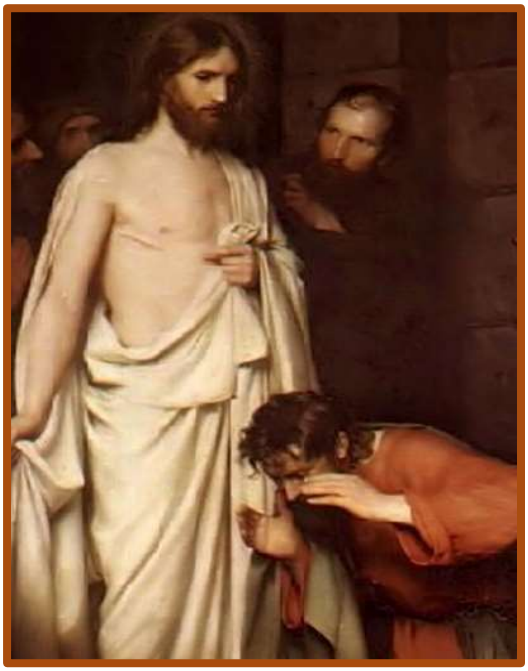
Family of Christ Lutheran Church and Early Education Center

Welcome to the Family!



Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve but believe."

Second Sunday of Easter

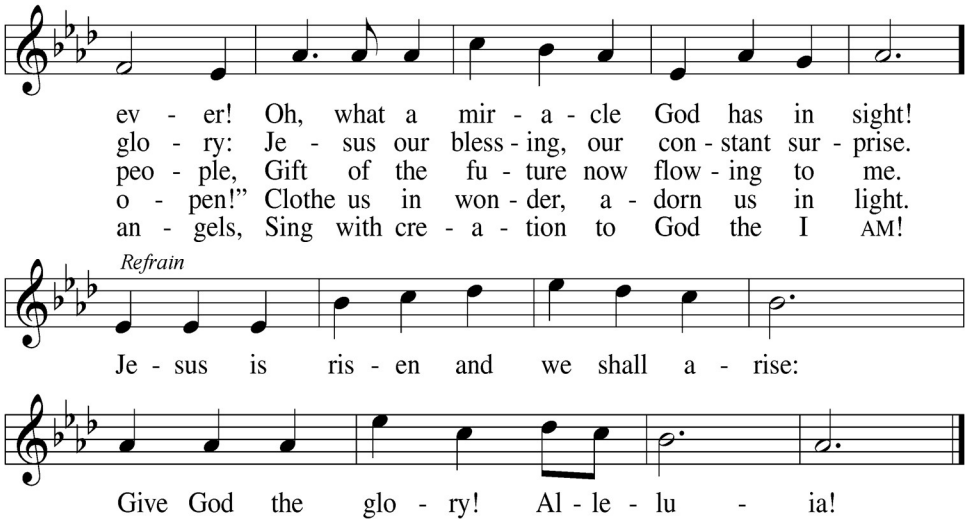
April 11, 2021

Prelude ***"Christ Is Risen"***

Pastor's Greeting

(Congregation stands)

Entrance Hymn **"Alleluia! Jesus is Risen"** ***LSB 474***



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✝ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION ✝

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

EXHORTATION

Hebrews 10:22; Psalm 124:8; Psalm 32:5

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

THE CONFESSION OF SINS

A moment of 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.

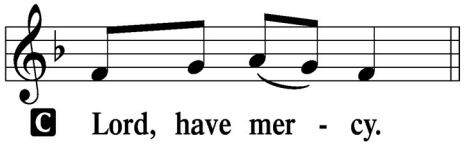
ABSOLUTION *John 20:19-23*

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.

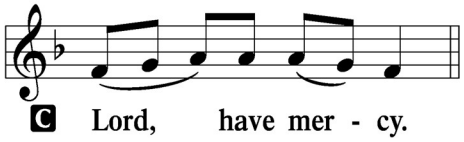
C: Amen.

