



Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 7, 2023 | 10:30 AM



Hear God's Word. Reflect God's Grace.
Share Christ's Love.

All are welcome at Saint John's regardless of race, culture, ethnicity, age, gender expression or identity, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, socioeconomic position, immigration path, or faith journey. We believe that a diverse and inclusive congregation benefits all, and that we grow when we listen to and learn from those who are different from us. Scripture teaches us to do good and seek justice, and we invite you to join us in striving for a just world. We are committed to continuing the work of anti-racism, social and economic justice, and environmental care. We look forward to learning from one another and growing together on this journey of faith, grace, and love.

Jesus said: "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:35).

Guests are welcome. We are pleased you are worshiping with us today. So that we may be in contact with you, we invite you to sign the guest book in the narthex. Our programs are open to all and you are invited to participate. We hope you will worship with us again soon.

Children are welcome. We encourage them to attend worship with their parents—even their noise and restlessness are surely a delight to God. Children's bulletins are available.

To assist you during worship: Large print worship bulletins are available from the ushers. Please inform an usher if you would like the pastor to commune you at your pew.

Offerings: St. John's is a tithing church. We dedicate a percentage of our offerings to the mission of the wider church through the NJ Synod of the ELCA and to many other mission partners. We are able to support these ministries because of your offerings and tithes.

Assisted Listening: To access assisted listening, Connect to the StJohnsALS WiFi network. Download the free WaveCast app to your phone. Tap ST_JOHNS_ALS to connect. Please use your own headphones to listen.



Ministers: The People of Saint John's

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Blake A. Scalet, Pastor	pastorbscalet@stjohnssummit.org
Christopher Harlow-Jennings, Director of Music	charlowjennings@stjohnssummit.org
Carolyn Rothman, Church Administrator	crothman@stjohnssummit.org
Jama Bowman, Communications Coordinator	jamabowman@stjohnssummit.org
Deacon Linda Walker, Minister of Children's Faith Formation	wk154linda@gmail.com
Harold Wyss, Weekday Sexton	

We're delighted you're worshipping with us. As part of our ongoing outreach, your voice and your image may be videographed and photographed and used by St. John's for ministry purposes. For any questions or concerns, contact the church office.

Prayer Before Worship

Almighty God, in Christ you have shown us the way, revealed to us your truth, and offered to us everlasting life. Keep our eyes upon him, that we may see your path more clearly, know your truth more fully, and receive your life more abundantly; through Christ who dwells with you and the Holy Spirit in eternal glory. Amen.

From Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Year A, Vol. 1

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

ELW *Evangelical Lutheran Worship: Red Book*

ACS *All Creation Sings: Purple Book*

PRELUDE Christ Lag in Todesbanden

Heinrich Sheidemann

WELCOME

Please stand.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed and restored as citizens of the new creation. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring. In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in these waters we are born anew.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for waters that wash us clean, quench our thirst, and nurture every living thing. Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

Satisfy the world's need through this living water. Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment. Where despair prevails, grant hope. Where chaos reigns, bring peace. We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN ELW 645 Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation



1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ, our head and
2 To this tem - ple, where we call you, come, O Lord of
3 Here be - stow on all your ser - vants what they seek from
4 Praise and hon - or to the Fa - ther, praise and hon - or



cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,
hosts, and stay; come with all your lov - ing - kind - ness,
you to gain; what they gain from you, for - ev - er
to the Son, praise and hon - or to the Spir - it,



bind - ing all the church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
hear your peo - ple as they pray; and your full - est
with the bless - ed to re - tain; and here - af - ter
ev - er three and ev - er one: one in might and



help for - ev - er and our con - fi - dence a - lone.
ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in these walls to - day.
in your glo - ry ev - er - more with you to reign.
one in glo - ry while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.

