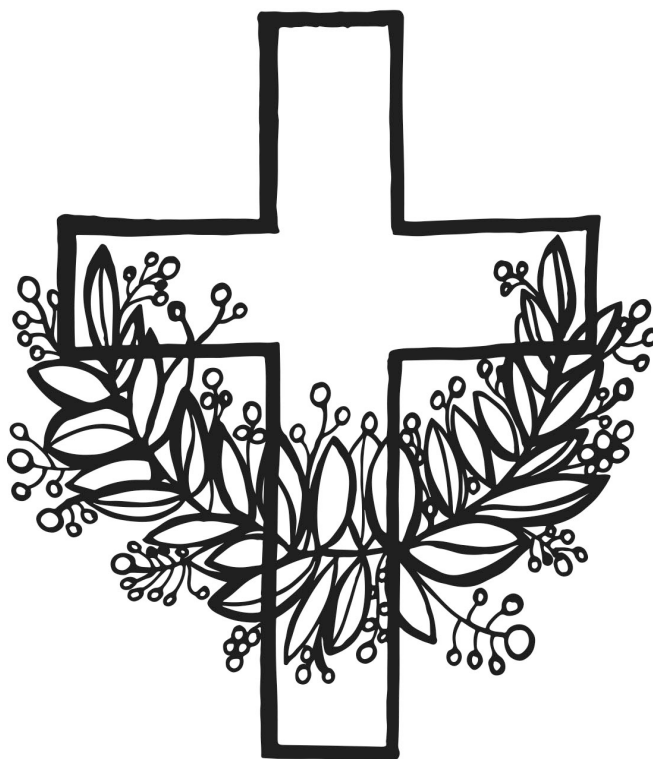


CREATED, SAVED AND GIFTED BY GOD,
WE SEEK, SERVE AND SHARE JESUS CHRIST.



RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD: EASTER DAY
APRIL 20, 2025
10:30 AM

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
901 EAST STROOP ROAD
KETTERING, OHIO 45429-4688
(937) 298-0136

INTRODUCTION

“The last enemy to be destroyed is death,” Paul writes. Today Christ is risen, and we gather together with astonishment and joy. Christ is risen, and we have been set free from the bonds of death. Christ is risen, and we are forgiven. Christ is risen, and with the women at the tomb and Peter, we are amazed. Let us rejoice: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

THE DAY, THE DAY

What is Easter anyway? Christians consider Easter to be the “first day.” From Easter comes the practice of worshiping on Sunday morning. It is the first day of the week. It is also the first day of new creation, sometimes called the “eighth day” of the week, for on it Christ restored the image of God in the human and in so doing also brought restoration and renewal to all of creation. The Easter season proceeds from and celebrates this first day. In the resurrected Christ, there is time after the end, life after death, restoration of what was broken, the brightening of what had gone dark. In the fifty days of Easter, Christian communities around the world strive to worship God in a way that illustrates that the body of Christ lives now in the heavenly places and also in the gathered body in the world. Worship is where heaven and earth meet.

*** indicates to stand as you are able.*

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

*“Antiphonal Praise”
with “How Great Is He”
by Steve Green & Tom Fettke
arr. Tom Fettke
Mary Pierce, soprano
Mark Shoemaker, baritone*

We worship you, Almighty God,
In you alone is our delight.
We worship you, O Holy God,
And lift our voice to sing your praise.

Alleluia.

How great is he,
How strong and mighty!
King of kings, Lord of lords,
Eternal God.
How great is he,
And yet how tender.

Alleluia.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Judy Treadway

** GATHERING HYMN

"Jesus Christ Is Risen Today" (ELW 395)

1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!

who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 now a - bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

**** INTRODUCTION**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

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

And also with you.

**** KYRIE**

Assisting minister:

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the...

Congregation:



Assisting minister:

For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world;
for the unity of all, let us pray to the...

Congregation:

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Assisting minister:

For your people here, who have come to give you praise;
for the strength to live your Word, let us pray to the...

Congregation:

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Assisting minister:

Help, save, and defend us, O God.

