

Jesus said to him,

**Have you believed  
because you have seen me?  
Blessed are those  
who have not seen  
and yet have believed.**

John 20:29



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**Sunday, April 12, 2026**  
The Second Sunday of Easter

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Service Theme

**HE LIVES TO GIVE ME PROOF AND PEACE**

Without the resurrection of Jesus, we would have to wonder whether anything he said was true. Thomas had been taught and trained by Christ himself. He heard Jesus predict his death and resurrection. Even after hearing the eyewitness testimony of friends, Thomas still had doubts about the resurrection of Jesus. But he lives, and it makes a difference. Today we have great comfort when tempted to doubt Christ's promises in our lives. Jesus engages us with continuing assurances in Word and sacrament. We have proof. We have peace.

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# 452 The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done CW 452 sts. Ref-5

*Refrain*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done; now is the  
 2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst, but Christ their  
 3 The three sad days have quick - ly sped, he ris - es

vic - tor's tri - umph won; now be the  
 le - gions has dis - persed. Let shouts of  
 glo - rious from the dead. All glo - ry

song of praise be - gun: Al - le - lu - ia!  
 ho - ly joy out - burst: Al - le - lu - ia!  
 to our ris - en Head: Al - le - lu - ia!

4 He closed the yawning gates of hell;  
 the bars from heav'n's high portals fell.  
 Let hymns of praise his triumph tell:  
 Alleluia!

5 By your deep wounds, O risen King,  
 come set us free from death's sharp sting,  
 that we may live and ever sing:  
 Alleluia! (Refrain)

Text: Symphonia Sirenum Selectarum, Köln, 1695; tr. Francis Pott, 1832-1909, alt.  
 Tune: Giovanni P. da Palestrina, c. 1525-1594, adapt. Text and tune: Public domain

## The Service

### *Setting Three (page 188)*

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

**Amen.**

### **Confession**

CW 189

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

**Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Almighty and merciful Father,**

**we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.**

**We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.**

**We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.**

**We have done those things that we should not have done,**

**and we have not done those things that we should have done.**

**Have mercy on us, Lord!**

**Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,**

**according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

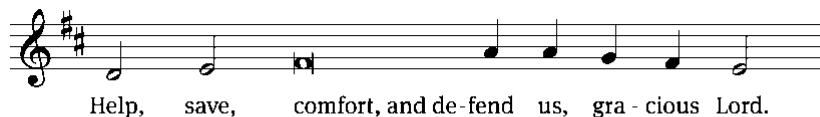
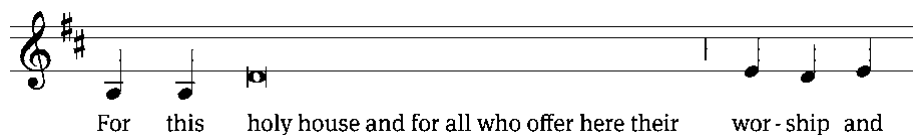
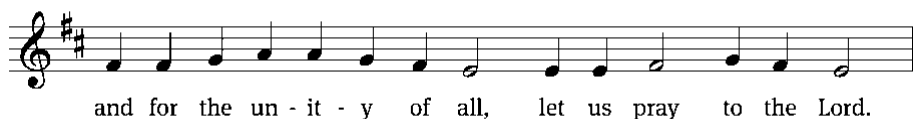
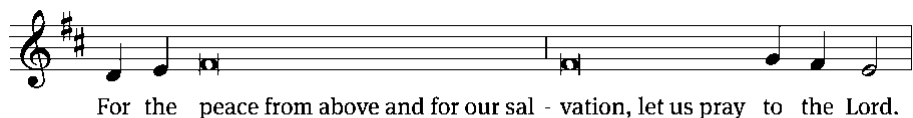
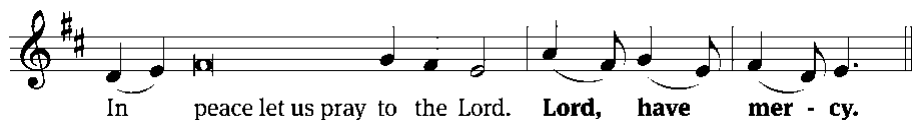
*Silence for meditation and reflection*

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

**Amen.**

# Lord, Have Mercy

CW 190



Tune: William Gokelman; David Kauffman

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# Glory to God in the Highest

CW 191

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Glory to God in the Highest". It consists of ten staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score includes a key signature change from G major to G minor in the final two staves. The lyrics are: "Glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to God, and peace to his peo - ple on earth, 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. 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 seat - ed at the right hand of the

Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer. 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. A - men.  
 Glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to  
 God, and peace to his peo - ple on earth,  
 and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

Tune: William Gokelman; David Kauffman

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## The Word

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

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.

