

✠ Holy Cross Lutheran Church ✠

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Pastor Mark Huston

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The Third Sunday of Easter

April 14, 2024

Divine Service, Setting One

As We Gather

Luke reports that at seeing the resurrected Jesus, the disciples “disbelieved for joy” (24:41). The theme of rejoicing is woven throughout the Scriptures. The psalmist exhorts: “Shout for joy to God, all the earth; sing the glory of His name; give to Him glorious praise!” (66:1–2). The prophet Isaiah assures God’s people that they will have cause for rejoicing as he writes: “For the Lord comforts Zion; . . . joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song” (51:3). Paul writes to people who know of the glorious resurrection of Jesus Christ on that first Easter day: “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice” (Philippians 4:4). The season of Easter is a time for joyous praise that begins now!

815 All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine



1 All praise to Thee, for Thou, O King di - vine,
2 Thou cam'st to us in low - li - ness of thought;
3 Let this mind be in us which was in Thee,
4 Where-fore, by God's e - ter - nal pur - pose, Thou
5 Let ev - 'ry tongue con - fess with one ac - cord,



Didst yield the glo - ry that of right was Thine,
By Thee the out - cast and the poor were sought;
Who wast a ser - vant that we might be free,
Art high ex - alt - ed o'er all crea - tures now,
In heav'n and earth, that Je - sus Christ is Lord,



That in our dark - ened hearts Thy grace might shine.
And by Thy death was God's sal - va - tion wrought.
Hum - bling Thy - self to death on Cal - va - ry.
And giv'n the name to which all knees shall bow.
And God the Fa - ther be by all a - dored.



Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984

Tune: Charles V. Stanford, 1852–1924

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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 30:1–5; antiphon: Psalm 16:11b

- P** In your presence there is full- | ness of joy; *
at your right hand are pleasures for- | evermore.
- C** **I will extol you, O LORD, for you have | drawn me up*
and have not let my foes rejoice | over me.**
- P** O LORD my God, I cried to | you for help, *
and you have | healed me.
- C** **O LORD, you have brought up my soul | from Sheol; *
you restored me to life from among those who go down | to the pit.**
- P** Sing praises to the LORD, O | you his saints, *
and give thanks to his | holy name.
- C** **For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a | lifetime.*
Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the | morning.**
- 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** In your presence there is full- | ness of joy; *
at your right hand are pleasures for- | evermore.

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

LSB 155

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 God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

First Reading

Acts 3:11–21

R The First Reading is from Acts, chapter 3.

¹¹While [the lame man who was now healed] clung to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's, astounded. ¹²And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: "Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And his name—by faith

in his name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all.

¹⁷“And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, ²⁰that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, ²¹whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago.”

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 John 3:1–7

R The Epistle is from 1 John, chapter 3.

¹See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he appeared to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous.

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 24:36–49

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

P ³⁶As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, “Peace to you!” ³⁷But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. ³⁸And he said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate before them.

⁴⁴Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And behold, I am

sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

483 With High Delight Let Us Unite



1 With high de-light Let us u - nite In songs of great
2 True God, He first From death has burst Forth in - to life,
3 Let prais-es ring; Give thanks, and bring To Christ our Lord



ju - bi - la - tion. Ye pure in heart, All bear your part,
all sub-du - ing. His en - e - my Doth van - quished lie;
ad - o - ra - tion. His hon - or speed By word and deed



Sing Je - sus Christ, our sal - va - tion. To set us
His death has been death's un - do - ing. "And yours shall
To ev - 'ry land, ev - 'ry na - tion. So shall His



free For - ev - er, He Is ris'n and sends To all earth's
be Like vic - to - ry O'er death and grave," Saith He, who
love Give us a - bove, From mis - er - y And death set



ends Good news to save ev - 'ry na - tion.
gave His life for us, life re - new - ing.
free, All joy and full con - so - la - tion.

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Sermon

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 † 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.