Congregation:



**** CANTICLE OF PRAISE**

Refrain

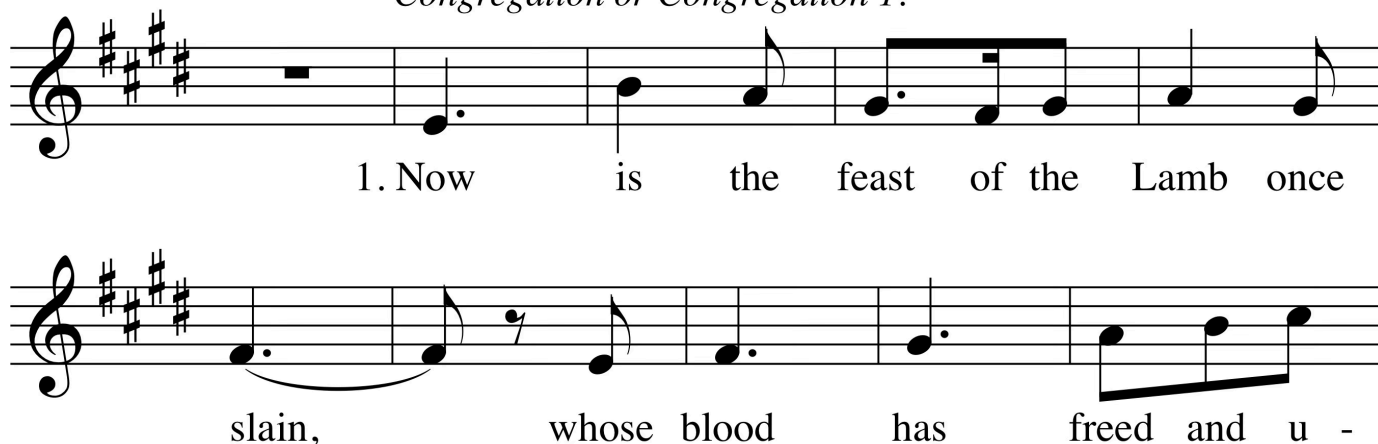
Congregation:



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy
to the God of life and love and
free-dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -
er - more!

Verse 1

Congregation or Congregation 1:



1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once
slain, whose blood has freed and u -

nit - ed us to be one great peo - ple of

God. *to Refrain*

Verse 2

Congregation or Congregation 2:

2. Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and

might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ

for ev - er. *to Refrain*

Verse 3

Congregation:

3. For God has come to dwell with us, to

make us peo - ple of God; to make

all things new. *to Refrain*

**** PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**** PASSING OF THE PEACE**

WORD

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

FIRST READING

Acts 10:34-43

Peter's sermon, delivered at the home of Cornelius, a Roman army officer, is a summary of the essential message of Christianity: Everyone who believes in Jesus, whose life, death, and resurrection fulfilled the words of the prophets, receives forgiveness of sins through his name.

A reading from Acts.

Peter began to speak to [the people]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. (Ps. 118:24)

Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good;
God's mercy endures forever.

**Let Israel now declare,
"God's mercy endures forever."**

The Lord is my strength and my song,
and has become my salvation.

Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:

"The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!"

The right hand of the Lord is exalted!
The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!"

**I shall not die, but live,
and declare the works of the Lord.**

The Lord indeed punished me sorely,
but did not hand me over to death.

**Open for me the gates of righteousness;
I will enter them and give thanks to the Lord.**

"This is the gate of the Lord;
here the righteous may enter."

**I give thanks to you, for you have answered me
and you have become my salvation.**

The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

**By the Lord has this been done;
it is marvelous in our eyes.**

This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15:19-26

Paul describes the consequences of the resurrection, including the promise of new life in Christ to a world that has been in bondage to death. He celebrates the destruction of evil and the establishment of God's victorious rule over all.

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the

Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

** GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Congregation:

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we

go? You have the words of e - ter - nal

life. Al - le - lu - ia! *Optional Repeat*

** GOSPEL READING

Luke 24:1-12

Evidently expecting to find Jesus' corpse, some of the women among his followers go to the tomb with embalming spices. After a perplexing encounter with the empty tomb and angelic visitors, the women become the first to proclaim the amazing news of resurrection.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

On the first day of the week, at early dawn, [the women] came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them

who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

YOUTH MESSAGE

MESSAGE

Pastor Bob Swanson

ANTHEM

"O Sons and Daughters"

text attr. Jean Tisserland and Delores Dufner;

music by Aaron David Miller

Angie Seltzer, soprano · Roger Bauser, baritone

Chancel Choir

O sons and daughters, let us sing
With heavenly hosts to Christ our King:
Today the grave has lost its sting!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

That Easter morn, at break of day,
A faithful woman went on her way
To seek the tomb where Jesus lay.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

When Mary's heart was filled with gloom
And she stood, weeping, near the tomb,
A stranger spoke, she knew not whom.
Alleluia!

"Why do you weep?" his question came.
"Whose is the body you would claim?"
And then, at last, he spoke her name.
Alleluia!