KYRIE *LSB 152* *Matthew 17:15*

A: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

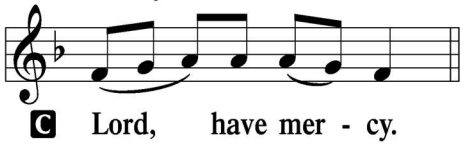


A: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



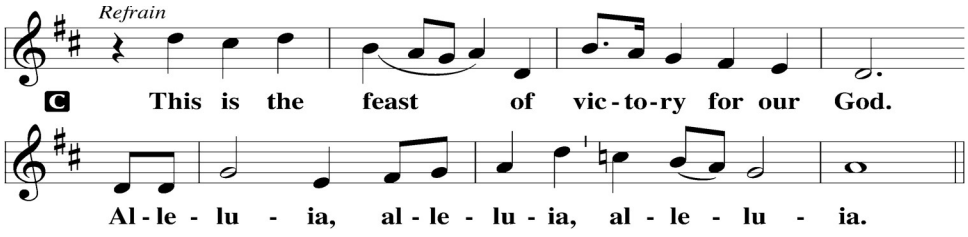
A: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

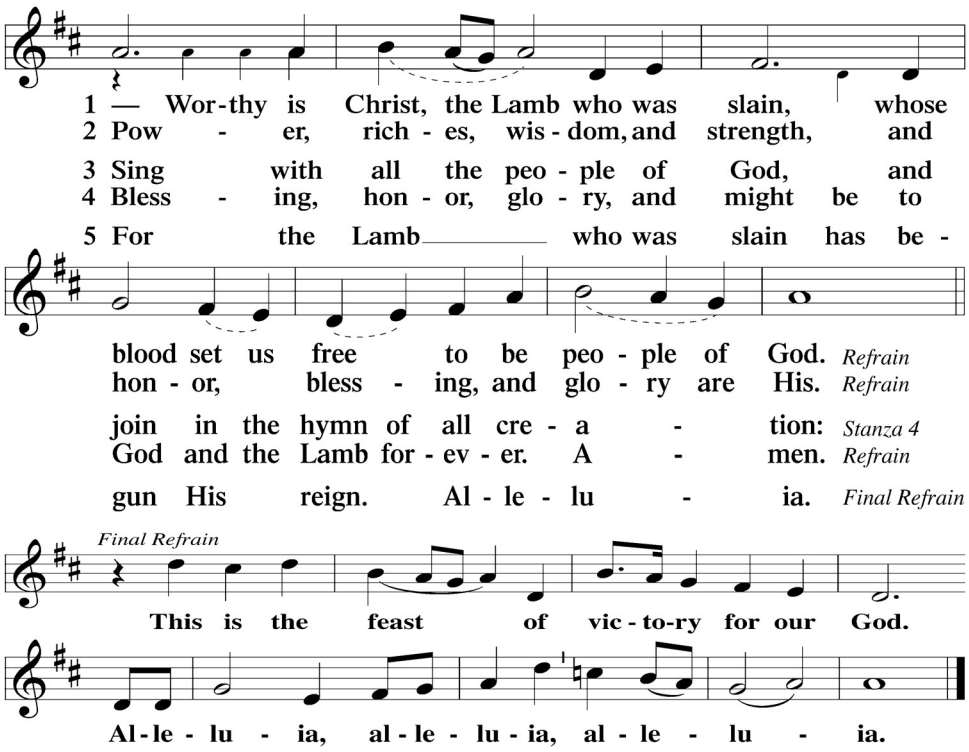
A: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



A: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

HYMN OF PRAISE *"THIS IS THE FEAST"* *LSB 155* *Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9*





Salutation and Collect of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: *Let us pray*. Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

(Congregation sits)

The Old Testament Reading

R: The Old Testament reading is from the Book of Psalms 148.

R: Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise Him in the heights! Praise Him, all His angels; praise Him, all His hosts!

Praise Him, sun and moon, praise Him, all you shining stars! Praise Him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens! Let them praise the name of the LORD! For He commanded and they were created. And He established them forever and ever; He gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.

Praise the LORD from the earth, you great sea creatures and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and mist, stormy wind fulfilling His word! Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! Beasts

and all livestock, creeping things and flying birds! Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth! Young men and maidens together, old men and children!

Let them praise the name of the LORD, for His name alone is exalted; His majesty is above earth and heaven. He has raised up a horn for His people, praise for all His saints, for the people of Israel who are near to Him. Praise the LORD!

