HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
2003 N.E. Englewood Road
Kansas City, Missouri 64118
816.452.9113

"Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Divine Service One
Second Sunday of Easter
April 7, 2024

Rev. Dr. Craig A. Meissner, Pastor
Website: http://holycrosskc.org
Email: church@holycrosskc.org

Receiving the Lord's Supper at Holy Cross

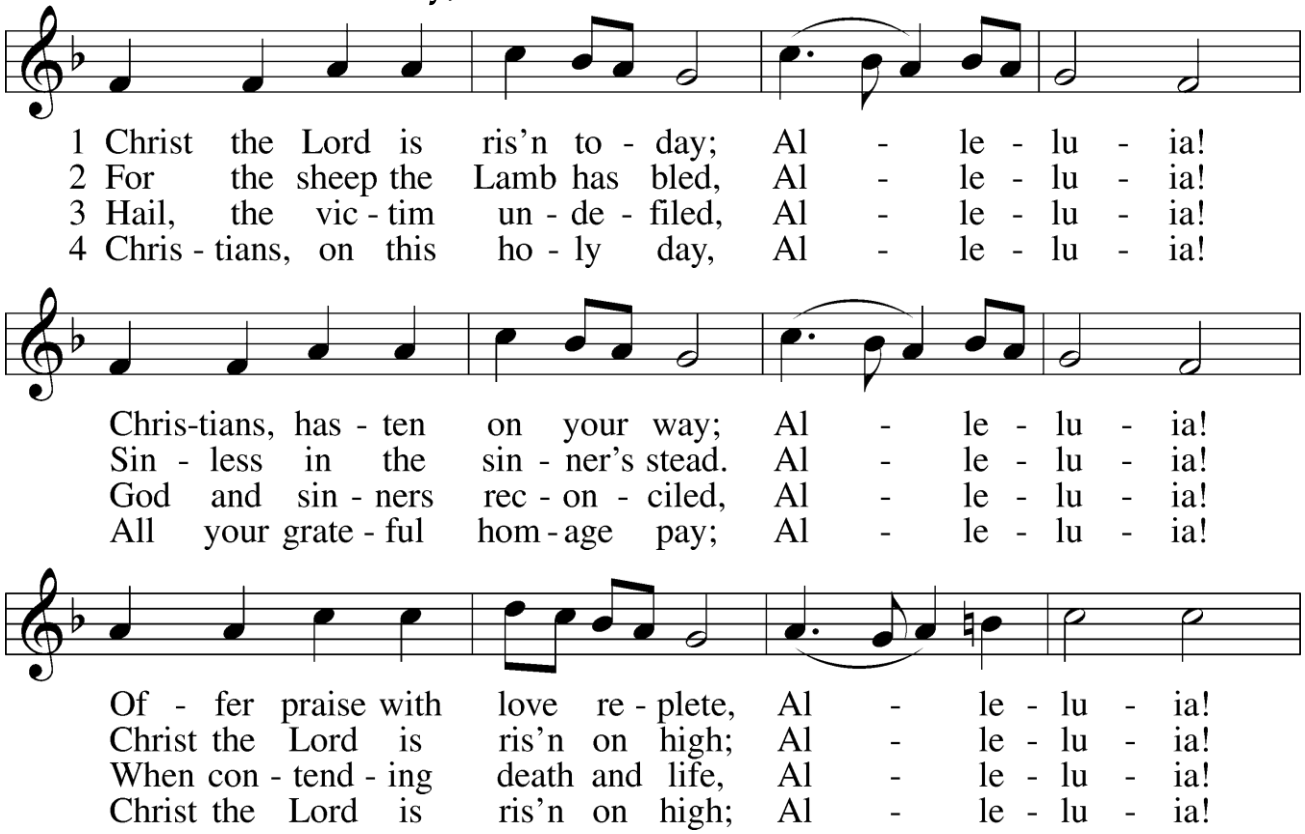
Our Lord gives both directions and warnings in Scripture when it comes to the precious gift of Holy Communion, which we take great care to follow. If you are not under the spiritual care of Holy Cross, please speak with the pastor before communing so that our unity with Christ and with one another may be genuine. Our aim is not to insult, but to instruct and prepare those who earnestly desire to join our communion. So, if you or your children are not yet communicants, you may come forward for a blessing tied to baptism, and you are encouraged to signify this by crossing your arms over your chest as the pastor comes by. The Blood of Christ is offered either in individual glasses, or simply hold out your hand to take the chalice by the base as you drink from it.