**Amen.**

### **First Reading**

*Acts 2:14a,22–32*

*The living Lord appeared to many eyewitnesses so they could testify to the truth of Jesus' resurrection.*

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

<sup>22</sup>“Men 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. <sup>23</sup>This man, who was handed over by God's set plan and foreknowledge, you killed by having lawless men nail him to a cross. <sup>24</sup>He 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.

<sup>25</sup>“Indeed, David says concerning him:

I saw the Lord always before me.

Because he is at my right hand,

I will not be shaken.

<sup>26</sup>Therefore my heart was glad,  
and my tongue rejoiced.

My flesh also will rest in hope,

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

<sup>28</sup>You have made known to me the paths of life.

You will fill me with joy in your presence.

<sup>29</sup>“Gentlemen, 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. <sup>30</sup>Since 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, <sup>31</sup>he 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.

<sup>32</sup>“This Jesus is the one God has raised up. We are all witnesses of that.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

# 16A My Heart, Therefore, Is Glad *Psalm 16A*

*Introduction (first time only)*



*Refrain*



My heart, there-fore, is glad, and my tongue re-joic - es;



my bod - y al - so will rest, will rest se - cure.

*Tone*



Lord, you alone are my portion / and my cup;  
you make my / lot secure.

The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant / places;  
surely I have a delightful in- / heritance.

I keep my eyes always / on the Lord.

With him at my right hand, I will not be / shaken. *Refrain*

Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue re- / joices;  
my body also will / rest secure,

because you will not abandon me to the realm / of the dead,  
nor will you let your Holy One / see decay.

You make known to me the / path of life;  
you will fill me with joy in your presence,  
with eternal pleasures at / your right hand.

**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***

## Second Reading

1 Peter 1:3–9

*St. Peter points to the resurrection as proof of the hope we have.*

<sup>3</sup>Blessed 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, <sup>4</sup>into an inheritance that is undying, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you. <sup>5</sup>Through faith you are being protected by God's power for the salvation that is ready to be revealed at the end of time.

<sup>6</sup>Because of this you rejoice very much, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various kinds of trials <sup>7</sup>so 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.

<sup>8</sup>Though 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, <sup>9</sup>because you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## Gospel Acclamation

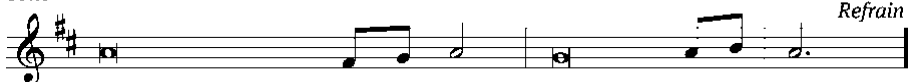
John 20:29



*Refrain*



Tone



Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have be - lieved.

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## Gospel

John 20:19–31

*Jesus gave the proof that led to peace for Thomas.*

<sup>19</sup>On 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!” <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. So the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

<sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you! Just as the Father has sent me, I am also sending you.” <sup>22</sup>After saying this, he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>Whenever you forgive people’s sins, they are forgiven. Whenever you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

<sup>24</sup>But Thomas, one of the Twelve, the one called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So 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.”

<sup>26</sup>After 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. <sup>27</sup>Then 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.”

<sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”

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

<sup>30</sup>Jesus, in the presence of his disciples, did many other miraculous signs that are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup>But 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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**456 O Sons and Daughters of the King** CW 456 sts. 4-8



4 That night th' a - pos - tles met in fear; a - mong them  
 5 When Thom - as af - ter - wards had heard that Je - sus  
 6 “Thom - as, be - hold my side,” said he, “my hands, my  
 7 No long - er Thom - as then de - nied; he saw the  
 8 Bless - ed are they that have not seen and yet whose



came their Lord most dear and said, “My peace be with you here.”  
 had ful - filled his word, he doubt - ed that it was the Lord.  
 feet, my bod - y see; and doubt not, but be - lieve in me.”  
 feet, the hands, the side; “You are my Lord and God,” he cried.  
 faith has con - stant been; in life e - ter - nal they shall reign.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: attr. Jean Tisserand, d. 1494, abr.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.  
 Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570-1615; Text and tune: Public domain

**Shalom Aleichem!**

- 1) Jesus' Easter greeting to us.
- 2) Our Easter greeting to the world.
- 3) Through faith, this greeting is more than a wish.

**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**

Loving God and Lord, you created the universe that surrounds us and the globe on which we live. You control all things through your Son, who sits at your right hand in glory.

**Comfort us with the promise of your eternal presence.**

Give your Word power as it works in our hearts and minds. Clear away our confusion, and demolish our doubts. Send your Spirit to strengthen both our confidence in your promises and our desire to live according to your will.

