# The Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 4, 2025



Holy Spirit Lutheran Church Lancaster, PA

# The Holy Eucharist

If you are visiting with us, a special welcome. We invite you to return and worship with us as often as you are able. Please sign the guest book in the narthex. Guest cards are also available. Please take one, fill it out and return it to an usher. The offering plates are in the back of the sanctuary. If you need a large print bulletin, please ask an usher. As you enter the nave, please conclude all conversations and silence all cell phones and other electronic devices, as to fully enter into this time of worship.

Please indicate to the Pastor if you require gluten free wafers, prior to worship, if possible.

The pass thru room at the top of the steps next to the office is now broadcasting our church service LIVE every Sunday. If you need to leave the sanctuary for any reason, you are welcome to continue worshiping by viewing the service in that room.

# The Prelude

Please stand.

# **Easter Acclamation**

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

# Thanksgiving for Baptism

- P In the name of + the One who was, who is, and who is to come.
- C Amen.
- P Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

P Holy God,

we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One,

- C make us one as you are one.
- P We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making.
   Baptized into you, O Living One,
- C make us one as you are one.
- P We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power.
  Baptized into you, O Living One,
- C make us one as you are one.
- P Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you.We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.
- C Amen.

#### **Gathering Hymn** O God of Light Hymn #507 light, Ο God of word, a lamp un fail 1 your \_ ing, 2 From days of old. through blind and will - ful а ges, Un - dimmed those words are still 3 by time, re veal ing 4 To all the world sum - mons you send your are ing, 0 pierce shall the dark of earth - bound ness our way belled, sought gent - ly though we re you а gain, ful hearts to sin vour ius - tice and your grace; through all the ev - 'ry earth, to land and race, 7. and show your your plan for veil grace, us un ing, and spoke through saints, pos - tles, а proph-ets, sa ges. for and quest - ing spir its, long - ing your heal ing, myr - iad that in an - them blend - ing, tongues, one great

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who see	wrote your	with com	foot - steps ea - ger - pas - sion cel - e -	or in	re the	- Îuc Sav	-	tant	day. pen. face. grace.

Text: Sarah E. Taylor, 1883–1954, alt.

Music: ATKINSON, H. Barrie Cabena, b. 1933

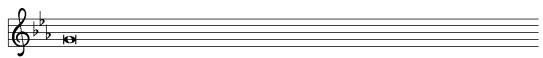
Text © 1952, ren. 1980 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

# The Apostolic Greeting

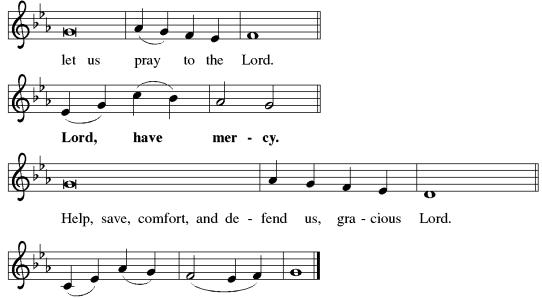
- P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C And also with you.

# Kyrie





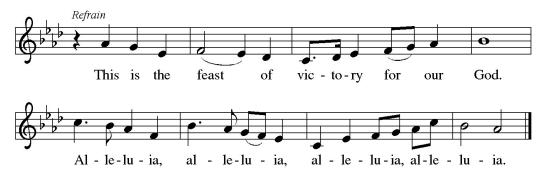
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



A - men, a - men.

#### Hymn of Praise

The Congregation sings the refrain, the Cantor sings the verses.





### The Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

#### C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

# **First Reading**

#### Acts 9:1-20

A reading from Acts.

<sup>1</sup> Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest <sup>2</sup> and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup> Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. <sup>4</sup> He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" <sup>5</sup> He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. <sup>6</sup> But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." <sup>7</sup> The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. <sup>8</sup> Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. <sup>9</sup> For three days he was without sight and neither ate nor drank.

<sup>10</sup> Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." <sup>11</sup> The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, <sup>12</sup> and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." <sup>13</sup> But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup> and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." <sup>15</sup> But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; <sup>16</sup> I

myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." <sup>17</sup> So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." <sup>18</sup> And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, <sup>19</sup> and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, <sup>20</sup> and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."

