from the agony of death, because death was not able to hold him in its grip.

²⁵Indeed, David says concerning him:

I saw the Lord always before me.

Because he is at my right hand,

I will not be shaken.

²⁶Therefore my heart was glad,
and my tongue rejoiced.

My flesh also will rest in hope,

²⁷because you will not abandon my life to the grave,
nor will you let your Holy One see decay.

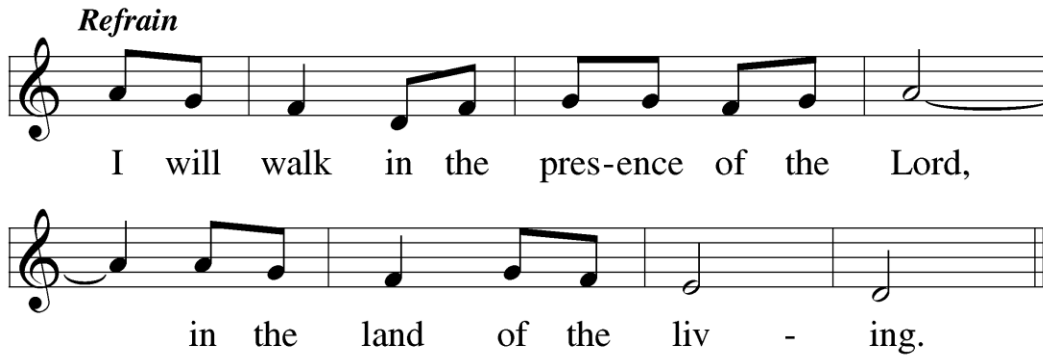
²⁸You have made known to me the paths of life.

You will fill me with joy in your presence.

²⁹Gentlemen, brothers, I can speak confidently to you about the patriarch David, that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰Since he was a prophet and knew that God had sworn to him with an oath that he would seat one of his descendants on his throne, ³¹he saw what was coming and spoke about the resurrection of Christ, saying that he was neither abandoned to the grave nor did his flesh see decay.

³²This Jesus is the one God has raised up. We are all witnesses of that.

Psalm
16 (p. 68)



Keep me safe, O God,*
for in you I take refuge.

I said to the LORD, “You are my Lord;*
apart from you I have no good thing.”

I have set the LORD always before me.*
Because he is at my right hand, I will
not be shaken.

Refrain

My heart is glad and my tongue
rejoices;*
my body also will rest secure,

because you will not abandon me to the
grave,*

nor will you let your Holy One see
decay.

You have made known to me the path of
life;*
you will fill me with joy in your
presence.

**Glory be to the Father and to the
Son***

**and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

Second Lesson

1 Peter 1:3- 9 (EHV)

St. Peter points to the resurrection as proof of the hope we have regardless of the outward circumstances of our life.

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he gave us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

⁴into an inheritance that is undying, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you.

⁵Through faith you are being protected by God’s power for the salvation that is ready to be revealed at the end of time.

⁶Because of this you rejoice very much, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various kinds of trials ⁷so that the proven character of your faith—which is more valuable than gold, which passes away even though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise, glory, and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

⁸Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not see him now, yet by believing in him, you are filled with a joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, ⁹because you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Verse of the Day

Alleluia. Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.
Alleluia. (John 20:29)

Gospel Lesson

John 20:19-31 (EHV)



Glo-ry be to you, O Lord! Glo-ry be to you, O Lord!

Jesus gave the proof that led to peace for Thomas, peace that could only be found in his Lord and God.

¹⁹On the evening of that first day of the week, the disciples were together behind locked doors because of their fear of the Jews. Jesus came, stood among them, and said to them, “Peace be with you!” ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. So the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you! Just as the Father has sent me, I am also sending you.” ²²After saying this, he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit.

²³Whenever you forgive people’s sins, they are forgiven. Whenever you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

²⁴But Thomas, one of the Twelve, the one called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples kept telling him, “We have seen the Lord!”