Prelude

Please stand and face the procession

+ Confession and Absolution+

463 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia



Text: attr. Wipo of Burgundy, d. c. 1050; tr. Jane E. Leeson, 1809–81, alt.
Tune: Robert Williams, c. 1781–1821
Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Exhortation *LSB 151*

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins *LSB 151*

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 *LSB 151*

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.**

Stand

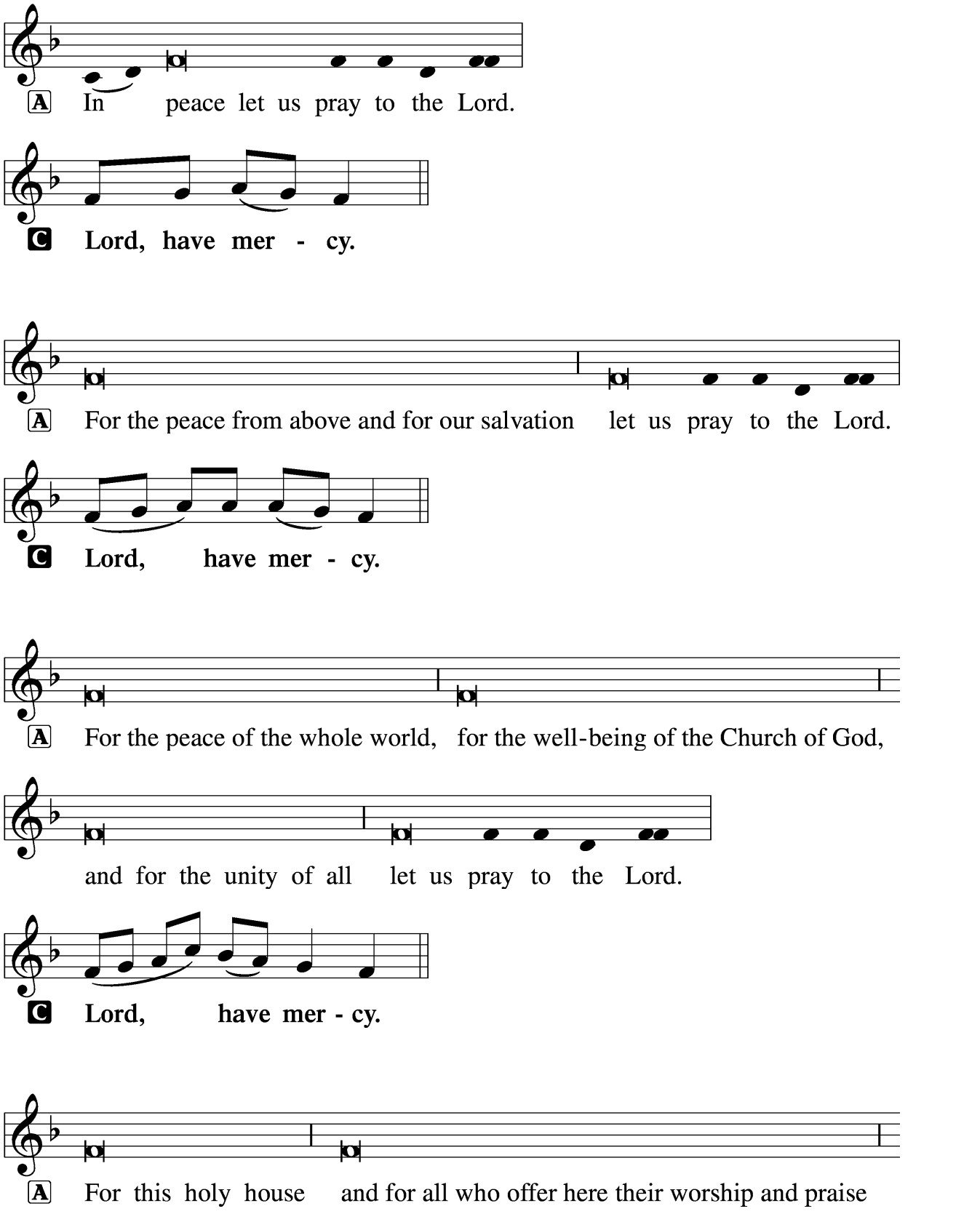
+ Service of the Word+

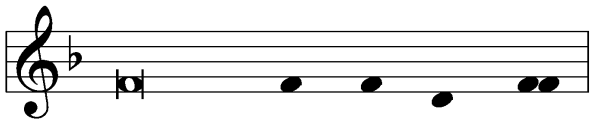
Introit *Psalm 81:1, 7a, 10, 16b; antiphon: 1 Peter 2:2a*

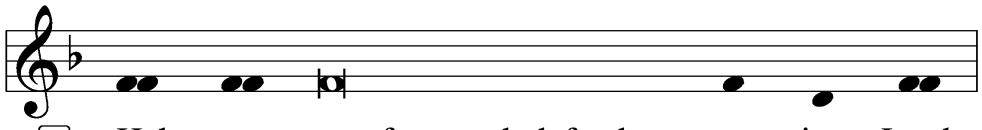
Like newborn infants, Alle- | luia,*
long for the pure spiritual milk [of the Word.] Alle- | luia.
Sing aloud to | God our strength;*
shout for joy to the God of | Jacob!
In distress you called, and I de- | livered you;*
I answered you in the secret place of | thunder.
I am the | LORD your God,*
who brought you up out of the land of | Egypt.
Open your mouth wide, and I will | fill it;*
and with honey from the rock I would sat- | isfy you.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Like newborn infants, Alle- | luia,*
long for the pure spiritual milk [of the Word.] Alle- | luia.