Music: WESTMINSTER ABBEY, Henry Purcell, 1659–1695; arr. Ernest Hawkins, 1802–1868

APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

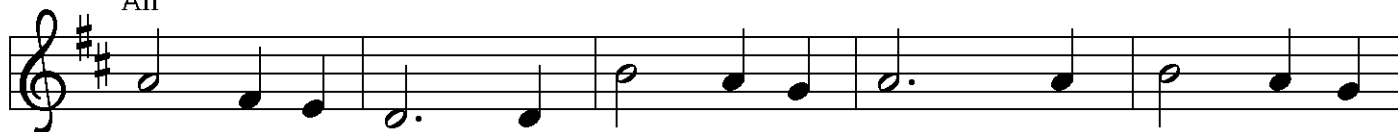
Refrain

Assisting minister



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

All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



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



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

Please be seated.

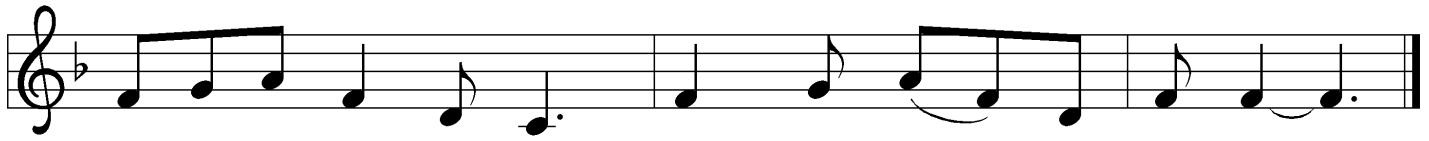
FIRST READING Acts 7:55–60

⁵⁵Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶“Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” ⁵⁷But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

The reader concludes: The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 31:1-5, 15-16

*Refrain sung first by choir, thereafter by all.
Light verses choir. Bold verses all.*



In - to your hands, O LORD, I com - mend my spir - it.

¹In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge;

let me never be ¹ put to shame;

deliver me ¹ in your righteousness.

²**Incline your ¹ ear to me;**

make haste to de- ¹ liver me.

³Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,

for you are my crag ¹ and my stronghold;

for the sake of your name, lead ¹ me and guide me.

⁴**Take me out of the net that they have secretly ¹ set for me,**

for you are my tow- ¹ er of strength. R

⁵Into your hands I com- ¹ mend my spirit,

for you have redeemed me, O LORD, ¹ God of truth.

¹⁵**My times are ¹ in your hand;**

rescue me from the hand of my enemies,

and from those who ¹ persecute me.

¹⁶Let your face shine up- ¹ on your servant;

save me in your ¹ steadfast love.” **R**

SECOND READING 1 Peter 2:2-10

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and ⁵like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” ⁷To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,” ⁸and “A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. ⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people;

once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

The reader concludes: The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

GOSPEL PROCESSION

James Chepponis

Refrain sung first by choir, thereafter by all. Verse sung by choir.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

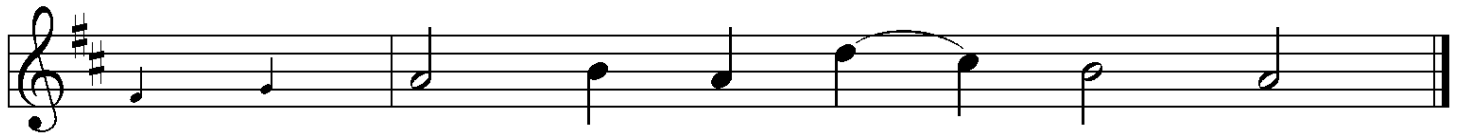


Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

V. Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path.

GOSPEL John 14:1-14

The Holy Gospel according to John.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.”

⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

The Gospel of the Lord.



Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

The Rev. Blake A. Scalet

Please stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY ACS 1045 Come, Share the Spirit



1 Come, share the Spir - it, God has called us to ven - tures
2 Come, drown your sins be - neath the wa - ters where life flows
3 Come, God in - vites us to the ban - quet that ev - 'ry
4 Come, let us tell the gos - pel sto - ry, how God has



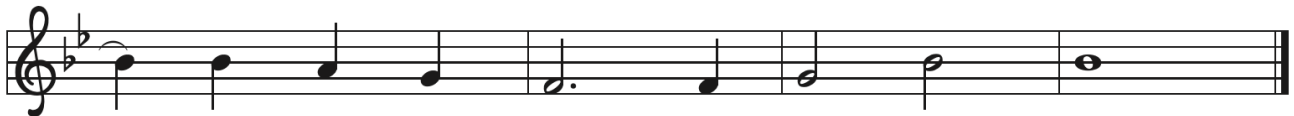
in the life of faith, to bring good tid - ings to the
from the gran - ite rock, the stone from which our Lord has
peo - ple soon will share, with shouts of joy and loud thanks -
giv - en us new birth and rais - es us to live for



need - y, to tell of vic - t'ry o - ver death.
ris - en, our cor - ner - stone and build - ing block.
giv - ing be - fore God's throne we will ap - pear.
oth - ers, to speak good news through - out the earth.