But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, and put my finger into the mark of the nails, and put

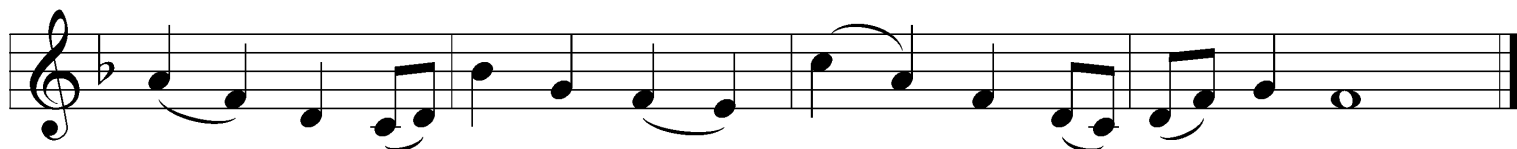
my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

²⁶After eight days, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them. “Peace be with you,” he said. ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and look at my hands. Take your hand and put it into my side. Do not continue to doubt, but believe.”

²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”

²⁹Jesus said to him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

³⁰Jesus, in the presence of his disciples, did many other miraculous signs that are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.



Praise be to you, O Christ! Praise be to you, O Christ!

Nicene Creed

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

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and became fully human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

**who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

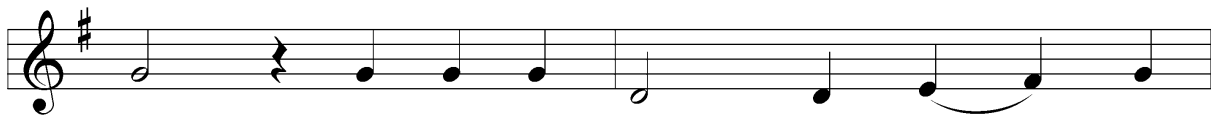
720 Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands



1 Christ Je - sus lay in death's strong
 2 No son of man could con - quer
 3 Christ Je - sus, God's own Son, came
 4 It was a strange and dread - ful



bands For our of - fens - es giv -
 death, Such ru - in sin had wrought
 down, His peo - ple to de - liv -
 strife When life and death con - tend -



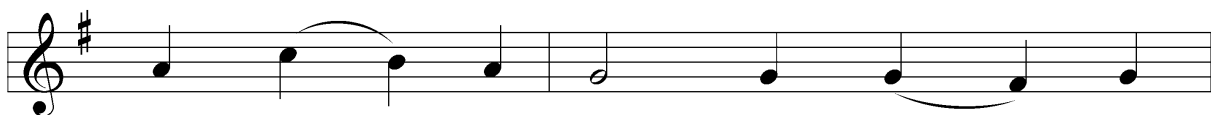
en; But now at God's right hand he
 us. No in - no - cence was found on
 er; De - stroy - ing sin, he took the
 ed. The vic - to - ry re - mained with



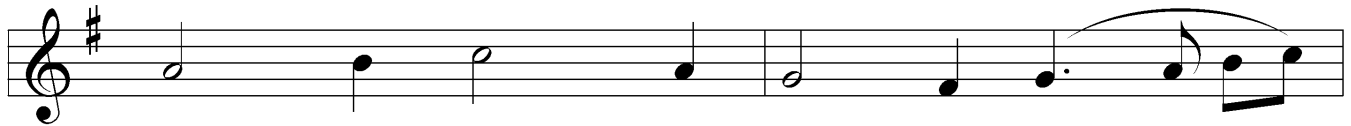
stands And brings us life from heav -
 earth, And there - fore death had brought
 crown From death's pale brow for - ev -
 life; The reign of death was end -



en. There - fore let us joy - ful be
 us In - to bond - age from of old
 er. Stripped of pow'r, no more it reigns;
 ed. Ho - ly Scrip - ture plain - ly says



And sing to God right thank - ful -
 And ev - er grew more strong and
 An emp - ty form a - lone re -
 That death is swal - lowed up by



ly Loud songs of al - le - lu -
 bold And held us as its cap -
 mains; Its sting is lost for - ev -
 death. Its sting is lost for - ev -



ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 tive. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 er. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 er. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Here the true Paschal Lamb we see,
 Whom God so freely gave us;
 He died on the accursed tree—
 So strong his love—to save us.
 See, his blood now marks our door;
 Faith points to it; death passes o'er,
 And Satan cannot harm us.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!