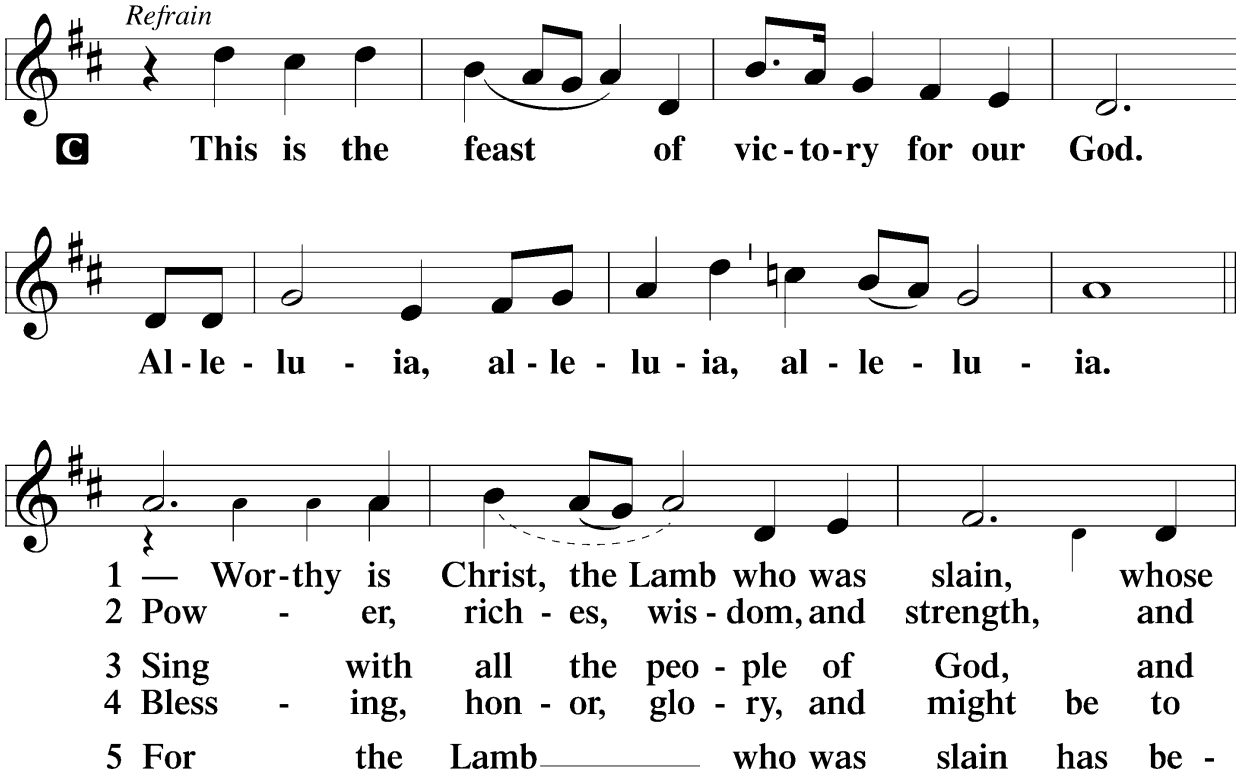
Kyrie *LSB 152*

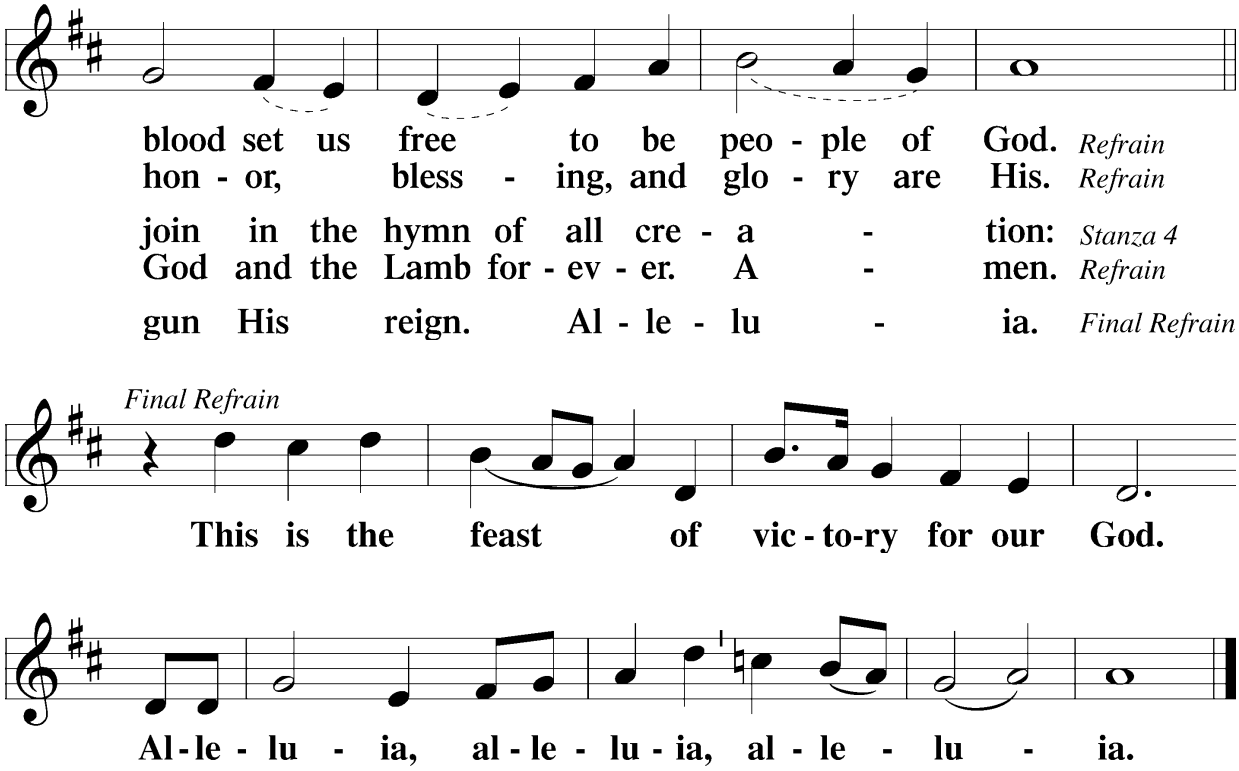






This Is the Feast *LSB 155*





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.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading *Ezekiel 37:1–14*

[1]The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. [2]And he led me around among them, and behold, there were

very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry.
[3]And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered,
"O Lord GOD, you know." [4]Then he said to me, "Prophesy over these
bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. [5]Thus
says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you,
and you shall live. [6]And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to
come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you
shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD."

[7]So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a
sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its
bone. [8]And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had
come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in
them. [9]Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man,
and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds,
O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." [10]So I prophesied
as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and
stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

[11]Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of
Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we
are clean cut off.' [12]Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the
Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves,
O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. [13]And you shall
know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from
your graves, O my people. [14]And I will put my Spirit within you, and you
shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I
am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle *1 John 5:4–10*

[4]For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this
is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. [5]Who is it that

overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

6 This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the
water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who
testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. 7 For there are three that testify:
8 the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree. 9 If we
receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is
the testimony of God that he has borne concerning his Son. 10 Whoever
believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not
believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the
testimony that God has borne concerning his Son.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia and Verse *Matthew 28:7b; John 20:26a, c*

P He has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee. Alleluia. Eight days later Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."

Holy Gospel *John 20:19–31*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

19 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.” [20]When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. [21]Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” [22]And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. [23]If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.”

[24]Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. [25]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.”

[26]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.” [27]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.” [28]Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” [29]Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

[30]Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; [31]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.**

Please note the Service liturgy from this point through the Prayer of the Church follows the pattern of Divine Service III, unlike the arrangement for Divine Service I in LSB

Nicene Creed

C **I believe in one God,**
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth

and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,

and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

471 O Sons and Daughters of the King *(Lectern side – stanzas 3 & 6; Pulpit side – stanzas 4 & 7)*

4 That night the_apostles met in fear;
Among them came their master dear
And said, "My peace be with you here."
Alleluia!

5 When Thomas first the tidings heard
That they had seen the risen Lord,
He doubted the disciples' word.
Alleluia!

6 “My piercèd side, O Thomas, see,
And look upon My hands, My feet;
Not faithless but believing be.”
Alleluia!

7 No longer Thomas then denied;
He saw the feet, the hands, the side;
“You are my Lord and God!” he cried.
Alleluia!

8 How blest are they who have not seen
And yet whose faith has constant been,
For they eternal life shall win.
Alleluia!

9 On this most holy day of days
Be laud and jubilee and praise:
To God your hearts and voices raise.
Alleluia! Refrain

Text: attr. Jean Tisserand, d. 1494; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.
Tune: French, 15th cent.
Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Offering

