



Sunday, April 27, 2025

**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
300 Queen Street
Northumberland, PA 17857
570-473-3770
sjelc300@ptd.net**

WELCOME

GATHERING

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

THANKSGIVING OF BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

In the name of ✠ the One who was, who is, and who is to come.
Amen.

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured before or during the thanksgiving.

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

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG

The Day of Resurrection

EWL 361

GREETING

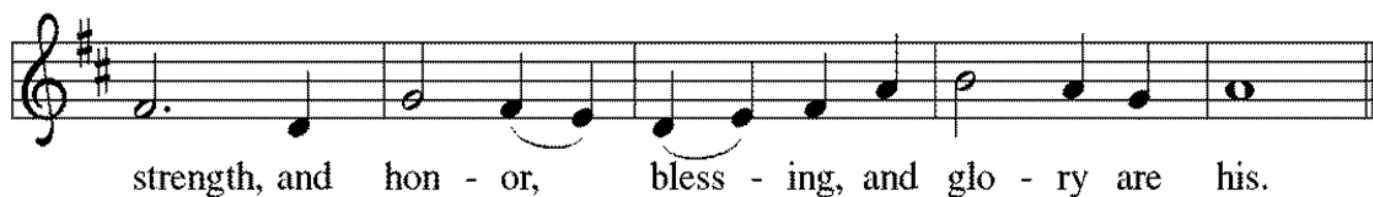
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

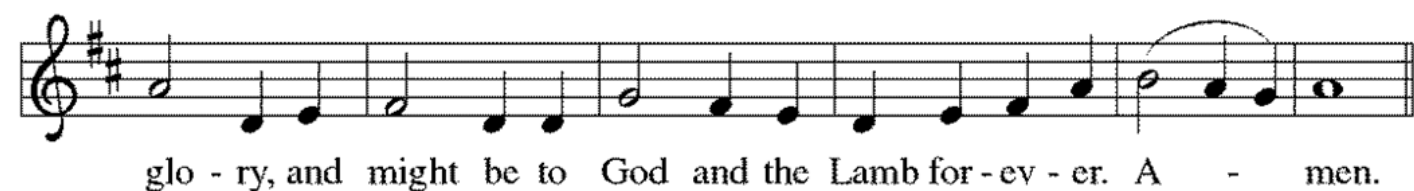
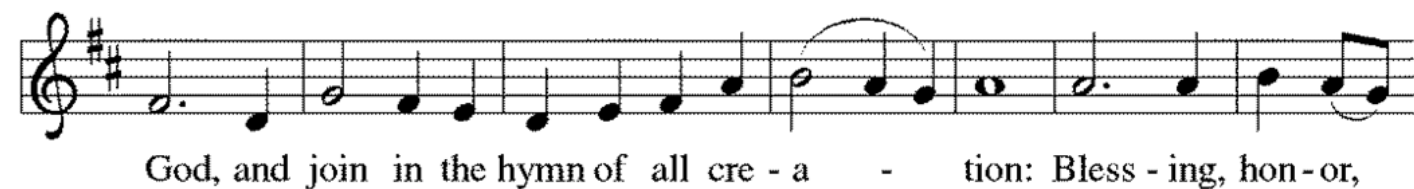
CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb
who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis - dom, and



Refrain



Refrain





PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 5:27-32

Peter has been arrested for proclaiming the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection. His response to the charges of the high priest summarizes the early church's proclamation of forgiveness of sin through repentance.

²⁷ When they had brought [the apostles,] they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸ saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." ²⁹ But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰ The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹ God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel

and forgiveness of sins. ³² And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.”

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 118:14-29

read responsively

REFRAIN: *You are my God, and I will exalt you. (Ps. 118:28)*

¹⁴ The Lord is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation.

¹⁵ **Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous: “The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!**

¹⁶ The right hand of the Lord is exalted! The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!”

¹⁷ **I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord. R**

¹⁸ The Lord indeed punished me sorely, but did not hand me over to death.

¹⁹ **Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them and give thanks to the Lord.**

²⁰ “This is the gate of the Lord; here the righteous may enter.”

²¹ **I give thanks to you, for you have answered me and you have become my salvation. R**

²² The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

²³ **By the Lord has this been done; it is marvelous in our eyes.**

²⁴ This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

²⁵ **Hosanna! O Lord, save us!**

We pray to you, Lord, prosper our days! R

²⁶ Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord; we bless you from the house of the Lord.

²⁷ **The Lord is God and has given us light. Form a procession with branches up to the corners of the altar.**

²⁸ You are my God, and I will thank you; you are my God, and I will exalt you.

²⁹ Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good; God's mercy endures forever. R

SECOND LESSON

Revelation 1:4-8

The book of Revelation recounts a mystical vision of the risen Christ experienced by a Christian prophet named John. Here he describes Christ as a timeless redeemer, the beginning, present, and end of all time.