Christ speaks and all of life is new;
Christ speaks and rais - es from the dead
Christ speaks and bids us sit and dine;
Christ speaks and life is come a - gain.



God's word is pure and it is true.
all those who hear the liv - ing Word.
his bod - y, bread, his blood, the wine.
Good news, good news for ev - 'ry - one!

Text: Gracia Grindal, b. 1943, alt.

Music: ST. PAUL'S ARDMORE, Robert A. Hobby, b. 1962

Text © 1987 Augsburg Fortress

Music © 2017 Augsburg Fortress

NICENE CREED

With the whole church, we confess our faith:

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Please be seated.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MISSION

GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

We present offerings for God's mission in the world through this congregation. Both visitors and members alike may use the pew envelope to make a contribution. If you would like to make a one-time or recurring electronic contribution, you may visit www.stjohnssummit.org or scan this code.



OFFERING MUSIC In the Resurrection Glorious

Johann Christoph Friederich Bach

In the resurrection glorious,
All the righteous will become like God's own angels in heaven.

Johann Gottfried Herder (1744-1803); tr. Frank Stoldt (b. 1950),
© 2000 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

Please stand.

OFFERTORY



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles-sing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

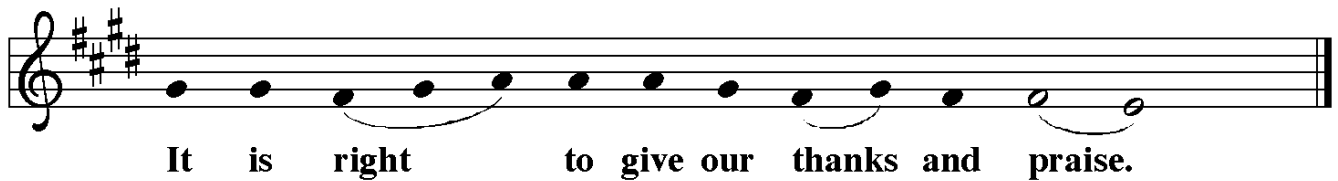
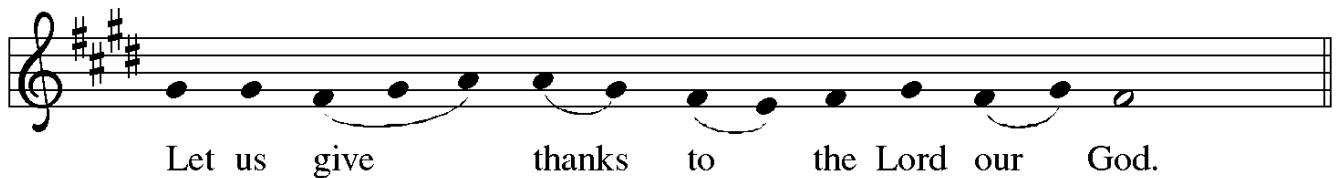
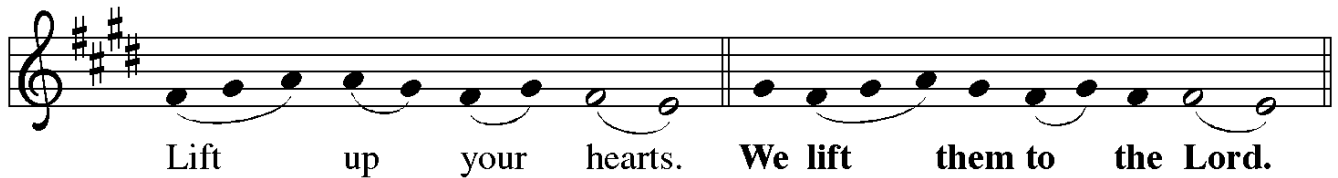
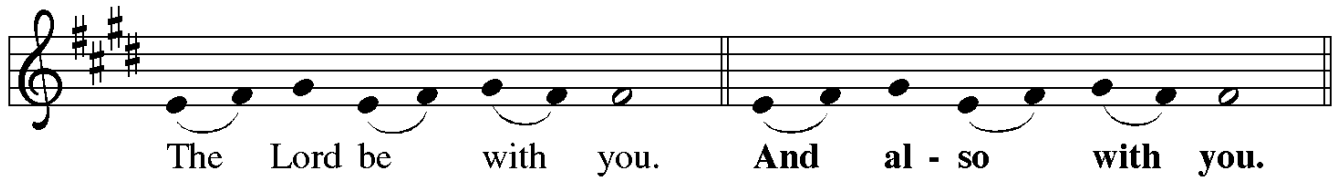
OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. **Be present Lord Jesus Christ, our risen high priest; make yourself known in the breaking of bread that we may be your risen body in the world. Amen.**