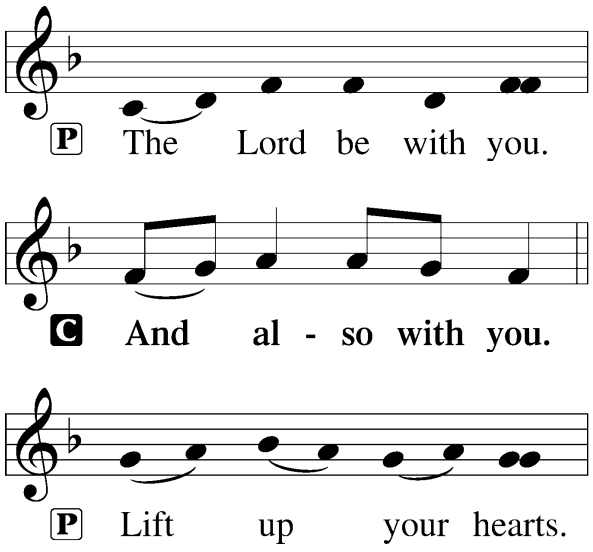
Stand

Offertory *LSB 159*

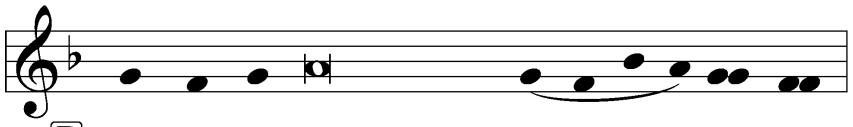
Prayer of the Church

+ Service of the Sacrament+

Preface *LSB 160*



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.

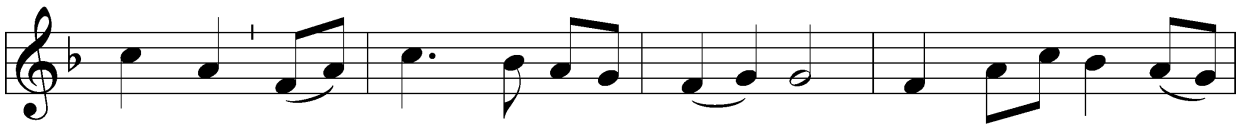
Proper Preface

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus *LSB 161*

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who

Prayer of Thanksgiving *LSB 161*

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer *LSB 162*

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **Our Father who art in heaven,**
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,

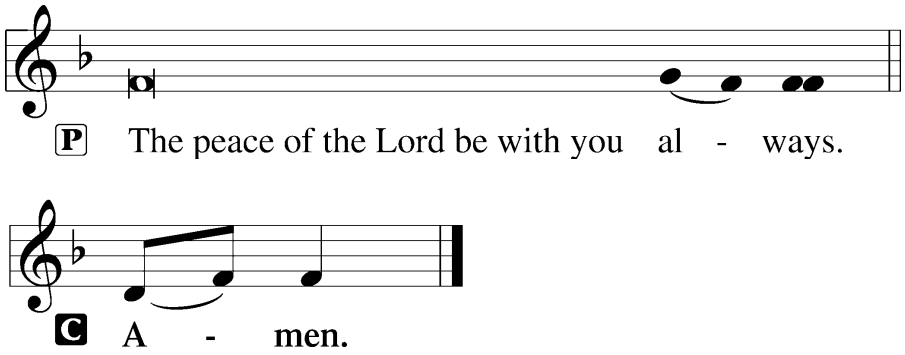
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

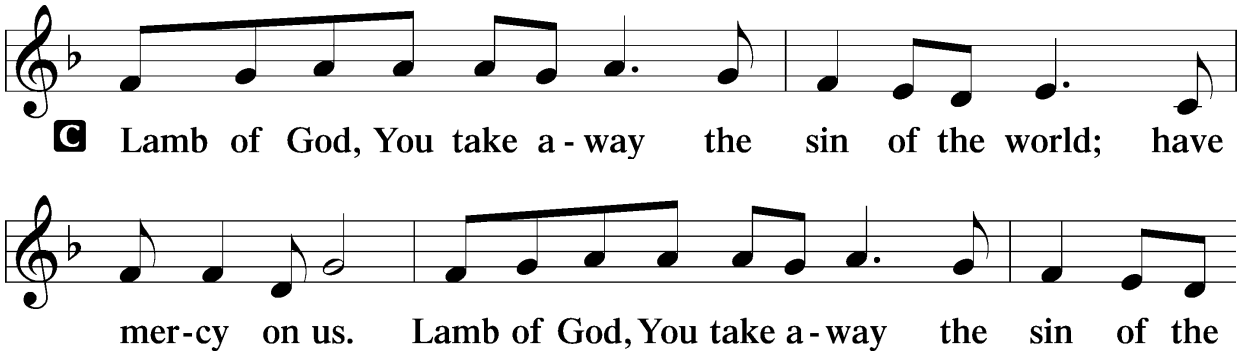
P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✝ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

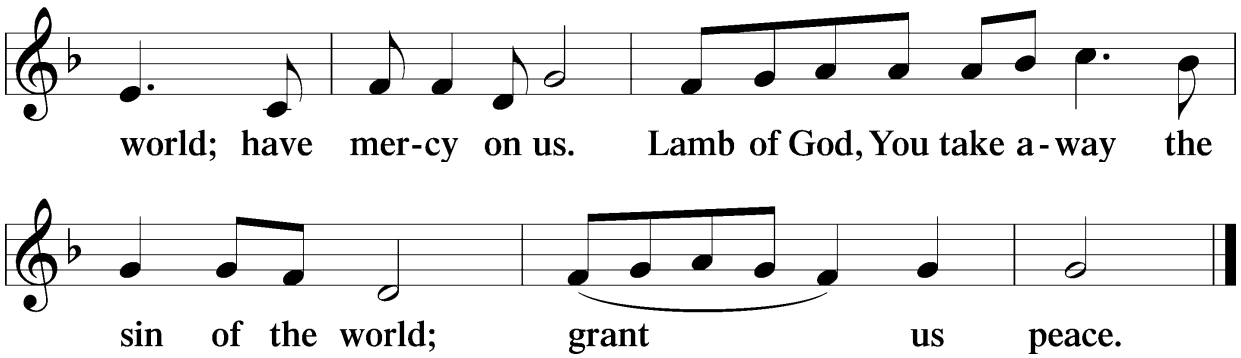
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✝ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini *LSB 163*