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF THE DAY "I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT" *LSB 411*

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The Gradual

Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6

P: Christ has risen from the dead. [God the Father] has crowned Him with glory and honor.

C: He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands; He has put all things under his feet.

The Epistle Reading

R: The Epistle Reading is from 1 John 1:1-2:2

R: That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us—that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from Him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

P: This is the Word of the Lord

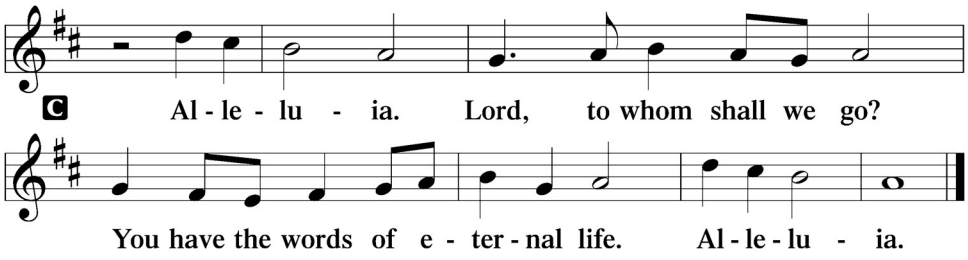
C: Thanks be to God.

(Congregation stands)

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 173

John 6:68



The Holy Gospel

P: A reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. John 20:19–31

P: On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” When He had said this, He showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.”

Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in His hands the mark of the nails and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into His side, I will never believe.”

Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Then He said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve but believe.” Thomas answered Him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

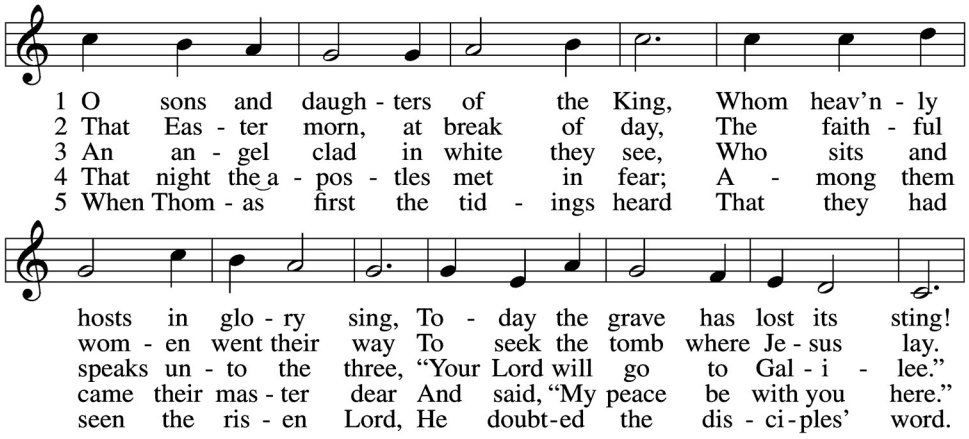
Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You O Christ!

(Congregation sits)

SERMON HYMN “O SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF THE KING” ***LSB 470, STS.1-5***



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SERMON

(Congregation stands)

THE NICENE CREED

All: 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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

P: Almighty God, You have declared peace between God and man in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Receive our thanks for the authority given to Your Church on earth, and grant that the ministers of Your Church would faithfully carry out their office and pronounce the free forgiveness of sins upon all repentant sinners. *Lord, in Your mercy,*

C: hear our prayer.

P: Heavenly Father, Your peace flows from the risen and glorified wounds of Christ through Your Church and into the lives of all Your faithful people. Bless and direct Christian parents, that Your forgiveness would be freely shared in their homes and that each family would live together in Your peace. *Lord, in Your mercy,*

C: hear our prayer.

P: Almighty God, You appoint rulers and officials for the sake of order and peace. Bless those You have placed in authority over us in federal, state and local governments. Give to them the desire to serve with integrity and honor and to work for the benefit of all. *Lord, in Your mercy,*

C: hear our prayer.