Lord God, in Your presence we find fullness of joy, and by Your right hand, Christ Jesus, You win and deliver peace forevermore. In the midst of this world's sins and sorrows, give us peace in the knowledge of His salvation and confident hope in the resurrection of the dead. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Heavenly Father, by the incarnation of Your Son and the reconciliation of His cross, You have made us Your children and gathered us into Your Holy Church. Sustain the preaching of Your Holy Word and its message of repentance for the forgiveness of sins in Jesus' name among us and all the nations of the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Give peace, Lord, to our homes and enliven them by Christ's resurrected life. Let the forgiveness of sins reign among husbands and wives, parents and children. Assure those who live alone that they, too, are Your children, upheld by Your right hand. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Almighty God, preserve our nation and its leaders, especially Joseph, our president, and Greg, our governor. Preserve order and decency in this fallen world by their hands and restrain the sins and deceptions of the lawless, that we may practice righteousness while awaiting the eternal peace promised in Christ's wounds alone. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P God of all comfort, You have compassion on those who are afflicted. Remember and have mercy on [_____ and] all those in need of Your healing and deliverance. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by Your Son's crucifixion all sins have been blotted out. Send us now the blessed refreshment of His bodily presence in the Sacrament of the Altar, and make us fit partakers in repentance for the forgiveness of our sins. Lord, in Your mercy,

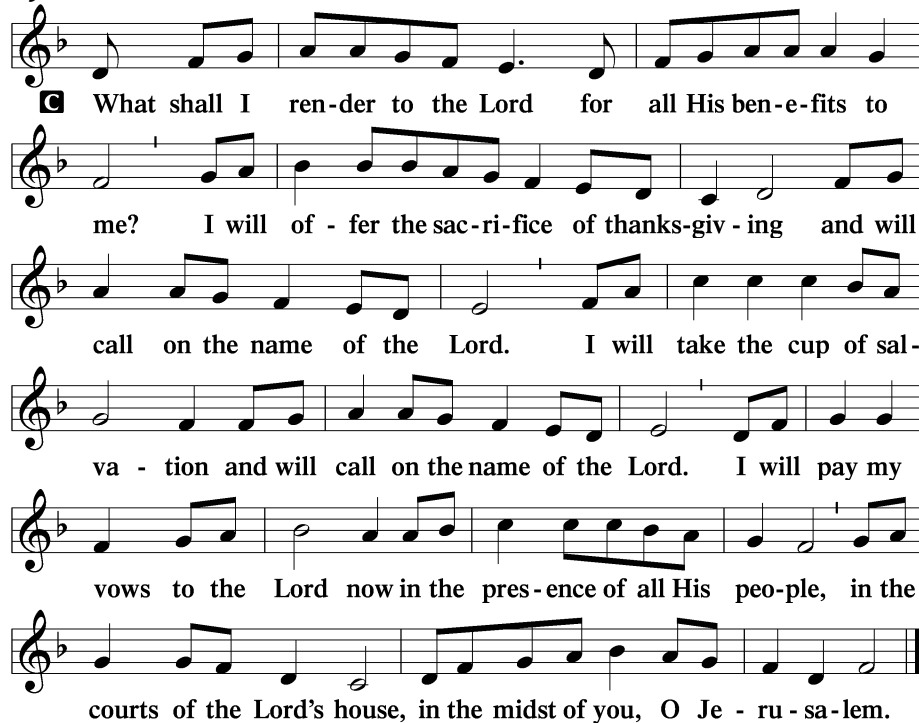
C hear our prayer.

