

✠ Holy Cross Lutheran Church ✠

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Pastor Mark Huston

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Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

September 24, 2023

Divine Service, Setting One

As We Gather

Elijah called to the Lord for the life of a widow’s son, and the Lord delivered him from death. Jesus met another widow at a funeral procession, and death gave up one more victim to the power of His Word. Paul told the story of his own transformation from death to life by the Gospel. This same transforming power is at work in us who were dead in our sin but now are alive to God in Christ. Let us live this new life so that we display the power of God that has saved us in our words and works.

697 Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death



1 A - wake, O sleep - er, rise from death, And
2 To us on earth He came to bring From
3 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, Who
4 For us Christ lived, for us He died, And



Christ shall give you light; So learn His love, its
sin and fear re - lease, To give the Spir - it's
died that He might save; With kind and gen - tle
con - quered in the strife; A - wake, a - rise, go



length and breadth, Its full - ness, depth, and height.
u - ni - ty, The ver - y bond of peace.
hearts for - give As God in Christ for - gave.
forth in faith, And Christ shall give you life.

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895-1984
Tune: Carl G. Gläser, 1784-1829
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Confession and Absolution

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

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

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God’s Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 86:1, 7, 12–13; antiphon: vv. 3, 5

P Be gracious to me, | O Lord,*
for to you do I cry | all the day.

For you, O Lord, are good and for- | giving,*
abounding in steadfast love to all who call up- | on you.

C Incline your ear, O LORD, and | answer me,*
for I am poor and | needy.

P In the day of my trouble I call up- | on you,*
for you | answer me.

C I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with | my whole heart,*
and I will glorify your name for- | ever.

P For great is your steadfast | love toward me;*
you have delivered my soul from the depths | of Sheol.

C 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.

P Be gracious to me, | O Lord,*
for to you do I cry | all the day.

For you, O Lord, are good and for- | giving,*
abounding in steadfast love to all who call up- | on you.

Kyrie

LSB 152

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

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

C Lord, have mercy.

P 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.

C Lord, have mercy.

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

C Lord, have mercy.

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

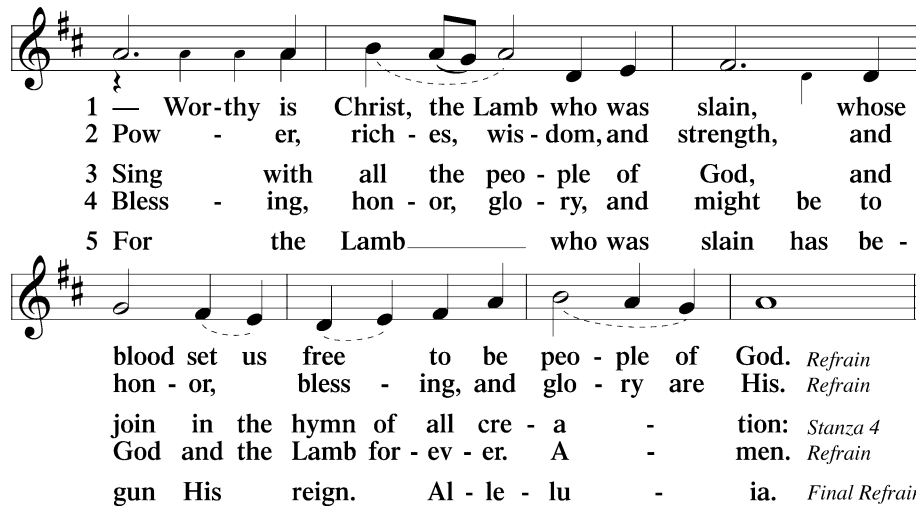
C Amen.

This Is the Feast

Refrain



C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.



1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and strength, and
3 Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and
4 Bless-ing, hon-or, glo-ry, and might be to
5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -
blood set us free to be peo-ple of God. *Refrain*
hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are His. *Refrain*
join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion: *Stanza 4*
God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men. *Refrain*
gun His reign. Al-le-lu-ia. *Final Refrain*

Final Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O Lord, we pray that Your grace may always go before and follow after us, that we may continually be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

1 Kings 17:17–24

R The Old Testament Reading is from 1 Kings, chapter 17.

¹⁷After this the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, became ill. And his illness was so severe that there was no breath left in him. ¹⁸And she said to Elijah, “What have you against me, O man of God? You have come to me to bring my sin to remembrance and to cause the death of my son!” ¹⁹And he said to her, “Give me your son.” And he took him from her arms and carried him up into the upper chamber where he lodged, and laid him on his own bed. ²⁰And he cried to the LORD, “O LORD my God, have you brought calamity even upon the widow with whom I sojourn, by killing her son?” ²¹Then he stretched

himself upon the child three times and cried to the LORD, “O LORD my God, let this child’s life come into him again.”²² And the LORD listened to the voice of Elijah. And the life of the child came into him again, and he revived.²³ And Elijah took the child and brought him down from the upper chamber into the house and delivered him to his mother. And Elijah said, “See, your son lives.”²⁴ And the woman said to Elijah, “Now I know that you are a man of God, and that the word of the LORD in your mouth is truth.”