P: Lord God, we praise Your Son's resurrection from the dead and draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. *We pray especially for*: _____. Graciously receive our prayers of intercession and hear them for His sake. *Lord, in Your mercy,*

C: hear our prayer.

P: Gracious God, the Word of life was made flesh, suffered death and is risen in victory. Give us His body and blood in the bread and wine, that we may have the forgiveness of sins and fellowship with You. *Lord, in Your mercy,*

C: hear our prayer.

P: Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank You that out of Your indescribable grace and for the sake of Your Son You have given us the Holy Gospel and instituted the Holy Sacraments, that through them we may have comfort and the forgiveness of sin. Grant us Your Holy Spirit, that we may heartily believe Your Word, and through the Holy Sacraments establish our faith day by day, until at last we obtain eternal salvation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

(Congregation sits)

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY *"JESUS NAME ABOVE ALL NAMES"*

✝ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✝

(Congregation stands)

PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

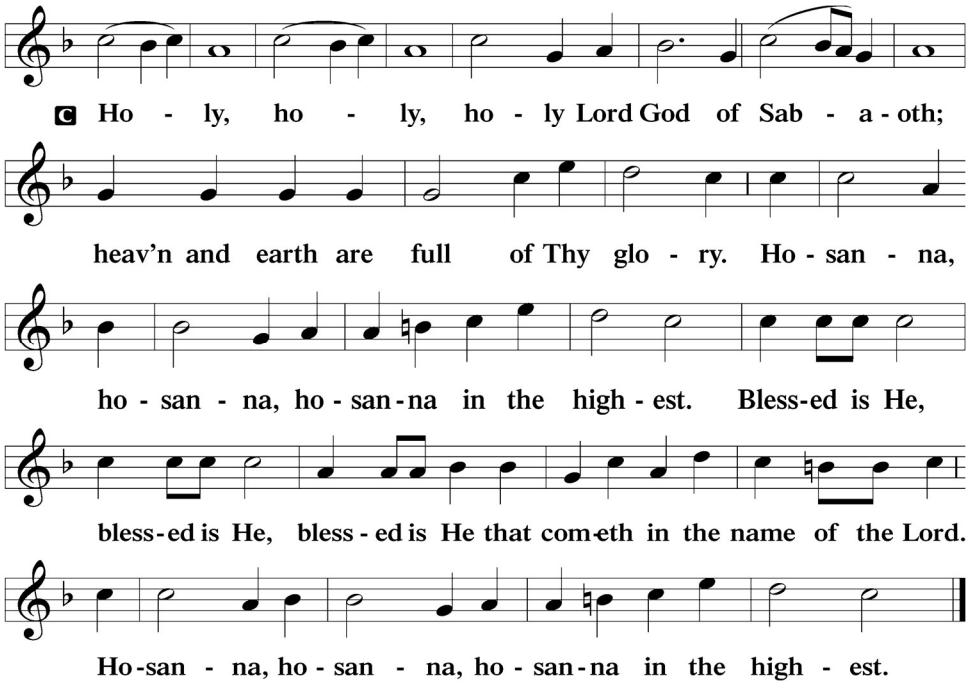
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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 158*



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."

P: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So 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.

PAX DOMINI

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

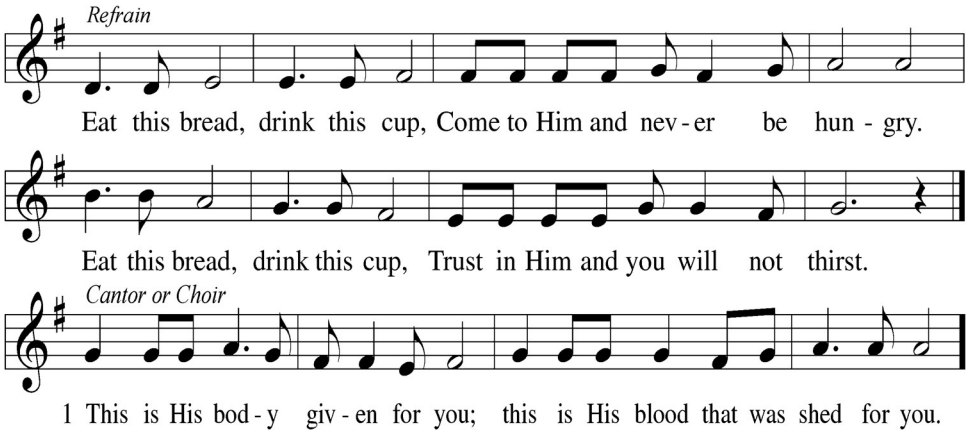
C: And with your spirit.