Agnus Dei *LSB 163*

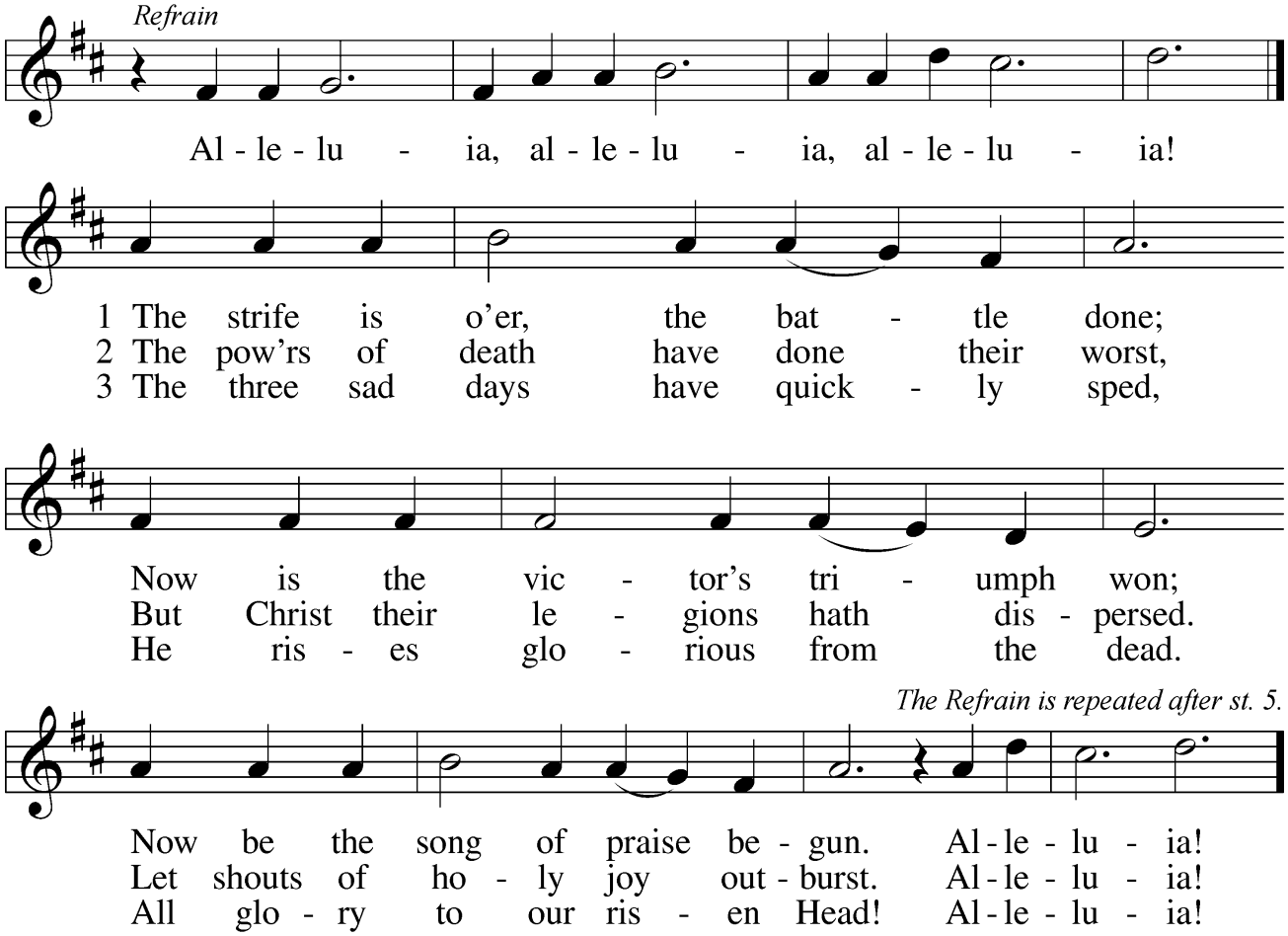




Sit

Distribution

464 The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done

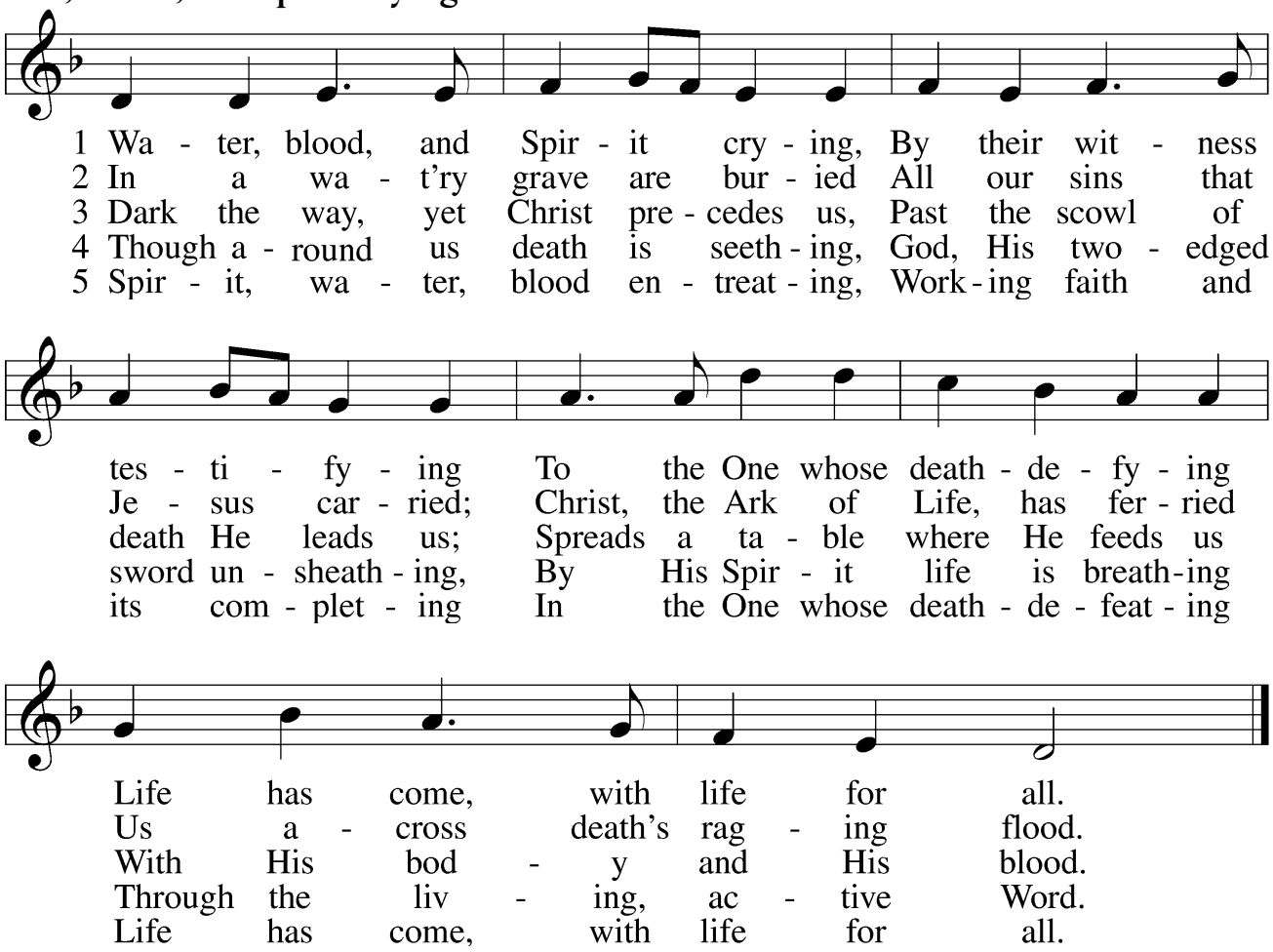


4 He broke the age-bound chains of hell;
The bars from heav'n's high portals fell.
Let hymns of praise His triumph tell.
Alleluia!

5 Lord, by the stripes which wounded Thee,
From death's dread sting Thy servants free
That we may live and sing to Thee.
Alleluia! Refrain

Text: Symphonia Sirenum Selectarum, 1695, Köln; tr. Francis Pott, 1832–1909, alt.
Tune: Giovanni P. da Palestrina, c. 1525–1594, adapt.
Text and tune: Public domain