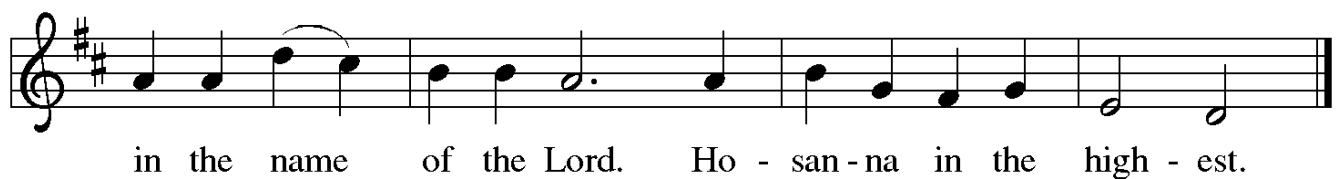
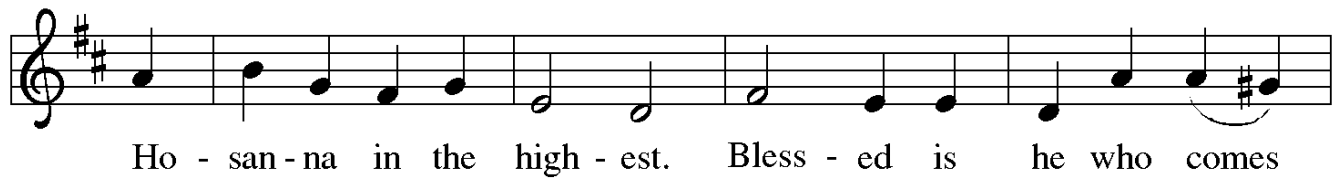
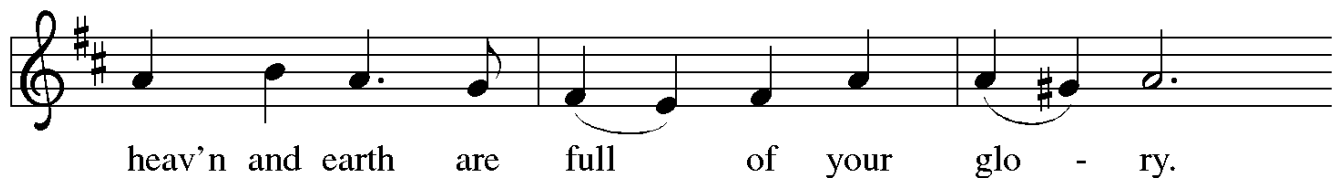
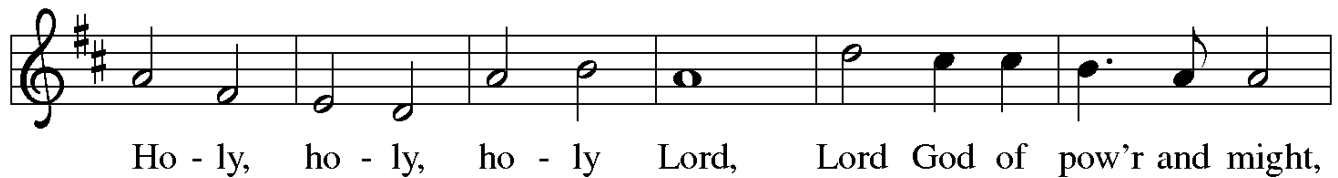
Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



