

Sunday, April 20, 2025

Easter Service with Holy Communion

Service Theme

DEATH HAS LOST ITS STING

Death can sting in many ways, casting a shadow over every moment of life. No matter what earthly joy you are experiencing, death guarantees it won't last. It separates us from loved ones. It instills in us a feeling of dread. However, because Jesus rose from the grave, death has lost its sting for those who put their faith in Him. His resurrection proves that God accepted Jesus' sacrifice as the complete payment for all sin. There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ. Moreover, Jesus' resurrection assures us that our Christian loved ones are not lost. We will see them again in the resurrection of all flesh on the Last Day. Because He lives, death has lost its sting.

Invocation

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

Amen!

The Lord is risen!

He is risen indeed!

This is the day the LORD has made;

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

438 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

CW 438

1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!
our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!

who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
now a - bove the sky he's King, Al - le - lu - ia!
praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text (sts. 1-3): Latin, 14th cent.; (sts. 1-3): tr. Lyra Davidica, 1708, alt.; (st. 4): Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

Tune: Lyra Davidica, London, 1708

Text and tune: Public domain

CONFESSION OF SINS

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.

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.

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.

Amen.

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



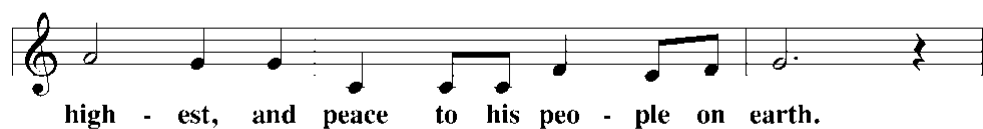
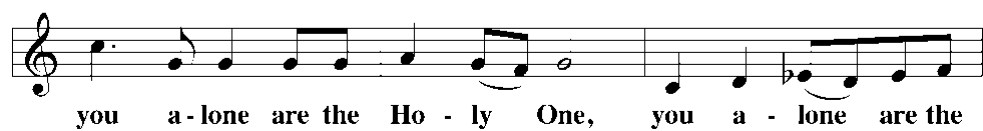
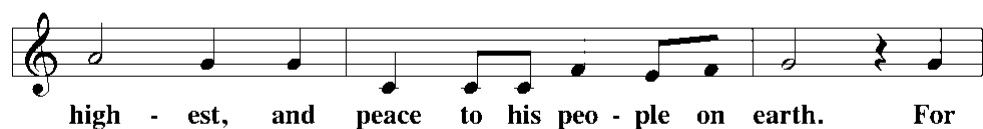
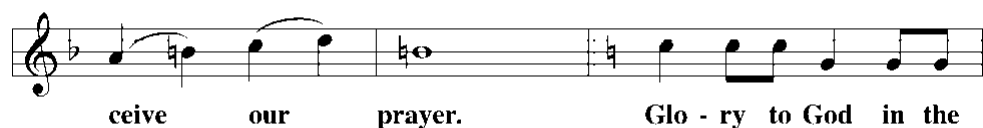
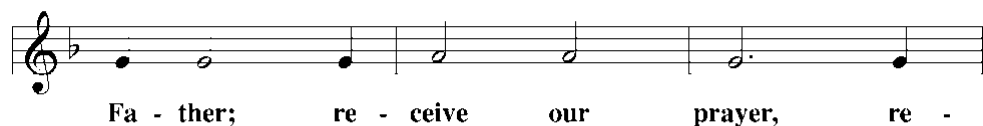
Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,



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



world; have mer - cy on us.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, by the glorious resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, you conquered death and opened the gate to eternal life. Grant that we, who have been raised with him through Baptism, may walk in newness of life and ever rejoice in the hope of sharing his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be dominion and praise now and forever.

Amen.

Old Testament

Isaiah 25:6–9

The Lord has taken away our disgrace, torn up the shroud of death, and promised us an eternal feast of joy.

⁶On this mountain

the LORD of Armies will prepare for all peoples

a banquet of rich food, a banquet of aged wines,

with the best cuts of meat, and with the finest wines.

⁷On this mountain

he will destroy the shroud that covers all peoples,

the burial cloth stretched over all nations.

⁸He has swallowed up death forever!

The LORD God will wipe away the tears from every face.

He will take away the shame of his people throughout the earth.

For the LORD has spoken.

⁹On that day it will be said, "Look, here is our God!

We waited for him, and he saved us!

This is the LORD! We waited for him.

Let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation!"

118A This is the Day the LORD Has Made

Psalm 118A

Refrain



This is the day the LORD has made, let us re-joice and be glad!



This is the day the LORD has made, let us re-joice and be glad!

Tone



The LORD is my strength and / my defense;
he has become my sal- / vation.