597 Water, Blood, and Spirit Crying



Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955
Tune: Jeffrey N. Blersch, 1967
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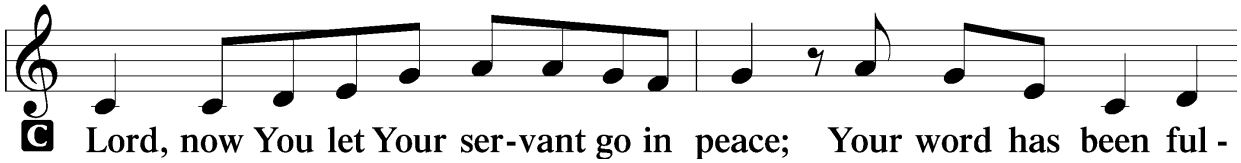
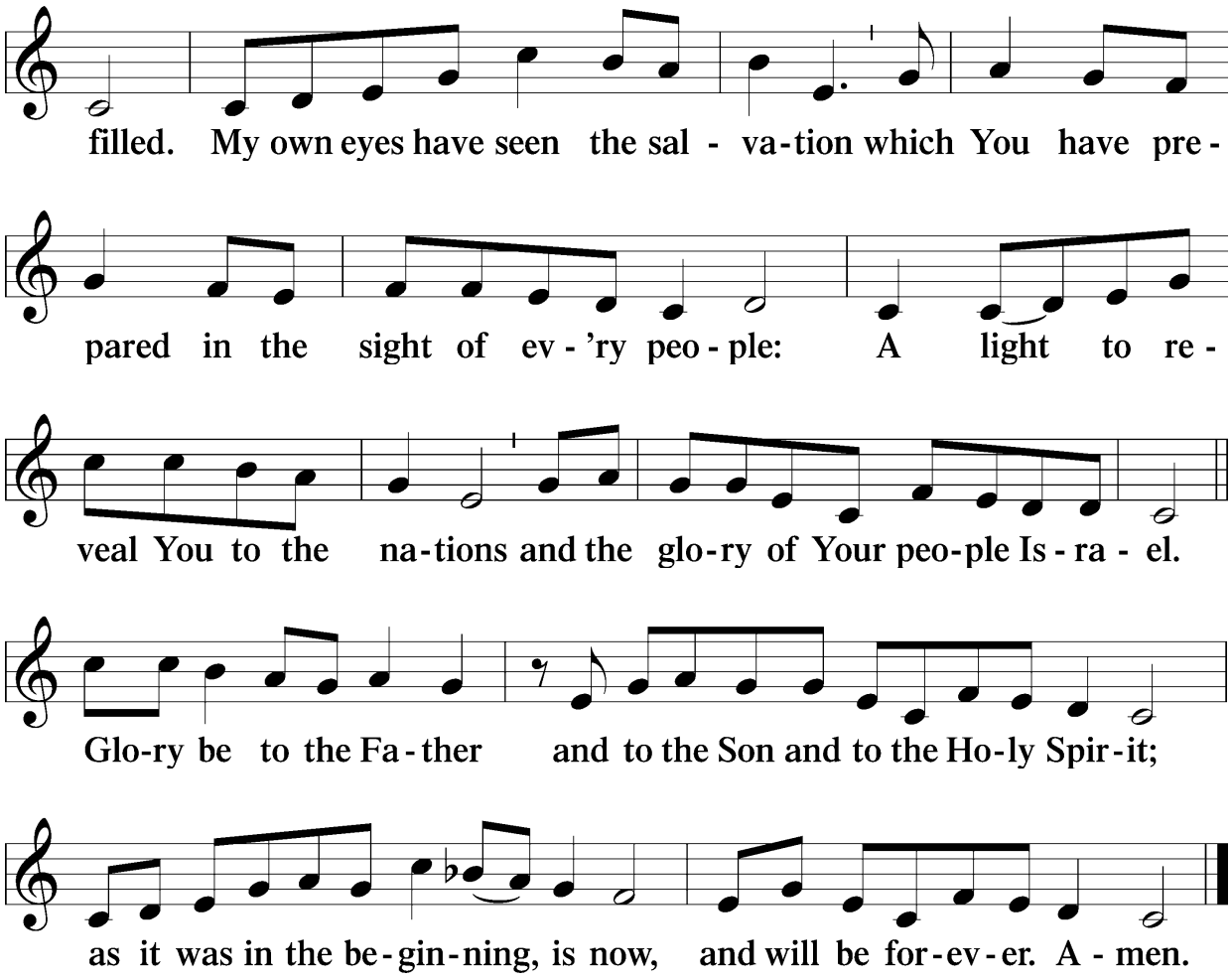
468 I Am Content! My Jesus Ever Lives

Text: attr. Johann Joachim Möller, 1660–1733; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
Tune: Johann Rudolph Ahle, 1625–73
Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Nunc Dimittis *LSB 165*

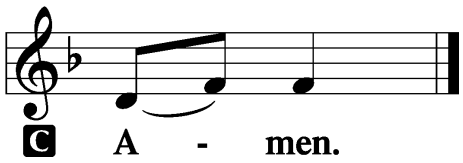




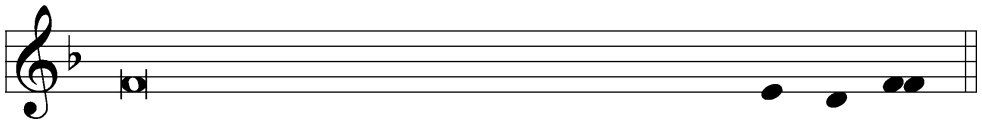
Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Benediction *LSB 166*



P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✢ give you peace.

C **A - men.**

Please face the procession, returning after it passes

548 Thanks to Thee, O Christ, Victorious

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860–1942
Tune: Johann Schop, c. 1590–1667
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