

For since we believe that

JESUS DIED AND ROSE AGAIN,

even so, through Jesus, God
will bring with him those
who have fallen asleep.

1 Thessalonians 4:14

Sunday, November 16, 2024
Saints Triumphant

Service Theme
RESURRECTION / HOPE

People think of “hope” as being an optimistic desire. “*I hope it doesn’t rain this weekend*” simply means that is what you want to happen. Your hope doesn’t mean that it will happen. Yet, that is the best the world can offer.

Jesus offers us a better hope: a certainty based on a historic reality: the promise of our resurrection rooted in His own resurrection. What effect does Jesus' promise have on believers? We watch and wait for the life that is to come, with the certainty that *it will come*. Why? Because Jesus has made the promise, and Jesus never lies!



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450 The Day of Resurrection

CW 450



1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,
2 Our hearts be pure from e - vil that we may see a - right
3 Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, let earth her song be - gin,



the pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the pass - o - ver of God.
the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light
let all the world keep tri - umph and all that is there - in.



From death to life e - ter - nal, from earth un - to the sky,
and, lis - t'ning to his ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,
Let all things, seen and un - seen, their notes of glad-ness blend,



our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.
his own "All hail!" and, hear - ing, may raise the vic - tor strain.
for Christ the Lord has ris - en, our joy that has no end.

Text: John of Damascus, c. 696–c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879 Text and tune: Public domain

The Service *Setting One (page 154)*

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

Amen.

Confession

CW 154

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father,
I am sinful by nature
and have sinned against you in my thoughts,
words, and actions.**

**I have not loved you with my whole heart;
I have not loved others as I should.**

**I deserve your punishment both now and forever.
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins
with his innocent suffering and death.**

**Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a
sinner.**

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. 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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy



In peace let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



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 mer - cy.



For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us



pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

Glory Be to God on High

CW 157



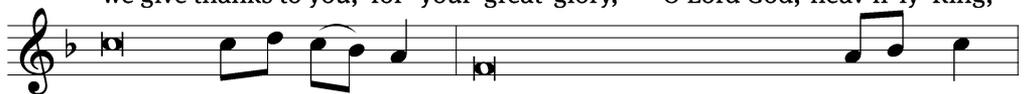
Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor - ship you, we glorify you,



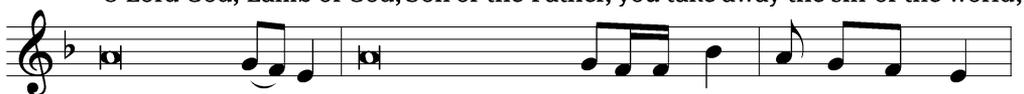
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



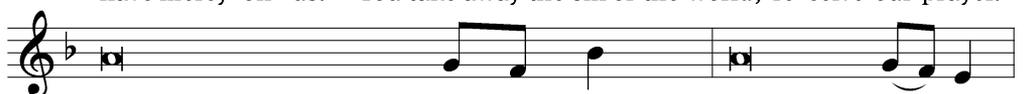
God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world;



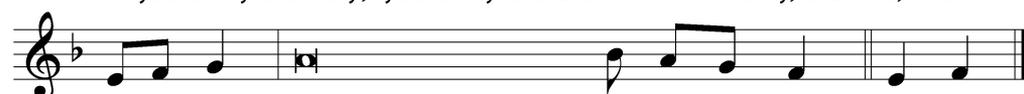
have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.



You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.



For you on-ly are holy; you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the



Ho - ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Living God, your almighty power is made known chiefly in showing mercy and pity. Grant us the fullness of your grace to lay hold of your promises and live forever in your presence; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 65:17–25

The second half of Isaiah is written to a people whose world had crumbled to pieces. The Lord gives his people the certain hope of a better world that is to come.

¹⁷Watch this! I am about to create new heavens and a new earth.

The former things will not be remembered.

They will not come to mind.

¹⁸Instead, rejoice and celebrate forever, because of what I am creating.

Watch this! I am about to create Jerusalem to be a source of gladness,

and her people will be a source of joy.

¹⁹I also will be glad because of Jerusalem,

and I will rejoice over my people.

The sound of weeping will not be heard in her again, nor will the sound of crying.

²⁰There will never again be an infant there who lives for only a few days,
or an elderly man who does not fill out all his days,
for one who dies at a hundred will be considered a young man,
and one who fails to attain the age of one hundred will be regarded as cursed.

²¹Then they will build houses and live in them.
They will plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

²²They will not build a house and have another person live in it.