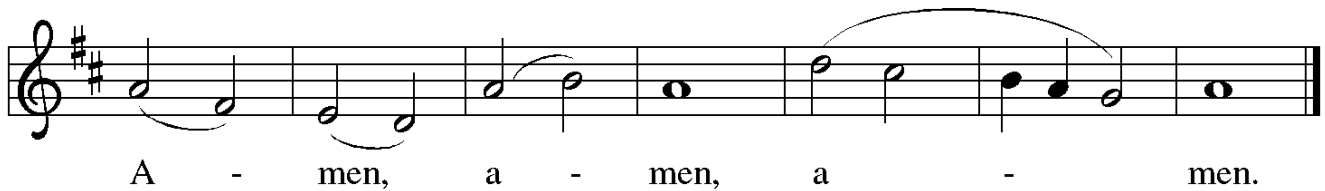
PROPER PREFACE



Blessed are you, O God of the universe . . . With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:



O God of resurrection and new life: pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine . . . With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.



LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.



Please be seated.

RECEPTION OF COMMUNION

If you wish to receive communion, please approach the pastor one at a time.

The pastor will place a wafer in your open hands. Please indicate if you need a gluten free wafer.

Wine is served from the chalice—either by intinction or drinking from the common cup.

Wine and grape juice are available in pre-filled individual cups.

All baptized Christians are welcome at the Lord's table.

If you do not wish to commune, you may come forward for a blessing.

LAMB OF GOD



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

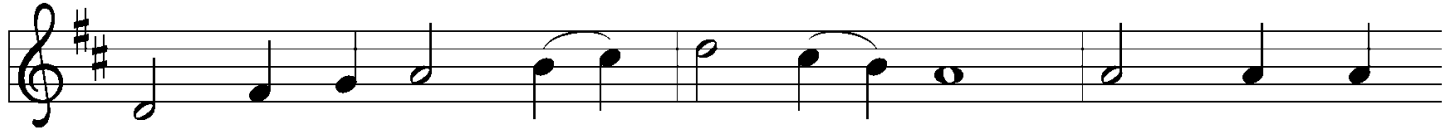


mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the

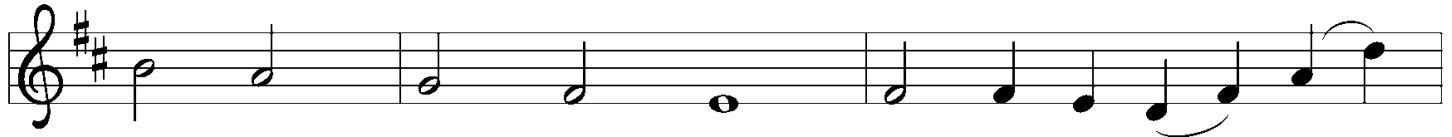


sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN ELW 619 I Know that My Redeemer Lives



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; he lives e -
3 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; he lives to
4 He lives to si - lence all my fears; he lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who
ter - nal - ly to save; he lives ex - alt - ed,
guide me with his eye; he lives to com - fort
wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my



once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!
throned a - bove; he lives to rule his church in love.
me when faint; he lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.
trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ings to im - part.

- 5 He lives to bless me with his love;
he lives to plead for me above;
he lives my hungry soul to feed;
he lives to help in time of need.
- 6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;
he lives and loves me to the end;
he lives, and while he lives, I'll sing;
he lives, my prophet, priest, and king!
- 7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
he lives, and I shall conquer death;
he lives my mansion to prepare;
he lives to bring me safely there.
- 8 He lives, all glory to his name!
He lives, my Savior, still the same;
what joy this blest assurance gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!

Text: Samuel Medley, 1738–1799, alt.

Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

Please stand.