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

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

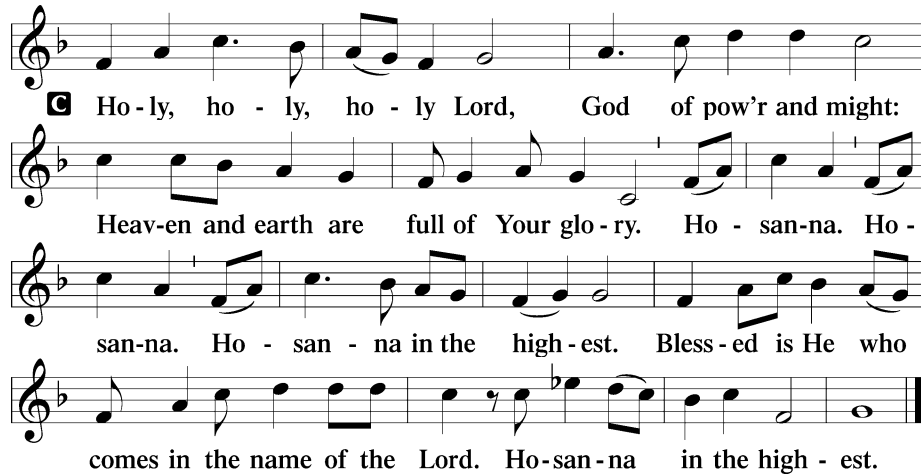
LSB 160

- 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. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and

bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, 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

640 Thee We Adore, O Hidden Savior

1 Thee we a - dore, O hid - den Sav - ior, Thee,
2 In this me - mo - rial of Thy death, O Lord,
3 Thou, like the pel - i - can to feed her brood,
4 Foun - tain of good - ness, Je - sus, Lord and God:
5 O Christ, whom now be - neath a veil we see,
Who in Thy Sac - ra - ment art pleased to be;
Thou dost Thy bod - y and Thy blood af - ford:
Didst pierce Thy self to give us liv - ing food;
Cleanse us, un - clean, with Thy most cleans - ing blood;
May what we thirst for soon our por - tion be:
Both flesh and spir - it in Thy pres - ence fail,
Oh, may our souls for - ev - er feed on Thee,
Thy blood, O Lord, one drop has pow'r to win
In - crease our faith and love, that we may know
To gaze on Thee un - veiled and see Thy face,
Yet here Thy pres - ence we de - vout - ly hail.
And Thou, O Christ, for - ev - er pre - cious be.
For - give - ness for our world and all its sin.
The hope and peace which from Thy pres - ence flow.
The vi - sion of Thy glo - ry, and Thy grace. A - men.

Text: Thomas Aquinas, c. 1225-1274; (sts. 1-2, 4-5): tr. James R. Woodford, 1820-85, alt.; (sts. 2-3): tr. Stephen P. Starke, 1955
Tune: Processionale, 1697, Paris, mode V
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466 Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia



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; He sets 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 cloths 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!

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Stand

Thank the Lord

LSB 164



☐ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud - ly bear His name.



He re - calls His prom - is - es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

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.

465 Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re-sounds In
2 E-ter-nal is the gift He brings, There -
3 O fill us, Lord, with daunt-less love; Set
△ 4 A-dor-ing prais-es now we bring And



praise of love that still a-bounds: "Christ has tri-umphed!
fore our heart with rap-ture sings: "Christ has tri-umphed!
heart and will on things a-bove That we con-quer
with the heav'n-ly bless-ed sing: "Christ has tri-umphed!



He is liv-ing!" Sing, choirs of an-gels, loud and
He is liv-ing!" Now still He comes to give us
through Your tri-umph; Grant grace suf-fi-cient for life's
Al-le-lu-ia!" Be to the Fa-ther and our



clear! Re-peat their song of glo-ry
life And by His pres-ence stills all
day That by our lives we tru-ly
Lord, To Spir-it blest, most ho-ly



here: "Christ has tri-umphed! Christ has tri-umphed!"
strife. Christ has tri-umphed! He is liv-ing!
say: "Christ has tri-umphed! He is liv-ing!"
God, All the glo-ry, nev-er end-ing!



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!

Announcements

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

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

The **Ladies Bible Study** meets on Wednesdays at **10am**, studying the book of 2 Samuel.

Church Council next meeting is **Apr 14** at **8am**.

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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