No longer weeping, anguish-bent,
But with rejoicing Mary went
By Christ as first apostle sent.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

O sons and daughters, let us sing
With heavenly hosts to Christ our King:
Today the grave has lost its sting!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

CELEBRATION OF HOLY BAPTISM

The Baptism of Sophía Lynn Domingo

PRESENTATION

Pastor begins the ritual:

Sophia, God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Sophia Lynn Domingo, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to be baptized into Christ?

Sophia:

I do.

** PROFESSION OF FAITH

Pastor addresses Sophia as well as parents and sponsors:

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Sophia:

I renounce them.

The minister invites the assembly to profess their faith:

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

**** THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pouring water into the font, Pastor continues:

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight:

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.

At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

The congregation may be seated.

BAPTISM

Pastor baptizes the candidate as water is placed on her head the first time:

Sophia Lynn,

I baptize you in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Sophia, you are a child of God and baptized into His Son, Jesus Christ.

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you have given your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Laying both hands on the head of the newly baptized, the minister prays:

Sustain Sophia with the gift of your Holy Spirit:

the spirit of wisdom and understanding, which her name means in its original Greek form,

the spirit of counsel and might,

the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord,

the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

The minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of the baptized. As the sign of the cross is made, the minister says:

Sophia Lynn, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen.**

The ministers and the baptismal group face the assembly to present Sophia Lynn Domingo a child of God, as she is welcomed by the community:

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share. Join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

**** PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Assisting Minister

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

A brief silence.

Each petition concludes:

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

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. **Amen.**

GATHERING OF THE GIFTS

OFFERTORY

"Christ Is Risen"

(Verse 1 - Music Ministers)

Let no one caught in sin

Remain inside the lie of inward shame,

But fix our eyes upon the cross

And run to Him who showed great love

And bled for us.

Freely you've bled for us.

(Refrain - All)

**Christ is risen from the dead,
Trampling over death by death.
Come awake, come awake,
Come and rise up from the grave.
Christ is risen from the dead,
We are one with Him again.
Come awake, come awake,
Come and rise up from the grave.**

(Verse 2 - All)

**Beneath the weight of all our sin,
You bowed to none but heaven's will.
No scheme of hell, no scoffer's crown,
No burden great can hold You down.
In strength You reign,
Forever let Your church proclaim.**

(Refrain - All)

**Christ is risen from the dead,
Trampling over death by death.
Come awake, come awake,
Come and rise up from the grave.
Christ is risen from the dead,
We are one with Him again.
Come awake, come awake,
Come and rise up from the grave.**

(Bridge - Music Ministers / All)

**O death, where is your sting?
O hell, where is your victory?
O church, come stand in the light,
The glory of God has defeated the night. Singing -
O death, where is your sting?
O hell, where is your victory?
O church, come stand in the light.
Our God is not dead,
He's alive, He's alive.**

(Refrain - All)

Christ is risen from the dead,
Trampling over death by death.

Come awake, come awake,
Come and rise up from the grave.

Christ is risen from the dead,
We are one with Him again.

Come awake, come awake,
Come and rise up from the grave.

Christ is risen from the dead,
Trampling over death by death.

Come awake, come awake,
Come and rise up from the grave.

Christ is risen from the dead,
We are one with Him again.

Come awake, come awake,
Come and rise up from the grave.

OFFERING PRAYER

Assisting Minister

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. **Amen.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

** GREAT THANKSGIVING

Lift up your heads; **we lift them up to God.**

Lift up your voices; **we lift them up to God.**

Lift up your hearts; **we lift them up to God.**

** WORDS OF INSTITUTION

And so we gather at the table. We come from many different places in life. And as we come together around the table we discover that our differences are not something we just tolerate, but that our differences are indeed a blessing. So come, children of God, just as you are. Wherever you are on this journey of life and faith, you are welcome here - here in this place, here in this community, here at this table. Come, children of God, come and remember. Remember the stories that Jesus' friends tell: Stories of bread broken and shared to feed a multitude; stories of gathering both enemy and friend together around a common table; stories of unlikely guests revealing the face of the sacred.

On a night of both celebration and betrayal Jesus took bread, blessed it, and broke it; gave it to his disciples and said, "Take and eat, this is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Then Jesus took the cup, blessed it, and gave it to his disciples 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."

And so we pray: Lord, bless this bread and bless this fruit of the vine. Bless all of us in our eating and drinking that our eyes might be open, and that we might recognize the risen Christ in our midst, indeed in one another.

**** LORD'S PRAYER**

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

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.

**** INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

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

For those communing at home or in the pew:

COMMUNION — *Receiving the Lord's tangible presence*

The body of Christ given for you.