They will not plant and have another person eat the crop,
for the days of my people will be like the days of a tree,
and my chosen ones will enjoy all the work of their hands.

²³They will not labor only to receive nothing,
and they will not give birth to children doomed to disaster,
for they will be offspring who are blessed by the LORD,
and their descendants will be with them.

²⁴Then even before they call, I will answer.
While they are still speaking, I will hear.

²⁵The wolf and the lamb will graze together,
and lions will eat straw like cattle,
but the serpent will eat dust as its food.
They will not harm or destroy anywhere on my holy mountain,
says the LORD.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

148E All You Works of God, Bless the Lord

Psalm 148E



1 All you works of God, bless the LORD!
2 Sing, you sun and you moon a - bove,
3 Frost of win - ter with song so cold,
4 Hills and moun - tains, now sing his worth,



All you an - gels, now bless the LORD;
stars of heav - en, now sing his love;
dews of sum - mer, your song un - fold;
all you green things that grow on earth;



come, you heav - ens and pow'rs that be,
dew and show - ers, you winds that blow,
light and dark - ness, you day and night,
seas and riv - ers, you springs and wells,



praise the LORD and his maj - es - ty:
heat and fire, you ice and snow:
clouds of thun - der, you light - nings bright:
beasts and cat - tle, you birds and whales:

Refrain



Raise your voic - es high, 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)

Text: Stephen P. Starke Tune: Jamaican; adapt. Doreen Potter

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Tune: © 1975 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 719723

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

Our certain hope is this: because Jesus rose from the dead, we will rise too.

¹³We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who have fallen asleep, so that you do not grieve in the same way as the others, who have no hope. ¹⁴Indeed, if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, then in the same way we also believe that God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep through Jesus.

¹⁵In fact, we tell you this by the word of the Lord: We who are alive and left until the coming of the Lord will certainly not go on ahead of those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a loud command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them, to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will always be with the Lord. ¹⁸Therefore, encourage one another with these words.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 20:38

Alleluia, alleluia.

He is not the God of the dead, but of the living,
for to him all are alive.

Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 20:27–38

To the Sadducees, who did not believe in the resurrection, Jesus gives this promise: Our God is the God of the living, because to him all are alive.

²⁷Some of the Sadducees (who say there is no resurrection) came to him. ²⁸They asked him a question, “Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies leaving a wife but no children, his brother should take the wife and raise up children for his brother. ²⁹So there were seven brothers. The first took a wife and died childless. ³⁰The second took her as a wife, ³¹and so did the third, and in the same way the seven died and left no children. ³²Finally the woman died too. ³³So in the resurrection, whose wife will she be? For the seven had her as a wife.”

³⁴Jesus said to them, “The people of this age marry and are given in marriage. ³⁵But those who are considered worthy to experience that age and the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. ³⁶In fact, they cannot die any more, for they are like the angels. They are sons of God, because they are sons of the resurrection.

³⁷“Even Moses showed in the account about the burning bush that the dead are raised, when he called the Lord: ‘The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.’ ³⁸He is not the God of the dead, but of the living, for all are alive to him.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

882 What Joy to Join the Chorus

CW 882



1 What joy to join the cho - rus, to look in Je - sus' eyes,
2 What love will then be shown us when we with them ap - pear!
3 There love - ly harps are sound - ing, up - rais - ing mu - sic's voice,
4 There God shall from all e - vil for - ev - er make us free,



whose blood and suf - f'ring for us have o - pened par - a - dise,
They will not blush to own us as broth - ers, sis - ters dear.
and there, in bliss a - bound - ing, we shall in God re - joice.
from sin and from the dev - il, from all ad - ver - si - ty,



where pa - tri - archs are sing - ing and proph - ets raise the cry,
We all shall come be - fore him who for us man be - came,
The an - gels shall a - dore him, all saints shall bring him praise,
from sick - ness, pain, and sad - ness, from trou - bles, cares, and fears,



a - pos - tles, mar - tyrs bring - ing all praise to God Most High!
as Lord and God a - dore him, and ev - er bless his name.
and sing their hymns be - fore him for joy - ful, end - less days.
and grant us heav'n - ly glad - ness and wipe a - way our tears.

Text: Johann Walter, 1496–1570, abr.; (st. 1): tr. Michael D. Schultz, b. 1963; (sts. 2–4): tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.
Tune: Musae Sioniae, vol. 7, Wolfenbüttel, 1609 Text (st. 1): © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House.
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Sermon

1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

Our Most Comforting Hope:

- 1) Because Christ died, Christians only sleep,
- 2) And He will wake us up to live with Him forever.