- L The word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

#### Psalm 30 (Read responsively with the lector.)

<sup>1</sup> I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up and did not let my foes rejoice over me.

#### <sup>2</sup> O LORD my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.

<sup>3</sup> O LORD, you brought up my soul from Sheol, restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit.

# <sup>4</sup> Sing praises to the LORD, O you his faithful ones, and give thanks to his holy name.

<sup>5</sup> For his anger is but for a moment; his favor is for a lifetime.Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

#### <sup>6</sup> As for me, I said in my prosperity, "I shall never be moved."

<sup>7</sup> By your favor, O LORD,

you had established me as a strong mountain; you hid your face;

I was dismayed.

#### <sup>8</sup> To you, O LORD, I cried, and to the LORD I made supplication:

<sup>9</sup> "What profit is there in my death, if I go down to the Pit?Will the dust praise you?

Will it tell of your faithfulness?

#### <sup>10</sup> Hear, O LORD, and be gracious to me! O LORD, be my helper!"

<sup>11</sup> You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,

# <sup>12</sup> so that my soul may praise you and not be silent.O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

# Second Reading

Revelation 5:11-14

A reading from Revelation.

<sup>11</sup> Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, <sup>12</sup> singing with full voice,

"Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered

to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might

and honor and glory and blessing!"

<sup>13</sup> Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea and all that is in them, singing,

"To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might

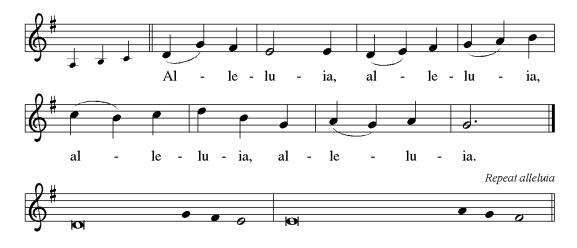
forever and ever!"

<sup>14</sup> And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshiped.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

# **Gospel Acclamation**



#### The Holy Gospel

John 21:1-19

P The Holy Gospel according to Saint John .

#### C Glory to you, O Lord

<sup>1</sup> After [he appeared to his followers in Jerusalem,] Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he showed himself in this way. <sup>2</sup> Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. <sup>3</sup> Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

<sup>4</sup> Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach, but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>5</sup> Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." <sup>6</sup> He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. <sup>7</sup> That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he had taken it off, and jumped into the sea. <sup>8</sup> But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

<sup>9</sup> When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. <sup>10</sup> Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." <sup>11</sup> So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them, and though there were so many, the net was not torn. <sup>12</sup> Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. <sup>13</sup> Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them and did the same with the fish. <sup>14</sup> This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

<sup>15</sup> When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." <sup>16</sup> A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." <sup>17</sup> He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. <sup>18</sup> Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." <sup>19</sup> (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

#### The Sermon

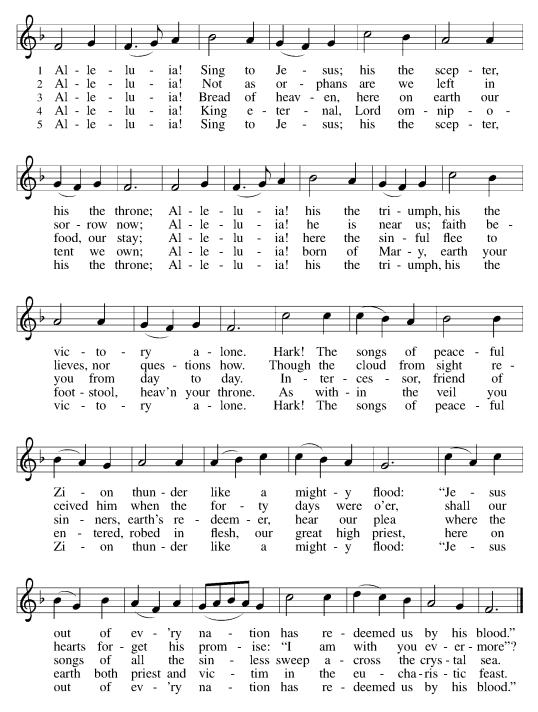
Silence for reflection follows.