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Ephesians 3:13–21

R The Epistle is from Ephesians, chapter 3.

¹³So I ask you not to lose heart over what I am suffering for you, which is your glory.

¹⁴For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, ¹⁶that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

²⁰Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, ²¹to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156

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

Holy Gospel

Luke 7:11–17

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventh chapter.

C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

P ¹¹Soon afterward [Jesus] went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a great crowd went with him. ¹²As he drew near to the gate of the town, behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow, and a considerable crowd from the town was with her. ¹³And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, “Do not weep.” ¹⁴Then he came up and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, “Young man, I say to you, arise.” ¹⁵And the dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. ¹⁶Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, saying, “A great prophet has arisen among us!” and “God has visited his people!” ¹⁷And this report about him spread through the whole of Judea and all the surrounding country.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

758 The Will of God Is Always Best



1 The will of God is al - ways best And shall be done for -
2 God is my com - fort and my trust, My hope and life a -
3 Lord, this I ask, O hear my plea, De - ny me not this
4 When life's brief course on earth is run And I this world am



ev - er; And they who trust in Him are blest;
bid - ing; And to His coun - sel, wise and just,
fa - vor: When Sa - tan sore - ly trou - bles me,
leav - ing, Grant me to say, "Your will be done,"



He will for - sake them nev - er. He helps in - deed In
I yield, in Him con - fid - ing. The ver - y hairs, His
Then do not let me wa - ver. O guard me well, My
Your faith - ful Word be - liev - ing. My dear - est Friend, I



time of need; He chas - tens with for - bear - ing. They who de -
Word de - clares, Up - on my head He num - bers. By night and
fear dis - pel, Ful - fill Your faith - ful say - ing: All who be -
now com - mend My soul in - to Your keep - ing; From sin and



pend On God, their friend, Shall not be left de - spair - ing.
day God is my stay; He nev - er sleeps nor slum - bers.
lieve By grace re - ceive An an - swer to their pray - ing.
hell, And death as well, By You the vic - t'ry reap - ing.

Text: Albrecht von Preussen, 1490-1568; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
Tune: Claudin de Sermisy, c. 1490-1562
Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Life or Death

Stand

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,

God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life \ddagger of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

- P** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.
- O Lord, Father of all, we bow before You in all confidence and beg You: strengthen us by Your Spirit, ground us in Your love and fill up what we lack out of Your own abundance. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** O Great Physician, lend Your own power to the works of mercy done in the name of Your Son, that they may increase faith in the words Your servants speak. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Faithful Father, when loss and heartache invade our homes and tempt us to doubt Your divine care, hear our cries and renew our faith and life in You. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Lord of life and death, You have given all things into the hands of Your Son. Inspire those who bear the sword in His stead to do so in faithfulness and love for their fellow man. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Merciful Lord, You lead us, as St. Paul before us, through many tribulations to know the fullness of Your love. Strengthen [*and*] all who suffer, that they may praise You for Your faithfulness. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Lord of the harvest, grant that in true faith we may worthily go to Your altar to receive the very body and the true blood that Your Son has given for our redemption. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**

P Lord of hosts, Your saints in heaven now know as they are known and comprehend the fullness of Your love in Christ. Conduct our way through this fallen world to join them in Your heavenly presence. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Offering

756 Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me sts. 1–3

Stand

Offertory

LSB 159



C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of-fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv-ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je-ru-sa-lem.

Welcome to our Visitors

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder. For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15–35; 26:26–29; and 1 Corinthians 11:17–34.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 160

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

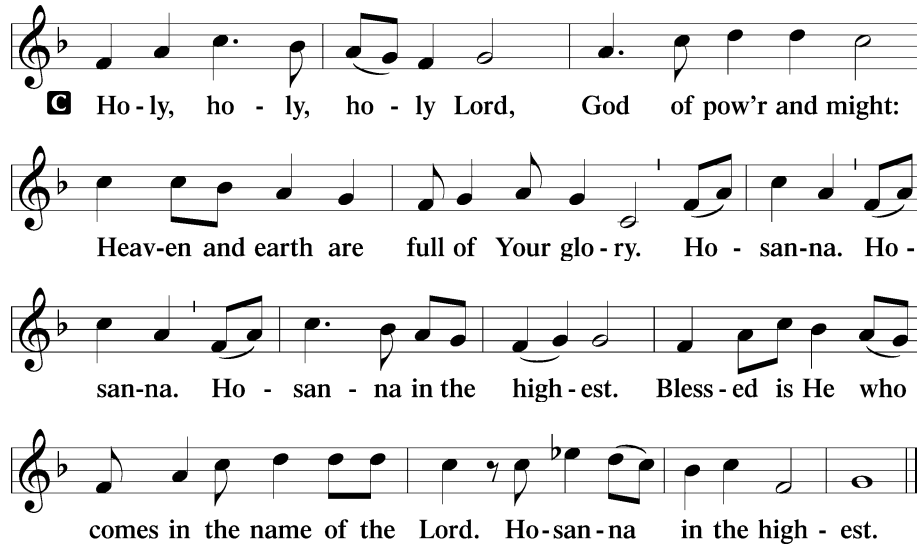
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 161



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en 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 who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C 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.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

LSB 163

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

Agnus Dei

LSB 163

C 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.