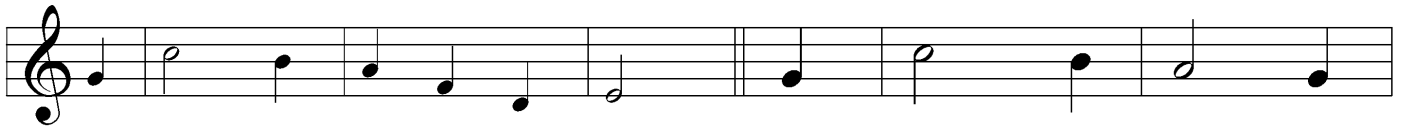
6 So let us keep the festival
 To which the Lord invites us;
 Christ is himself the joy of all,
 The sun that warms and lights us.
 Now his grace to us imparts
 Eternal sunshine to our hearts;
 The night of sin is ended.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!

7 Then let us feast this Easter Day
 On Christ, the bread of heaven;
 The Word of grace has purged away
 The old and evil leaven.
 Christ alone our souls will feed;
 He is our meat and drink indeed;
 Faith lives upon no other!
 Alleluia! Alleluia!

Sermon Text & Theme

1 Peter 1:3- 9 ... Your Hope Lives with Jesus!

- 1) What your hope is.
- 2) How it helps you in life.



Cre - ate in me a



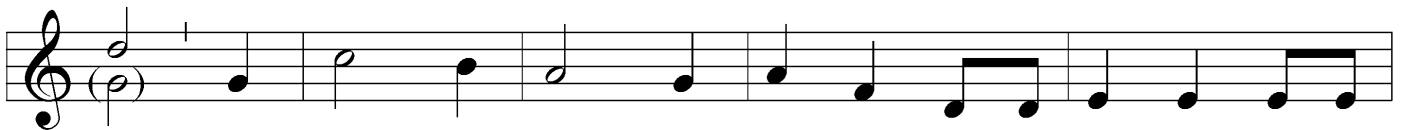
pure heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with -



in me. Do not cast me a - way from your



pres - ence or take your Ho - ly Spir - it from



me. Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up -



hold, up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Offertory Prayer

Prayer for the Church & Lord's Prayer

God of all grace, we thank you for the gift of eternal life in your Son. By the resurrection of Jesus from the dead and by the faithful testimony of the apostles, you have assured us that our faith stands on a sure and solid foundation.

Though we do not see Jesus with our physical eyes, help us see him with the eyes of faith. Through your Holy Spirit, breathe on your Church that it may faithfully proclaim the gospel of our risen Savior with courage and diligence in all lands and to all people.

Grant that we also may be illumined by the heavenly light of your Word, and so keep us in the one and only true faith.

Preserve us from all assaults on our souls, deliver us from doubt and despair, and preserve us from worldly wisdom and false teaching.

Forgive the sins of your people. Strengthen the doubting and faithless. Bring back the forgetful and wayward, and comfort the anxious and the distressed.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

As we go from this holy place today, grant peace and rest to us all. We pray this in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up unto the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

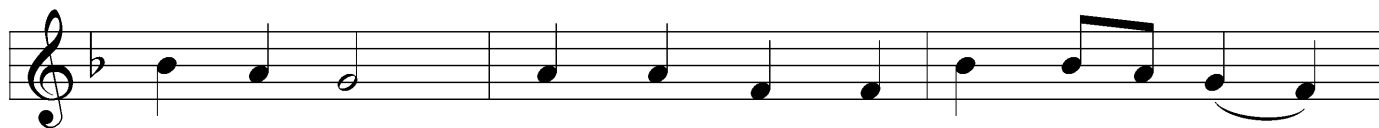
M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord *and we praise you especially for the glorious resurrection of your Son, the true Passover Lamb, who by his sacrifice took away the sins of the world and by his resurrection restored everlasting life.* Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

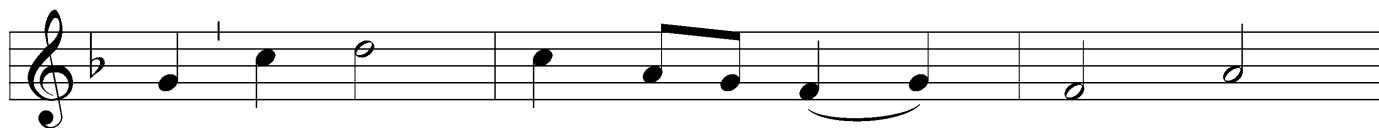
Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er,