#### Please stand. The Hymn of the Day

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

Hymn #392

Verses 1, 3 & 5– All Verse 2– Women; Men join at *though the cloud*... Verse 4– Men; Women join at *as with-in the veil* 



Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt. Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

#### The Apostles Creed

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

#### The Prayers of the Church

The assembly remains standing for the prayers.

A God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

After each portion of the prayers:

- P Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.

#### The prayers conclude:

- P We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.
- C Amen.

# The Sharing of the Peace

P The peace of Christ be with you all.

#### C And also with you.

Without leaving your seat offer a wave to your neighbor, sharing God's peace, in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Please be seated.

#### Anthem

Tell It Out He Is Risen

Robert Wetzler

# Offering

During this time our offerings are represented through the gift of music, bread, and wine. Following the service you are invited to give your financial gifts in the offering plates located in the back of the sanctuary.

Please stand.

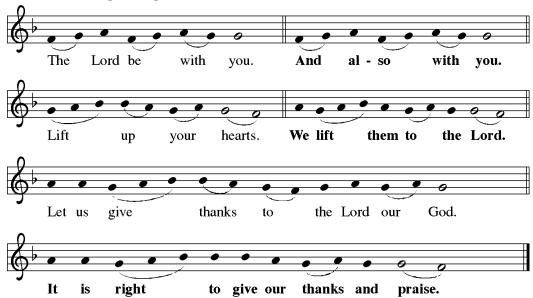


Music: NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

# **Offertory Prayer**

A Let us pray. Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring.
Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world.

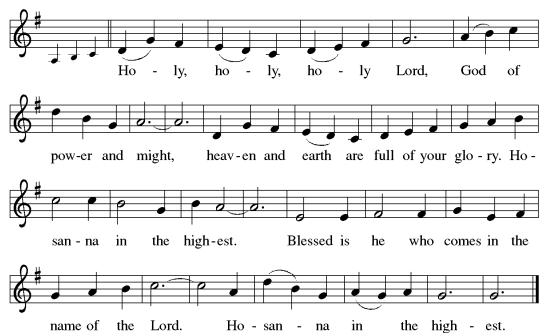
C Amen.



**Great Thanks giving** 

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus



#### **Eucharistic Prayer**

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

#### C Amen.

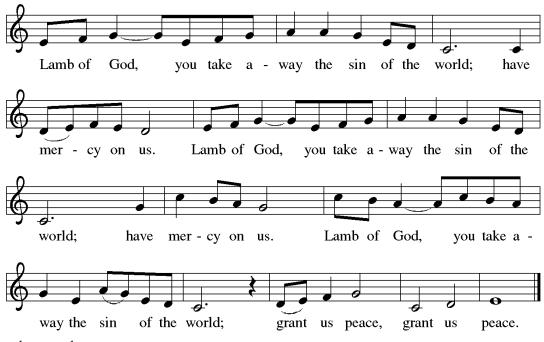
#### Lord's Prayer

С	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 Invitation to Communion

P Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

The Lamb of God



Please be seated.

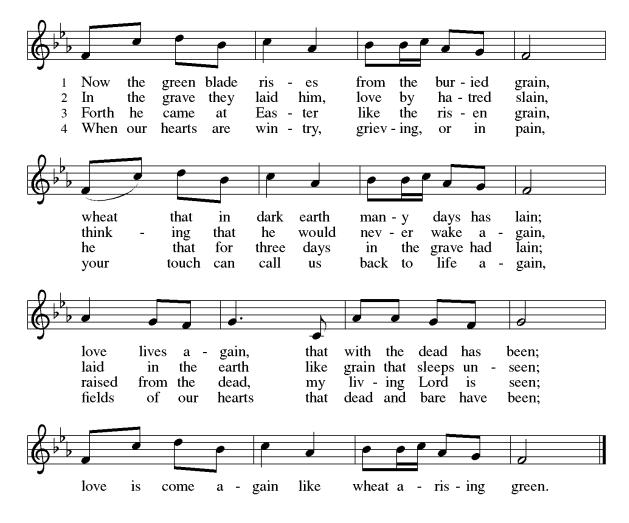
#### The Distribution of Holy Communion

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America practices open table hospitality. Baptized communicants of other Christian denominations, of all ages, are welcome to receive the sacrament. An usher will direct each seating area to come forward to receive the sacrament. Pick up a communion cup as you approach the altar. Please **stand** at the communion rail and the pastor will place the bread into the hands of communicants. The first chalice contains wine, the second chalice contains grape juice. A gluten free wafer is available upon request. Those persons not receiving communion are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing.