Sit

Distribution

639 Wide Open Stand the Gates



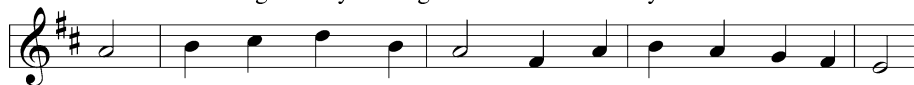
1 Wide o - pen stand the gates a - dorned with pearl, While
 2 He speaks the Word the bread and wine to bless: "This
 3 The cher - u - bim, their fac - es veiled from light, While



round God's gold - en throne The choirs of saints in
 is My flesh and blood!" He bids us eat and
 saints in won - der kneel, Sing praise to Him whose



end - less cir - cles curl, And joy - ous praise the Son!
 drink with thank - ful - ness This gift of ho - ly food.
 face with glo - ry bright No earth - ly masks con - ceal.



They watch Him now de - scend - ing To vis - it wait - ing earth.
 All hu - man thought must fal - ter—Our God stoops low to heal,
 This sac - ra - ment God gives us Binds us in u - ni - ty,



The Lord of Life un - end - ing Brings dy - ing hope new birth!
 Now pres - ent on the al - tar, For us both host and meal!
 Joins earth with heav'n be - yond us, Time with e - ter - ni - ty!

Text: J. K. Wilhelm Loehe, 1808-72; tr. Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923-2007
 Tune: Christlich Neu-vermehrt . . . Gesangbuch, 1663, Erfurt
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754 Entrust Your Days and Burdens



1 En - trust your days and bur - dens To God's most lov - ing
 2 Re - ly on God your Sav - ior And find your life se -
 3 Take heart, have hope, my spir - it, And do not be dis -
 4 Leave all to His di - rec - tion; His wis - dom rules for



hand; He cares for you while rul - ing The
 cure. Make His work your foun - da - tion That
 mayed; God helps in ev - 'ry tri - al And
 you In ways to rouse your won - der At



sky, the sea, the land. For He who guides the
 your work may en - dure. No anx - ious thought, no
 makes you un - a - fraid. A - wait His time with
 all His love can do. Soon He, His prom - ise



tem - pests A - long their thun - d'rous ways Will
 wor - ry, No self - tor - ment - ing care Can
 pa - tience Through dark - est hours of night Un -
 keep - ing, With won - der - work - ing pow'rs Will



find for you a path - way And guide you all your days.
 win your Fa - ther's fa - vor; His heart is moved by prayer.
 til the sun you hoped for De - lights your ea - ger sight.
 ban - ish from your spir - it What gave you trou - bled hours.

5 O blessèd heir of heaven,
 You'll hear the song resound
 Of endless jubilation
 When you with life are crowned.
 In your right hand your maker
 Will place the victor's palm,
 And you will thank Him gladly
 With heaven's joyful psalm.

6 Our hands and feet, Lord, strengthen;
 With joy our spirits bless
 Until we see the ending
 Of all our life's distress.
 And so throughout our lifetime
 Keep us within Your care
 And at our end then bring us
 To heav'n to praise You there.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-76; (sts. 1-5): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913-2001, alt.; (st. 6): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006
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Stand

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 165

C Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful-
 filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which You have pre-
 pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -
 veal You to the na - tions and the glo - ry of Your peo - ple Is - ra - el.
 Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;
 as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.
 We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction

LSB 166

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

481 Scatter the Darkness, Break the Gloom



1 Scat - ter the dark - ness, break the gloom; Sun, re - veal an
2 Bear - ing the stan - dard from on high As the Lamb of
3 Ban - ners of tri - umph, be un - furled! Trum - pets, sound through -



emp - ty tomb Shin - ing with joy for all our sor - rows,
God to die; He who for us, so cruel - ly treat - ed,
out the world! Cry - ing and sighs, give way to sing - ing:



Hope and peace for all to - mor - rows, Life un - e -
Lives a - gain— our foes de - feat - ed! Where is your
Life from death, our Lord is bring - ing! Let there be -



clipsed by doubt and dread: Christ has ris - en from the dead!
sting, O death and grave? Christ has shown His strength to save!
gin the ju - bi - lee— Christ has gained the vic - to - ry!

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955

Tune: French

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Announcements

Adult Sunday School at **9am** on Sunday mornings is studying Exodus.

The **Flowers** that beautify our altar this morning are given to God's glory.

The **Ladies Bible Study** meets on Wednesday at **10am**, studying the book of 1 Samuel.

Lutheran Witness subscription renewal address sheet is in the narthex.

Church Council next meeting is **Oct 8** at **8am**.

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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