The LORD's right hand is / lifted high;
the LORD's right hand has done / mighty things!

I will not / die but live,
and will proclaim what the / LORD has done. *Refrain*

I will give you thanks, for you / answered me;
you have become my sal- / vation.

The stone the builders re- / jected
has become the / cornerstone;

the LORD has / done this,
and it is marvelous / in our eyes.

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,

as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain*

Text: Lectionary for Mass

Tune: Marty Haugen Setting; Kermit G. Moldenhauer

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Christ is risen, so death has lost its sting.

⁵¹Look, I tell you a mystery. We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed, ⁵²in a moment, in the blink of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. ⁵³For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and this mortal body must put on immortality. ⁵⁴But once this perishable body has put on imperishability, and this mortal body has put on immortality, then what is written will be fulfilled:

Death is swallowed up in victory.

⁵⁵Death, where is your sting?

Grave, where is your victory?

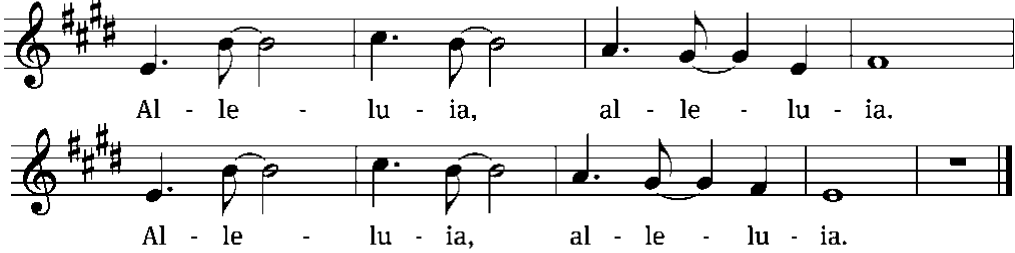
⁵⁶The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel Acclamation

Psalm 118:24



Refrain



Tone



This is the day the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.



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

Jesus rose from the dead.

¹After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. ²Suddenly, there was a great earthquake! For an angel of the Lord came down from heaven, and going to the tomb, he rolled away the stone and was sitting on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing was as white as snow. ⁴The guards were so terrified of him that they shook and became like dead men. ⁵The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid! I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. ⁶He is not here. He has risen, just as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. ⁷Go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has risen from the dead! And look, he is going ahead of you to Galilee. There you will see him.’ See, I have told you!”

⁸They hurried away from the tomb, with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!”

They approached, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him.

¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid. Go, tell my brothers that they should go to Galilee, and there they will see me.”



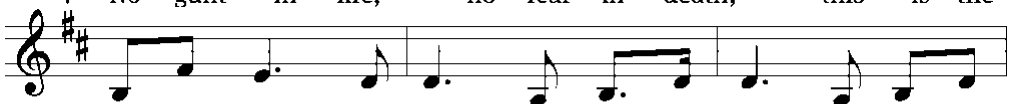
Praise be to you, O Christ! Praise be to you, O Christ!

510 In Christ Alone

CW 510



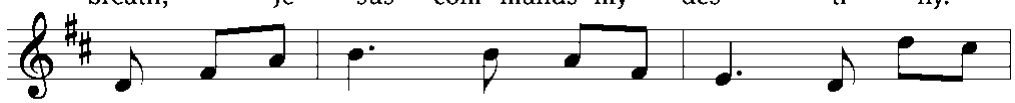
1 In Christ a - lone my hope is found; he is my
2 In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full - ness of
3 There in the ground his bod - y lay, light of the
4 No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the



light, my strength, my song; this cor - ner - stone, this sol - id
God in help - less babe; this gift of love and right - eous -
world by dark - ness slain; then burst - ing forth in glo - rious
pow'r of Christ in me; from life's first cry to fi - nal



ground, firm through the fierc - est drought and storm.
ness, scorned by the ones he came to save.
day, up from the grave he rose a - gain!
breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti - ny.



What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are
Till on that cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of
And as he stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man can ev - er



stilled, when striv - ings cease! My com - fort - er, my all in
God was sat - is - fied; for ev - 'ry sin on him was
lost its grip on me; for I am his and he is
pluck me from his hand; till he re - turns or calls me



all; here in the love of Christ I stand.
laid; here in the death of Christ I live.
mine, bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.
home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

Sermon Text & Theme

Matthew 28:1–10 ... Rejoice! Jesus is Risen:

- 1) To show His enemies powerless!
- 2) To fulfill His promises!

The Apostle's Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

**and is seated at the right hand of God the Father
Almighty.**

**From there he will come to judge the living and the
dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Offertory Prayer

Prayer for the Church & Lord's Prayer

Heavenly Father, God of grace, you have brought us into a new and living hope by the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. For as in Adam all died, so in Christ all will be made alive.