The blood of Christ shed for you.

Each person may respond: **Amen.**

Communion Statement ~ If you believe in your heart that Jesus Christ is your Savior and Redeemer and would like to receive Holy Communion, then come forward to receive the elements. If you would just like to come forward and receive a blessing, then you may do that also.

NOTE: We invite everyone to come forward for Holy Communion. If you have a gluten allergy, gluten-free wafers are available upon request when receiving Communion. Also, if you prefer not to receive wine at Communion, apple juice is available upon request. For those choosing to remain in the pews, there are communion all-in-one cups containing grape juice available in the Narthex.

REFLECTION DURING COMMUNION

As we prepare to receive the sacrament today, may we quietly take this time to center ourselves on Christ, and reflect the amazing gifts of grace and forgiveness that we have been given. As we receive the body and the blood of our Lord, let us reflect upon His sacrifice. Finally, may we take this time to ask the Holy Spirit to enter our hearts, and then to work in us and through us each and every day.

LAMB OF GOD

Congregation:

Congregation or Assistant:



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 you break the chains of ha - tred and
 you are the way of jus - tice and
 you are the way of mer - cy and

Congregation:



world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
 fear:
 peace:
 love.

Final Stanza

Congregation or Assistant:

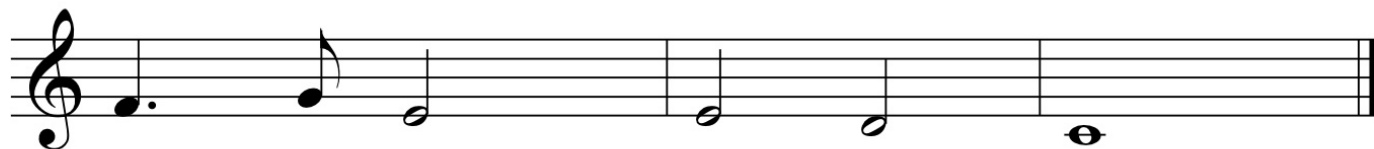


mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you

Congregation:



take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,

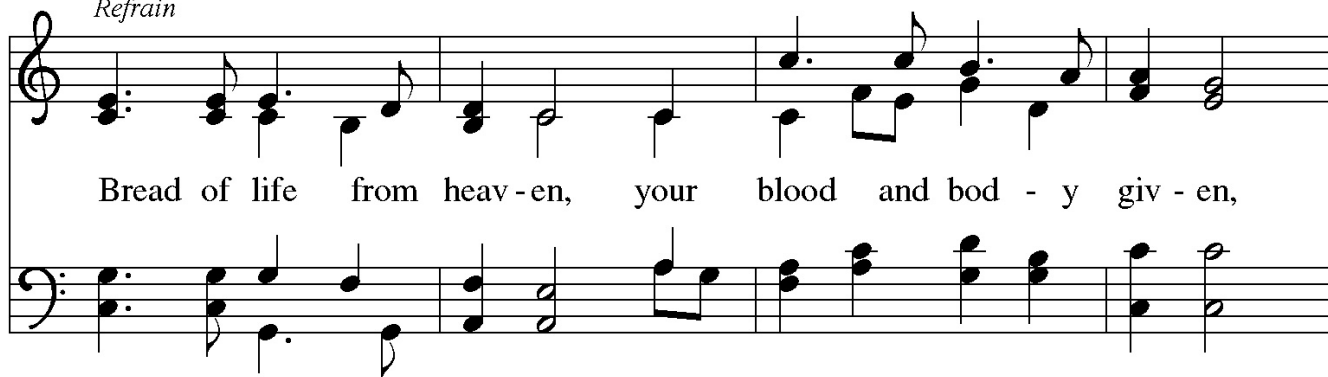


grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

"Bread of Life From Heaven" (ELW 474)

Refrain



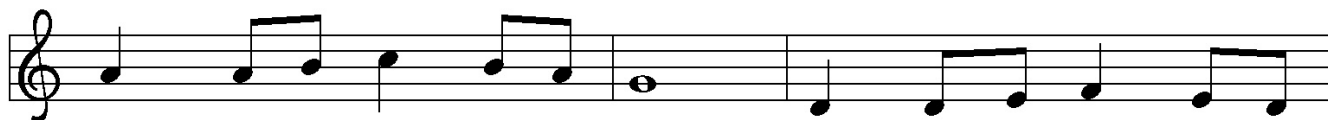
Bread of life from heav-en, your blood and bod - y giv - en,



we eat this bread and drink this cup un - til you come a - gain.



- | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------|-----|------|-------|------|----------|------------------|------------|
| 1 | Break | now | the | bread | of | Christ's | sac - ri - fice; | giv - ing |
| 2 | Seek | not | the | food | that | will | pass a - way; | set your |
| 3 | Love | as | the | one | who, | in | love for you, | gave him - |
| 4 | Dwell | in | the | one | who | now | dwells in you; | make your |
| 5 | Drink | of | this | cup | and | de - | clare his death; | eat this |



thanks, hun - gry ones,	gath - er round.	Eat, all of you, and be
hearts on the food that en - dures.		Come, learn the true and the
self for the life of the world.		Come to the one who is
home in the life - giv - ing Word.		Know on - ly Christ, Ho - ly
bread and be - lieve Eas - ter morn;		trust his re - turn and, with



sat - is - fied;	in Christ's pres - ence the loaves will a - bound.
liv - ing way,	that the full - ness of life may be yours.
food for you,	that your hun - ger and thirst be no more.
One of God,	and be - lieve in the truth you have heard.
ev - 'ry breath,	praise the one in whom you are re - born.

Refrain

**** TABLE BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ bless you and always keep you in God's grace. **Amen.**

**** PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Assisting Minister

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. **Amen.**

**** SENDING OF COMMUNION**

Communion ministers may be sent to take the sacrament to those who are absent. The presiding minister may lead this prayer of sending.

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick, homebound, and imprisoned. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

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

**** BLESSING**

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. **Amen.**

**** SENDING HYMN**

"My Savior Lives"

(Verse 1 - All)

**Our God will reign forever; and all the world will know his name;
Everyone together sing the song of the redeemed.**

(Refrain - All)

**I know that my Redeemer lives, and now I stand on what he did;
My Savior, my Savior lives;
Every day a brand new chance to say, "Jesus, you are my only way."
My Savior, my Savior lives.**

(Verse 2 - All)

**The King has come from heaven, and darkness trembles at his name;
Victory forever is the song of the redeemed.**

(Refrain - All)

I know that my Redeemer lives, and now I stand on what he did;
My Savior, my Savior lives;
Every day a brand new chance to say, "Jesus, you are my only way."
My Savior, my Savior lives.

(Music Ministers / All)

My Savior lives, my Savior lives, my Savior lives.
My Savior lives, my Savior lives, my Savior lives.
My Savior lives, my Savior lives, my Savior lives.
My Savior lives, my Savior lives, my Savior lives.

(Refrain - All)

I know that my Redeemer lives, and now I stand on what he did;
My Savior, my Savior lives;
Every day a brand new chance to say, "Jesus, you are my only way."
My Savior, my Savior lives.

**** DISMISSAL**

Hallelujah! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Hallelujah!

Go in peace. In Christ, you are made new.

Created, saved and gifted by God,

we seek, serve and share Jesus Christ. Hallelujah, thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

“W + 2” = WORSHIP PLUS TWO

**MAKE A COMMITMENT NOT ONLY TO WORSHIP EACH WEEK,
BUT ALSO TRY TO FIND A WAY TO SERVE IN THE CONGREGATION
AND SEEK OUT A WAY TO SERVE OUR COMMUNITY.**

YOU ARE NOW ENTERING THE MISSION FIELD

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Anselm, Bishop of Canterbury, died 1109

Monday, March 24, 2025

Romero was deeply concerned with injustices evident toward the poor and powerless in El Salvador, and worked forthrightly against political repression. He was assassinated while presiding at the eucharist in a chapel near the cathedral in San Salvador.

Anselm, Bishop of Canterbury, died 1109

Monday, April 21, 2025

This eleventh-century monk was one of the greatest theologians of the Middle Ages. He is remembered for emphasizing the maternal aspects of God, and for the theory that the Son of God became human in order to make the necessary payment for our sin.

Day of the Creation (Día de la Creación) (LLC)

Tuesday, April 22, 2025

This observance invites us to notice and give God thanks for the wonders of the created universe. As stewards of that creation, we are also challenged to be careful in our use of it.

Toyohiko Kagawa, renewer of society, died 1960

Wednesday, April 23, 2025

Born in Kobe, Japan, Kagawa was orphaned as a young child. Later, when he became Christian, he was disowned by the rest of his family. Wishing to bring Christian principles into society, he worked among poor people, established schools and hospitals, and worked for peace.

Mark, Evangelist

Friday, April 25, 2025

He was not numbered among the twelve apostles, yet Mark was probably a member of the early church community. The gospel that bears his name is the shortest and most direct, and many scholars think it was the first to be written.