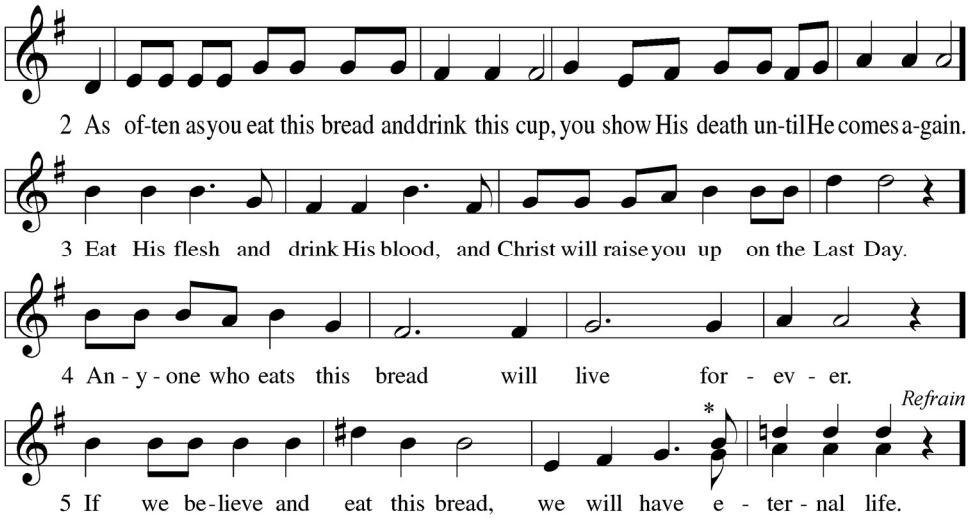
AGNUS DEI (LAMB OF GOD) *LSB 198*

(Congregation sits)

DISTRIBUTION *(Please see our Communion policy on the last page)*

DISTRIBUTION HYMN "EAT THIS BREAD" *LSB 638*





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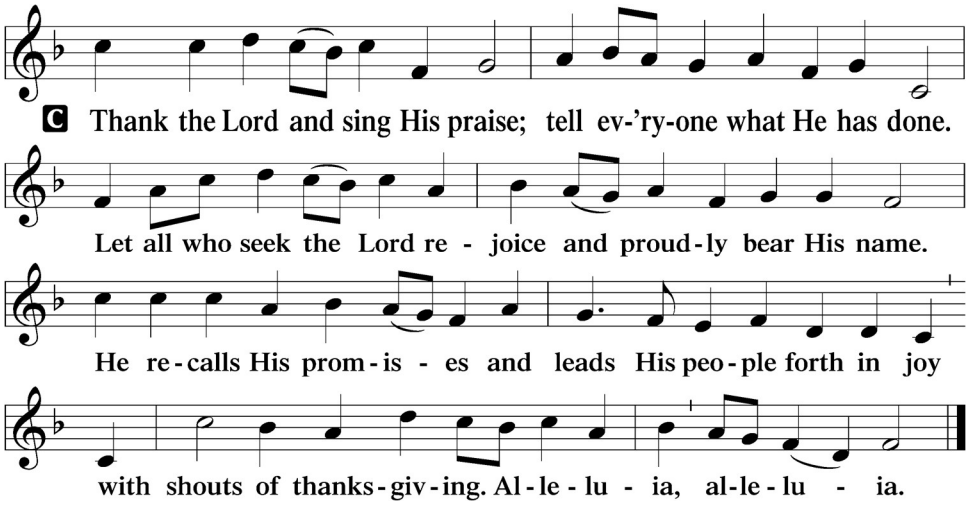
POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE *THANK THE LORD* *LSB 164*



THANKSGIVING

P: O give thank unto the Lord for He is good.