Apostles' 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.**

Prayer of the Church

With grateful hearts, Lord,

We remember before you this day...

That great cloud of witnesses whose living trust in you,
recorded in your Word, becomes an example for us to
imitate and follow.

**Inspire us as we remember them and grant us your
blessing.**

With grateful hearts, Lord,

We remember before you this day...

The reformers and confessors who faced the terror of church and empire but stood firm in your truth because they were moved by grace, empowered by faith, and guided by Scripture.

Inspire us as we remember them and grant us their courage.

With grateful hearts, Lord,

We remember before you this day...

Your faithful followers of every age—among them our parents and grandparents and our mentors and models—whom your Spirit called, gathered, enlightened, and sanctified to be your holy Church and by whose faithful words and deeds the gospel of your grace arrived also to us.

Inspire us as we remember them and grant us their resolve.

With grateful hearts, Lord,

We remember before you this day...

Those we have known who endured uncommon handicaps, chronic illnesses, and severe hardships yet followed you in simple faith and lived their lives with patience and persistence.

Inspire us as we remember them and grant us their joy.

With grateful hearts, Lord,

We remember before you this day...

Our *sisters* in Christ, whose souls you have brought home to yourself, who are now at rest in your heavenly kingdom.

Rosie Sperling (January 23, 2025)

Nora Helms (June 1, 2025)

We thank you for bringing them to faith, protecting them throughout their earthly life and delivering them to your side in glory.

Continue to comfort their families, and all families who lost loved ones this past year.

With grateful hearts, Lord,

We remember before you this day...

Our own loved ones whose memories still burn within our hearts, whom you have called in your good time from their labors in life to that life which knows no end.

Inspire us as we remember them and grant us their reward.

Your saints will triumph forever in new heavens and a new earth. The sound of weeping and crying will be heard no more. We anticipate with joy an eternity of perfect fellowship with you.

Be with us as we work and witness for Christ, so that many more people can join us before your throne.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Lord of life, the day is coming when you will come down from heaven with the voice of the archangel and the trumpet call of God. On that glorious day, the saints triumphant will rise in bright array, clothed in your perfect righteousness.

Give us strength until that day when we will share fully in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Offering

The Sacrament

Preface

CW 165



The Lord be with you.



And al - so with you.



Lift up your hearts.



We lift them up to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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, who preserves his Church to the end of time when he will come again as king to judge all people and take his own to glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

CW 167

The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in a soprano voice part. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts: heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Words 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 T 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 T 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

CW 169

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.

The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and homophonic, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "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." The final note of the piece is a whole note on the G line of the staff, followed by a double bar line.

Distribution

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of 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 T give you peace.

Amen.

884 Lord, When Your Glory I Shall See

CW 884

Lord, when your glo - ry I shall see and taste your king - dom's
plea - sure, your blood my roy - al robe shall be, my
joy be - yond all mea - sure! When I ap - pear be - fore your
throne, your right - eous - ness shall be my crown; with
these I need not hide me. And there, in gar - ments rich - ly
wrought, as your own bride I shall be brought, to
stand in joy be - side you.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt. Tune: Kurt J. Eggert, 1923–1993

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Announcements

Church Cleaners

November 23 - Barnabas / November 30 - Luke

Compassion Sunday

On November 23, Pastor Dan Sims from Christian Aid and Relief (CAR) will lead worship at 10:30 am. Before the service (at 9:00 am), he will give a presentation on the work CAR does and how it could support our congregation in its local compassion ministry.

DIVINE WORD'S TWO-WEEK CALENDAR

Su (16) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Study
10:30 am Worship with Communion
11:45 am *Coffee Hour*
3:00 pm Worship in Poltimore
5:00 pm Christmas Parade

Open house at Church after the Parade

Tu (18) 6:00 pm Elders Meeting
7:00 pm Council Meeting

We (19) 9:30 am Communicating Christ (Adult)
5:15 pm Youth Confirmation (W)
7:00 pm New Communicating Christ (Adult)

Su (23) 9:00 am Christian Aid and Relief Presentation
10:30 am Worship with Pastor Dan Sims
11:45 am *Coffee Hour*

Pastor Sullivan will be gone from Nov. 21 – Dec. 2

Su (30) 10:30 am Lay-led Worship (Advent 1)
11:45 am *Coffee Hour*