BLESSING

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

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the sacrament of his body and blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Christ, who in rising from the dead has defeated death, bringing us new life and a new future, fill you with all joy and hope in believing; and the blessing of God, the Father, the \dagger Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN ELW 383 Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!



- 1 Christ is ris-en! Shout Ho-san-na! Cel-e-brate this day of days!
- 2 Christ is ris-en! Raise your spir-its from the cav-erns of de-spair.
- 3 Christ is ris-en! Earth and heav-en nev-er-more shall be the same.



Christ is ris-en! Hush in won-der: all cre-a-tion is a-mazed.
Walk with glad-ness in the morn-ing. See what love can do and dare.
Break the bread of new cre-a-tion where the world is still in pain.



In the des-ert all-sur-round-ing, see, a spread-ing tree has grown.
Drink the wine of res-ur-rec-tion, not a ser-vant, but a friend.
Tell its grim, de-mon-ic chor-us: "Christ is ris-en! Get you gone!"



Heal-ing leaves of grace a-bound-ing bring a taste of love un-known.
Je-sus is our strong com-pan-ion. Joy and peace shall nev-er end.
God the First and Last is with us. Sing Ho-san-na, ev-'ry-one!

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936
Music: TURNBULL, Thomas Pavlechko, b. 1962
Text © 1986 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
Music © 2006 Thomas Pavlechko, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE Introduction & March

William Walton

May 7, 2023

Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of loved ones and in thanksgiving for family by Christine & Russell McIntyre.

Children's Choir TODAY at 9:30 AM and Faith Formation at 10:00 AM. All children are welcome. Contact Christopher Harlow-Jennings or Deacon Walker for more information.

Handbells TODAY at 11:45 AM.

Holy Communion instruction will meet TODAY at 12:00 Noon in the Youth Lounge.

Confirmation Class, TODAY at 5:30 PM.

Pastor Blake and Shai Dromi invite all members of St. John's to their wedding on **Sunday, July 2 at 5:00 PM** at St. John's. For the complete details, please visit their website theknot.com/blakeandshai. You **MUST RSVP by May 15**. Please see the weekly email for more details.

Cross Roads Open House, May 13 or June 10: Take a tour of camp, hear stories, ask questions, and finish with a delicious lunch in the dining hall. To learn more, visit: <https://bit.ly/41ibJNg>.

The Caritas Chamber Chorale present two concerts of sacred a cappella choral music, entitled *Sacred Tribute*, for the benefit of Adorno Fathers' African Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Africa, **Saturday, May 20, 2023, 7:30 PM** Christ Church, 561 Springfield Ave., Summit. The concerts are free and open to the public. For more details, visit www.caritaschamberchorale.org.

Organ Concert, Sunday, May 21 at 4:00 PM: St. John's Director of Music, Christopher Harlow-Jennings, will play a solo organ concert on the Holtkamp pipe organ entitled "Toccatas and Flourishes." A reception will follow. The concert is free and open to the public.

Bethlehem Build Collection. Our partner congregation, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, New Orleans, is building the 2nd affordable house on their property. We are about \$5,000 away from our \$25,000 goal. Give online or by check, **payable to St. John's**, "Bethlehem Build" in the memo line.

We are hiring a Livestream Coordinator for Sunday services from 7:45–Noon including religious holidays. Approximately 5 hours a week. Experience with livestream and audio equipment. Open to high school and college students with TV production experience. Please contact Linda Mesenbrink at Linda.mesenbrink@verizon.net or 973-202-2773.

The Gathering Place, Monthly Dementia Care Lunch: The Memory Café is re-starting their program of lunch for patients with dementia and their caregivers on the **first Wednesday of each month from Noon–2:00 PM at Christ Church 561 Springfield Ave., Summit**. People eat together and participate in an appropriate socializing program while giving caregivers the opportunity to talk with others. Call (908) 273-5549 to RSVP. Suggested donation is \$5/person.

SAINT JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
587 Springfield Avenue, Summit, NJ 07901
stjohnssummit.org | 908-273-3846



From *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* copyright © 2006 and
All Creation Sings copyright © 2020. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license
#9925-S, OneLicense.net license #A-722032,
&/or Church Copyright License #11453771 which
provide permission to podcast the music in this service.