He was delivered over to death for our sins, and raised to life for our justification.

We marvel at the love you showed by your willingness to sacrifice your Son to pay for our sins; we bow down in adoration at your mighty power which raised him from the dead.

We praise you for sending the true Life and Light into the world.

Lord Jesus, God of grace, you have filled our hearts with resurrection joy by your victory over sin, death, and the grave.

You have conquered the darkness and given us comfort and hope.

With the church of every age, we offer you unending praise, for you have crushed Satan's head and have removed our guilt. Dear Savior, we who are weary and burdened come to you for rest, knowing that because of your perfect redemption there is now no condemnation for us.

Take away our doubts and fears, and daily renew in us the joy of our salvation.

(Special intercessions may follow)

Holy Spirit, God of grace, you have called us by the gospel and brought us to saving faith in our risen Lord.

We glorify you for opening our eyes to see the light of life.

Keep us with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. As we journey through life, make us yearn for the day when you will give eternal life to us and all believers in Christ. Work through us as we proclaim the saving message of the crucified and risen Jesus near and far, so that many others may hear your call, obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, and join us before the throne of our God and of the Lamb.

Alleluia! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. Alleluia!

Gracious Lord, we now pray the prayer you have taught us to pray:

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

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is good and right so to do.

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.

The musical score is written on six staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er,'. The second staff continues: 'God of might: heav'n and earth are full of your glo -'. The third staff: 'ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless -'. The fourth staff: 'ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -'. The fifth staff: 'na in the high - est. Ho-san - na in the high - est.'. The sixth staff ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

Word of Institution

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."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
Amen.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

Agnus Dei

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



The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has a repeat sign after the first measure. The second staff has a repeat sign after the first measure. The third staff has a repeat sign after the first measure. The fourth staff has a repeat sign after the first measure. The fifth staff has a repeat sign after the first measure.

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 - tiles and the
glo - ry, the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

Thanksgiving

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.
And his mercy endures forever.

Final Prayer

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.

Amen.

Blessing

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.

Amen.

466 Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

CW 466

1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia.
2 For three long days the grave did its worst
3 The an - gel said to them, "Do not fear!
4 "Go spread the news: he's not in the grave;
5 Christ has a - ris - en to set us free.

Re - joice and praise him, al - le - lu - ia.
un - til its strength by God was dis - persed.
You look for Je - sus who is not here.
he has a - ris - en this world to save.
Al - le - lu - ia, to him prais - es be.



For our Re - deem - er burst from the tomb,
He who gives life did death un - der - go,
See for your - selves the tomb is all bare,
Je - sus' re - deem - ing la - bors are done.
Je - sus is liv - ing! Let us all sing;



e - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.
and in its con - quest his might did show.
on - ly the grave - clothes are ly - ing there."
E - ven the bat - tle with sin is won."
he reigns tri - um - phant, heav - en - ly King.

Refrain



Let us sing praise to him with end - less joy;



death's fear - ful sting he has come to de - stroy.



Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!



Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Bernard Kyamanywa, b. 1938; tr. Howard S. Olson, 1922–2010 Tune: Tanzanian

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Announcements

Church Cleaners

April 27 – Barnabas // May 4 – Luke

DIVINE WORD'S TWO-WEEK CALENDAR

- Su (20) 8:00 am Easter Sunrise (Communion)**
9:00 am Easter Breakfast
10:30 am Easter Worship
3:00 pm Easter in Poltimore (Communion)
- Tu (22) 5:30 pm Youth Confirmation (W)**
7:00 pm Council Meeting
- We (23) 11:30 am Communicating Christ (Adult)**
- Th (24) 6:00 pm Illumine (at St. Paul's)**
- Fr (25) 3:00 pm Women's Bible Study (Romans 9-16)**
4:30 pm Confirmation (D)
6:00 pm Friday Fellowship
- Sa (26) 11:00 pm Communicating Christ (Youth)**
- Su (27) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Class**
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Coffee Hour
- Tu (29) 5:30 pm Youth Confirmation (W)**
- We (30) 11:30 am Communicating Christ (Adult)**
- Th (1) 10:30 am Longfield Manor**
6:00 pm Illumine (at St. Paul's)
- Fr (2) 3:00 pm Women's Bible Study (Romans 9-16)**
4:30 pm Confirmation (D)
- Sa (3) 11:00 pm Communicating Christ (Youth)**
- Su (4) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Class**
10:30 am Worship with Holy Communion
11:30 am First Fellowship
3:00 pm Communion Service in Poltimore

Acknowledgments

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