C: and His mercy endures forever.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P: *Let us pray*. Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION *LSB 218*

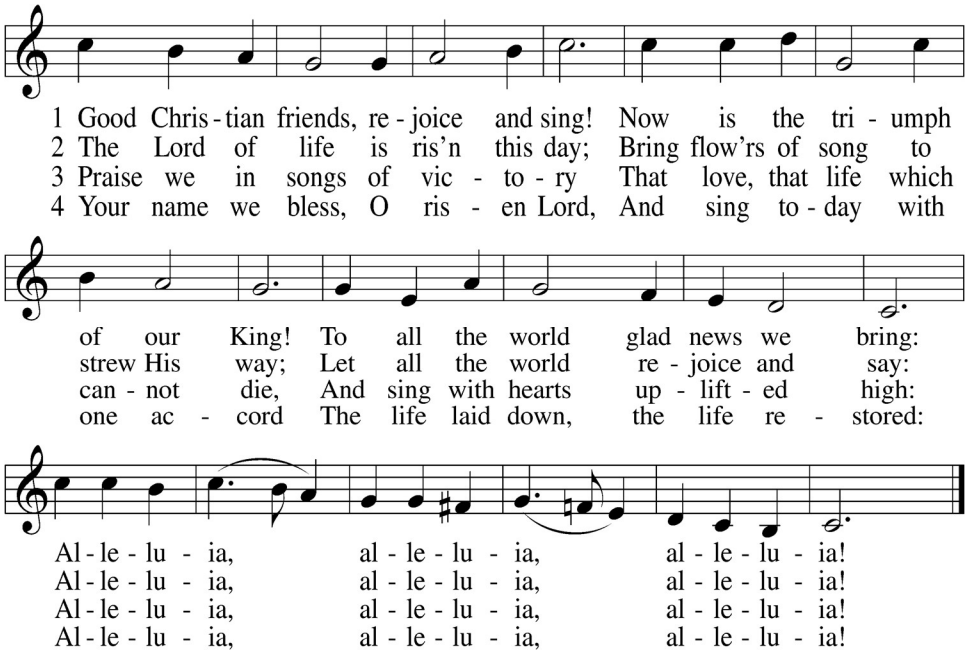
P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and (+) give you peace.

C: Amen.

DEPARTING HYMN "GOOD CHRISTIAN FRIENDS, REJOICE AND SING" *LSB 475*



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POSTLUDE *"THE LIGHT IN ME"*

Family of Christ Lutheran Church and Early Education Center

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Serving at Family of Christ

Pastor

Reverend Fred H. Gerlach

Pastor@FamilyOfChristLutheranAZ.org

Cell: 609-751-2546

Music Director

Inessa Leip

Music@FamilyOfChristLutheranAZ.org

Church Office Administrator

Admin@FamilyOfChristLutheranAZ.org

Prayer Requests

Prayer@FamilyOfChristLutheranAZ.org

Offerings can be mailed to the church or sent via Zelle® directly from your bank to:

familyofchristaz@gmail.com

This Week at Family of Christ

4/11 – 4/18

Easter Sunday (April 4)

9:30AM Sunday Divine Worship
11:00AM Bible Study on Large Catechism

Thursday

5:30PM Confirmation Class at the Church

Friday

6:30AM Men's Bible Study in Leviticus

Next Sunday

9:30AM Palm Sunday Divine Worship
11:00AM Bible Study on Large Catechism

PLEASE NOTE: *Church Services and Bible Studies are currently offered in person and via Zoom. In-person meetings follow all CDC-recommended protocols and procedures.*

Pastor is available upon request for: *(call the Church office or Pastor's cell to schedule)*

- ✝ Individual Confession and Absolution
- ✝ Home, hospital or nursing home visits
- ✝ Communion
- ✝ Prayer

Our Communion Policy

As a member of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, Family of Christ celebrates the Lord's Supper in the confession and glad confidence that our Lord Jesus 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 and approach the altar with repentant hearts. Those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith, which is confessed at this altar. For those who are not yet instructed, in doubt or who hold a confession differing from this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, we request that you refrain from receiving the sacrament. If you desire to receive the Sacrament, please speak first with the Pastor. *For further study, please see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 26:26-29; 1 Corinthians 11:17-34.*