**Take away our love of sinning, and restore us each day by your grace.**

The signs of the times warn us that the end of time is near. Protect us from scoffers who sneer at your truth. Spare us and Christians around the world from all forms of hate and persecution.

**Give us courage to carry the cross with patience and joy.**

Instill in the hearts of our children a desire to follow you as they prepare for future days. Help them distinguish between what is passing and what is eternal, between instant thrills and lasting joy. Encourage more young people to prepare for service in the public ministry of the gospel.

**Mold us and move us to be good examples for our youth.**

Hold in your care, Lord, those who are experiencing physical or emotional pain and all who are afflicted by disease or facing death. [Especially bless . . .] Pour out your compassion on the grieving, and comfort the mourners who miss someone they loved.

## Move us to pray for these brothers and sisters and to help when we can.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

### *Silent prayer*

Whether we pray together or alone, you have promised to hear and answer us. Give us patience to accept your blessings in whatever way you send them. In your love and wisdom, prepare us for the day when you will take us to be with you forever.

**Hear us for Jesus' sake. Amen.**

## Offering

### 462 Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

CW 462



- 1 Come, you faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant glad - ness!
- 2 See the spring of souls to - day: Christ has burst his pris - on,
- 3 Now the queen of sea - sons, bright with the day of splen - dor,
- 4 For to - day a - mong his own Christ ap - peared, be - stow - ing
- 5 Al - le - lu - ia! Now we cry to our King im - mor - tal,



God has brought his Is - ra - el in - to joy from sad - ness,  
and from three days' sleep in death as a sun has ris - en;  
with the roy - al feast of feasts, comes its joy to ren - der;  
bless - ed peace, which ev - er - more pass - es hu - man know - ing.  
who, tri - um - phant, burst the bars of the tomb's dark por - tal.



loosed from Phar - aoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters,  
all the win - ter of our sins, long and dark, is fly - ing  
comes to glad - den faith - ful hearts which with true af - fec - tion  
Nei - ther could the gates of death nor the tomb's dark por - tal  
Come, you faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant glad - ness!



led them with un-moist-ened foot through the Red Sea wa-ters.  
from his light, to whom we give laud and praise un-dy-ing.  
wel-come in un-wea-ried strains Je-sus' res-ur-rec-tion!  
nor the watch-ers nor the seal hold him as a mor-tal.  
God has brought his Is-ra-el in-to joy from sad-ness!

Text: John of Damascus, c. 696–c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.  
Tune: Johann Horn, c. 1490–1547 Text and tune: Public domain

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and 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.**

# 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.

## 464 I Am Content! My Jesus Lives Again

CW 464



1 I am con-tent! My Je - sus lives a - gain, in whom my  
2 I am con-tent! My Je - sus is my head; his mem - ber  
3 I am con-tent! My Je - sus is my light, my ra - diant  
4 I am con-tent! Lord, set me ev - er free and wake me



heart is pleased. He has ful - filled the law of God for me,  
I will be. He bowed his head when on the cross he died  
sun of grace. His cheer - ing rays beam bless - ings forth for all:  
from the dead that I may rise for - ev - er - more to be



God's wrath he has ap - peased. Since he in  
with cries of ag - o - ny. Now death is  
sweet com - fort, hope, and peace. This Eas - ter  
with you, my liv - ing head. The chains that



death could per - ish nev - er, I al - so shall not  
brought in - to sub - jec - tion for me by Je - sus'  
sun has brought sal - va - tion and ev - er - last - ing  
hold my bod - y, sev - er; then shall my soul re -



die for - ev - er. I am con - tent! I am con - tent!  
res - ur - rec - tion. I am con - tent! I am con - tent!  
ex - ul - ta - tion. I am con - tent! I am con - tent!  
joyce for - ev - er. I am con - tent! I am con - tent!

# Announcements

## **Church Cleaners**

April 19 – Luke / April 26 – Timothy

### DIVINE WORD'S TWO-WEEK CALENDAR

- Su (12) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Study**  
**10:30 am Worship**  
11:45 am Coffee Hour
- Tu (14) 7:00 pm Communicating Christ Class
- Fr (17) 3:00 pm Women's Bible Study
- Su (19) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Study**  
**10:30 am Worship (with Communion)**  
11:45 am Coffee Hour  
**3:00 pm Worship in Poltimore**  
4:00 pm Youth Confirmation in Poltimore
- Tu (21) 7:00 pm Elder's Meeting
- Fr (24) 3:00 pm Women's Bible Study  
6:00 pm Friday Fellowship
- Su (26) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Study**  
**10:30 am Worship**  
11:45 am Coffee Hour  
12:00 am Evangelism Meeting

#### **Acknowledgments**

Setting Three from Christian Worship

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