#### **Hymns During Communion**

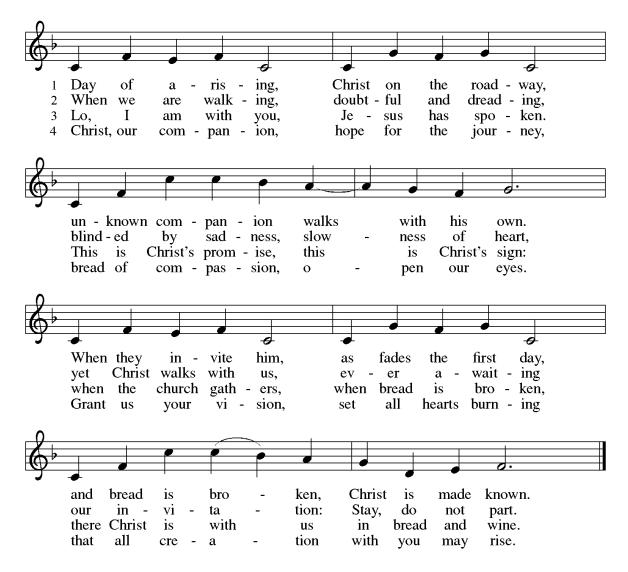
Now the Green Blade Rises	Hymn #379
Day of Arising	Hymn #374
Children of the Heavenly Father	Hymn #781

# Now the Green Blade Rises



Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958 Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol Text from Oxford Book of Carols, © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved.

# Day of Arising



Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953 Music: RAABE, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929 Text © 1996 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.



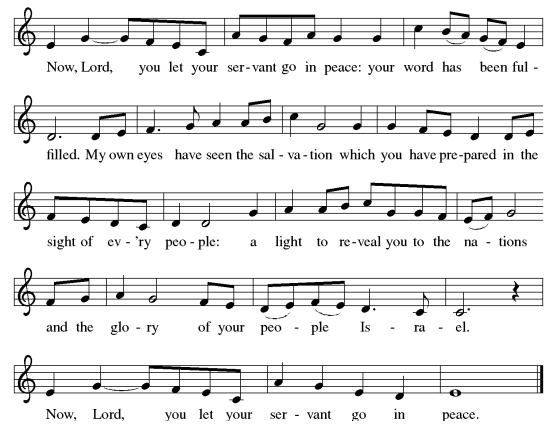
Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958 Music: TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA, Swedish folk tune Text © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Please stand.

# **Post-Communion Blessing**

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C Amen.

# **Nunc Dimittis**



### **Post-Communion Prayer**

- A Let us pray. Living One,
  in this feast you have made yourself known to us.
  Send us now to tell of your wonders,
  sing of your glory,
  and proclaim your risen life
  to a wounded and weary world.
- C Amen.

# The Blessing

P The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, + Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always.

C Amen.

# The Sending Hymn

Let the Whole Creation Cry

Hymn #876 Music on page 25

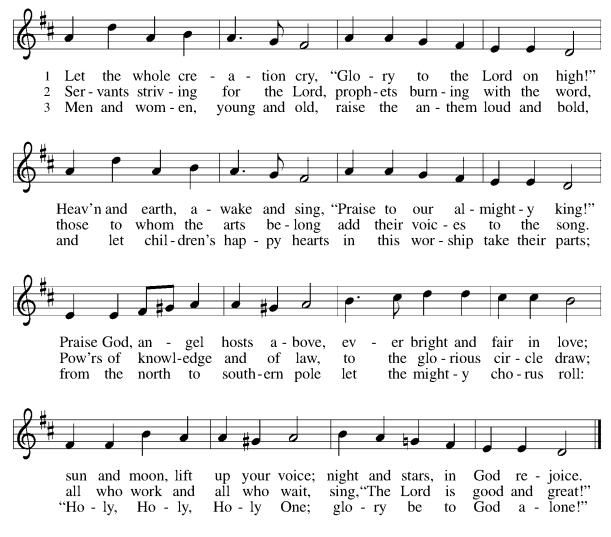
#### The Dismissal

- A Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
- A Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- C Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

#### Postlude

+++

# Let the Whole Creation Cry



Text: Stopford A. Brooke, 1832–1916, alt. Music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze, 1622–1702

#### Grace Shireman's Inurnment

The Congregation is invited to participate in Grace's inurnment today in the Memorial Garden, following worship.