God of might: heav'n and earth are full of your glo -



ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless -



ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -



na in the high - est. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

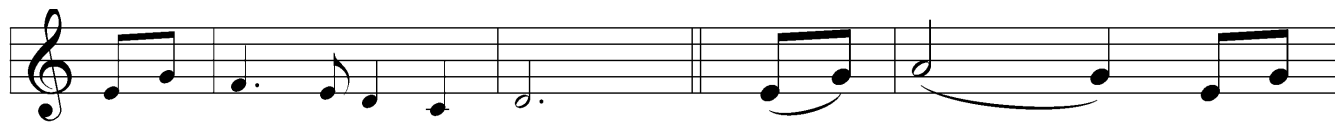
Word of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

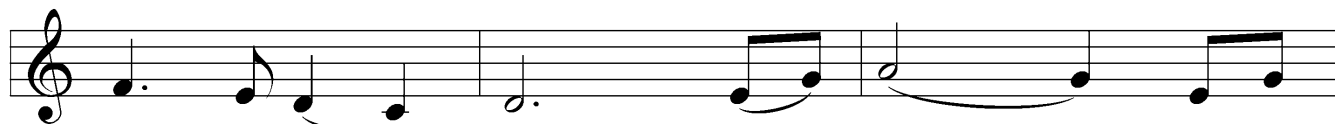
C: Amen.



O Christ, Lamb of



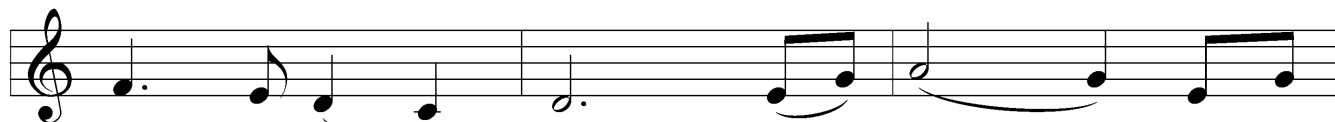
God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of



God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of



God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us your peace. A - men. A - men.

Distribution

SONG OF SIMEON

Nunc Dimittis



In peace, Lord, you let your
ser - vant now de - part ac - cord - ing to your word. For my
eyes have seen your sal - va - tion, which you have pre - pared for
ev - 'ry peo - ple, a light to light - en the Gen - tles and the
glo - ry, the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: And his mercy endures forever.

Final Prayer

M: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Blessing

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: Amen.



1 In you is glad - ness A - mid all sad - ness,
2 If he is ours, We fear no pow - ers,



Je - sus, Sun - shine of my heart. By you are
Not of earth or sin or death. He sees and



giv - en The gifts of heav - en; You the true
bless - es In worst dis - tress - es; He can change



Re - deem - er are. Our souls are wak - ing; Our bonds
them with a breath. Where - fore the sto - ry Tell of



are break - ing. Who trusts you sure - ly Has built se -
his glo - ry With hearts and voic - es; All heav'n re -



cure - ly And stands for - ev - er. Al - le - lu -
joic - es In him for - ev - er. Al - le - lu -



ia! Our hearts are pin - ing To see your shin - ing,
ia! We shout for glad - ness, Win o - ver sad - ness,



Dy - ing or liv - ing To you are cling - ing
Love him and praise him And still shall raise him



Now and for - ev - er. Al - le - lu - ia!
Glad hymns for - ev - er. Al - le - lu - ia!

Announcements

Church Cleaners:

Apr.23 – Timothy // Apr. 30 – Mark

DIVINE WORD'S TWO-WEEK CALENDAR

Su (16)	9:00 am 10:30 am 11:45 am 3:00 pm	Sunday School and Bible Class Worship with Communion Coffee Hour Worship & Communion in Poltimore
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Pastor will be at a Conference in Toronto from April 17-19

Th (20)	6:30 pm	Confirmation (W)
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Fr (21)	3:00 pm 6:00 pm	Women's Bible Study: Hebrews Illumine at St. Paul's
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Su (23)	9:00 am 10:30 am 11:45 am	Sunday School and Bible Class Worship with Communion Coffee Hour
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Tu (25)	7:00 pm	Council Meeting
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Th (27)	6:30 pm	Confirmation (W)
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Fr (28)	6:00 pm	Illumine at St. Paul's
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Su (29)	9:00 am 10:30 am 11:45 am 3:00 pm	Sunday School and Bible Class Worship with Communion Coffee Hour Worship & Communion in Poltimore
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Divine Word

Evangelical Lutheran Church

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