#### Sponsors

The bulletin is sponsored by Coleen Aston and dedicated to our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ.

The flowers are sponsored by Sandy Stouffer: Remembering Grace Shireman.

#### Readings for next week: Easter 4

Acts 9:36-43, Psalm 23, Revelation 7:9-17, John 10:22-30

#### Semi-annual Meeting of the Congregation

Join us for the Semi-annual meeting: May 18, 2025. The book of reports is available in the narthex.

#### Acknowledgements

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#### Worship Assistants

May 4	May 11
Acolyte	Acolyte
Jeff Reed	Sam Dandridge
Assisting Minister	Assisting Minister
Doug Dandridge Andrew Knaub	Chip Froehlich Candy Steiner
Lector	Lector
Marilyn Knaub	Betty Emich
Greeter	Greeter
Marilyn Knaub	Betty Emch
Usher	Usher
Dennis Steiner	Eric Bentley
Bread Provider	Bread Provider
JoAnn Matos	Janet Wiegand
Altar Guild Set-up	Altar Guild Set-up
<b>Set-up</b> Diana Thompson	Set-up
Set-up	<b>Set-up</b> Janet Wiegand
Set-up Diana Thompson Altar Guild Clean-up Diana Thompson	Set-up Janet Wiegand Noelle Dandridge Altar Guild Clean-up Cheryl Amey
Set-up Diana Thompson Altar Guild Clean-up	Set-up Janet Wiegand Noelle Dandridge Altar Guild Clean-up
Set-up Diana Thompson Altar Guild Clean-up Diana Thompson Council Person Aleisha Brixius	Set-up Janet Wiegand Noelle Dandridge Altar Guild Clean-up Cheryl Amey Council Person Bonnie Giurlando
Set-up Diana Thompson Altar Guild Clean-up Diana Thompson Council Person	Set-up Janet Wiegand Noelle Dandridge Altar Guild Clean-up Cheryl Amey Council Person
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Set-up Diana Thompson Altar Guild Clean-up Diana Thompson Council Person Aleisha Brixius Counters	Set-up Janet Wiegand Noelle Dandridge Altar Guild Clean-up Cheryl Amey Council Person Bonnie Giurlando Counters
Set-up Diana Thompson Altar Guild Clean-up Diana Thompson Council Person Aleisha Brixius Counters Bob Slade	Set-up Janet Wiegand Noelle Dandridge Altar Guild Clean-up Cheryl Amey Council Person Bonnie Giurlando Counters Suzann Schwenk Georgeanne
Set-up Diana Thompson Altar Guild Clean-up Diana Thompson Council Person Aleisha Brixius Counters Bob Slade Sandy Stouffer	Set-up Janet Wiegand Noelle Dandridge Altar Guild Clean-up Cheryl Amey Council Person Bonnie Giurlando Counters Suzann Schwenk Georgeanne Burkholder

#### **Coming up at Holy Spirit**

May 4	Grace Shireman Inurnment, <i>following worship in the memorial garden.</i>			
	Prayer & Meditation: ZOOM, 7:30 p.m.			
May 6	Book Club, 7:00 p.m.			
May 7	Prayer & Meditation: In Person, 10:00 a.m.			
	Bible Study, 11:00 a.m.			
May 10	Running Pump Road Adopt-a-Highway clean up, 7:00 a.m.			
May 18	Semi-annual Meeting, following worship			
	Heritage Choral Concert, 4:00 p.m.			
June 11	Second Sunday, following worship. Creation Care & Earth Day (no meal)			



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Pastor- The Rev. Gretchen Ierien Music Director- Allison Carlson