⁴ John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶ and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ⁷ Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. ⁸ "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen* and yet have come to believe. Alleluia. (John 20:29)

GOSPEL

John 20:19-31

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The unprecedented events of the day of resurrection continue as the risen Jesus appears to his fearful disciples. A week later, after Thomas worships

Jesus, Jesus pronounces that the blessings of the resurrection are also for those who “have not seen and yet believe.”

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” ²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, 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 the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.” ²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, 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. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt 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 come to believe.” ³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

SERMON

APOSTLES CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was
conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under**

**Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to
the dead.* On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge
the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic
church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the
resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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.

Inspire the church with the breath of your Holy Spirit, that we sing the
good news of the resurrection. Inspire deacons and pastors, lay leaders and
bishops to boldly proclaim your love for all people. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Preserve the earth as a safe home for all creatures. Restore habitats
contaminated by pollution or overuse, strengthen efforts to shape more
sustainable communities, and make us mindful of the impacts of our daily
lives on the well-being of creation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Kindle in the nations a spirit of cooperation and mutual care. Raise up
creative and courageous leaders committed to shaping just solutions to

complex challenges in our local and global communities (*current issues of concern may be named*). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Embrace all who carry wounds, that they might know your compassion. Draw near to those with chronic pain or anxiety, and all for whom death is near. Comfort individuals and communities suffering in any way (*especially*). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Transform our fear into curiosity and love, especially across differences in race, religion, sexuality, gender identity, and economic situation. Unravel stereotypes that lead to discrimination, and destroy oppressive systems that marginalize vulnerable communities. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We remember the faithful departed from all times and places. Confident that you are the Alpha and Omega, we pray for your wisdom and guidance until our earthly pilgrimage is complete. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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.

PEACE

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

You may share a sign of peace with your neighbor.

MEAL

OFFERING

Thank you for your continued support with your offering. Offering may be placed in the offering plate on the table in the rear of the sanctuary, by mail or our on-line giving.

OFFERTORY HYMN

Come to the Table



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

Text: Claire Cloninger, b. 1942

Music: COME TO THE TABLE, Martin J. Nystrom, b. 1956

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OFFERING PRAYER

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.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

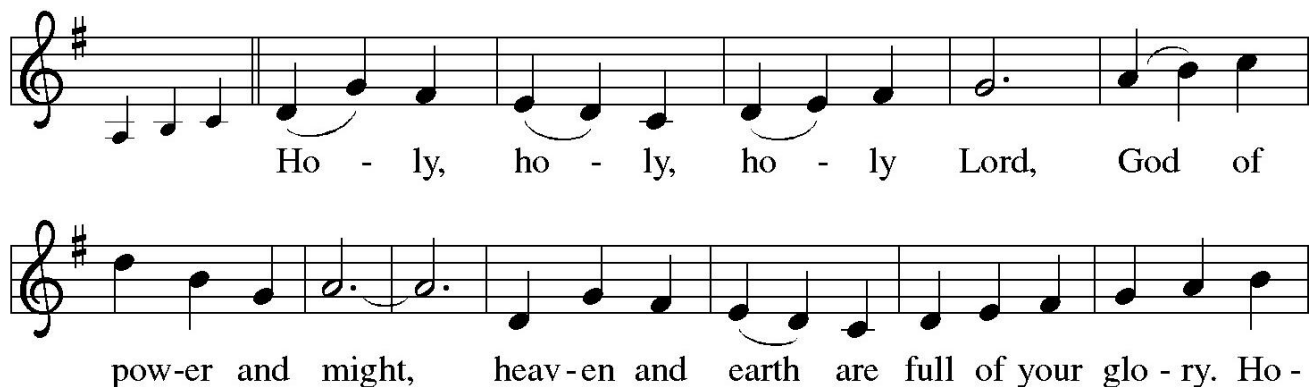
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

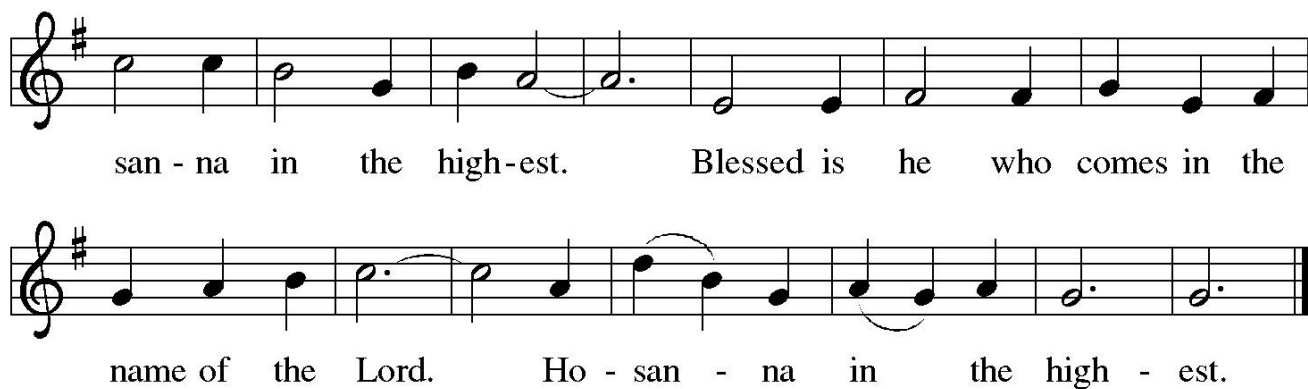
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY





THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

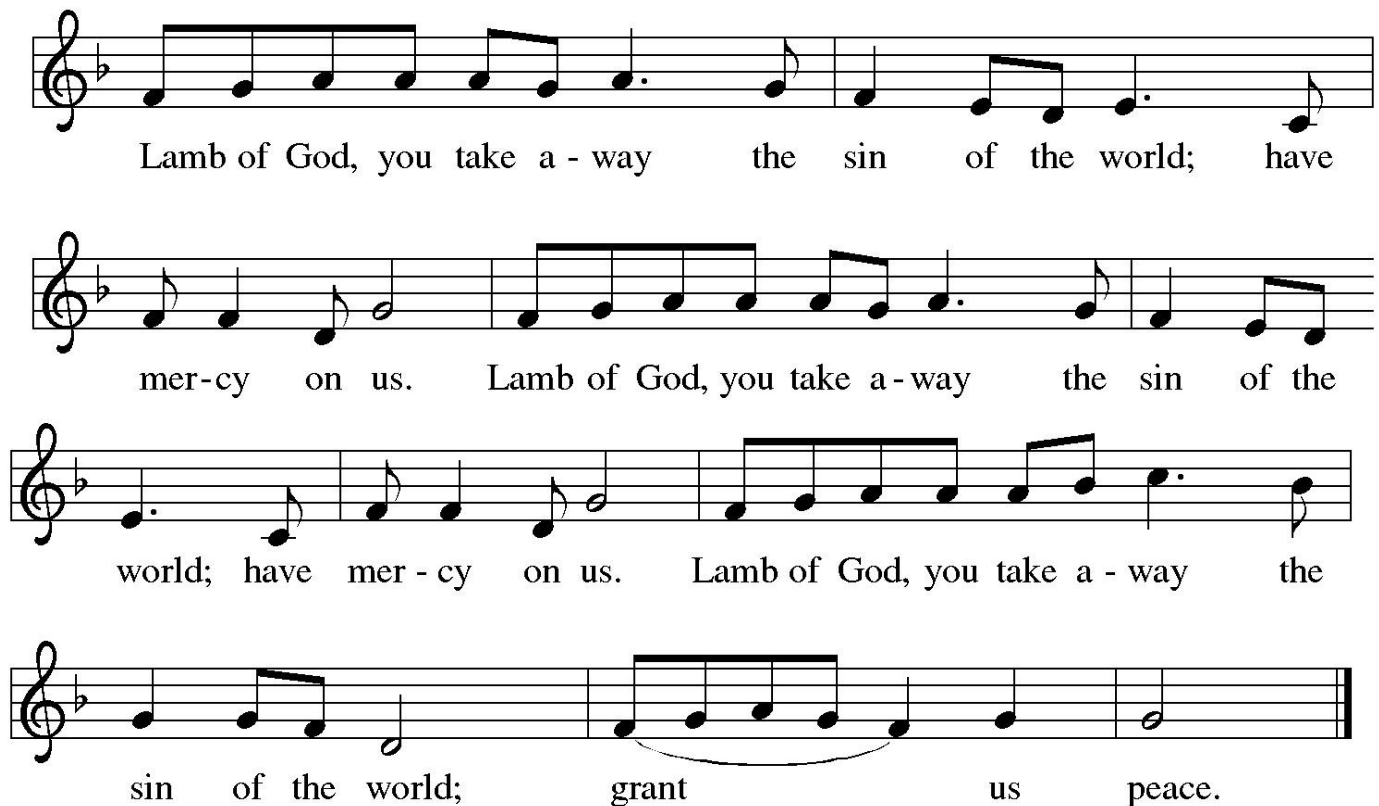
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the 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.

*The assembly may be seated. Communion will be served at the altar rail.
Wine or grape juice is available.*

COMMUNION HYMN



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.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

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 SONG Savior Again Your Dear Name ELW 534

DISMISSAL

We go now to be a light in our community, **to make Christ known to all through nourishing, serving, and faith. Thanks be to God.**

Pastor

Rev. Karla S. Leiby

Director of Music

William Jacavage

Greeter

Trudy Baker

Lector

Gail Lehman

Acolyte

Ryan Billman

Communion Assistant

Barb Moyer

Today our last breakfast and intergenerational Sunday School class till the Fall. Everyone is invited to join us following worship service in Fellowship Hall.

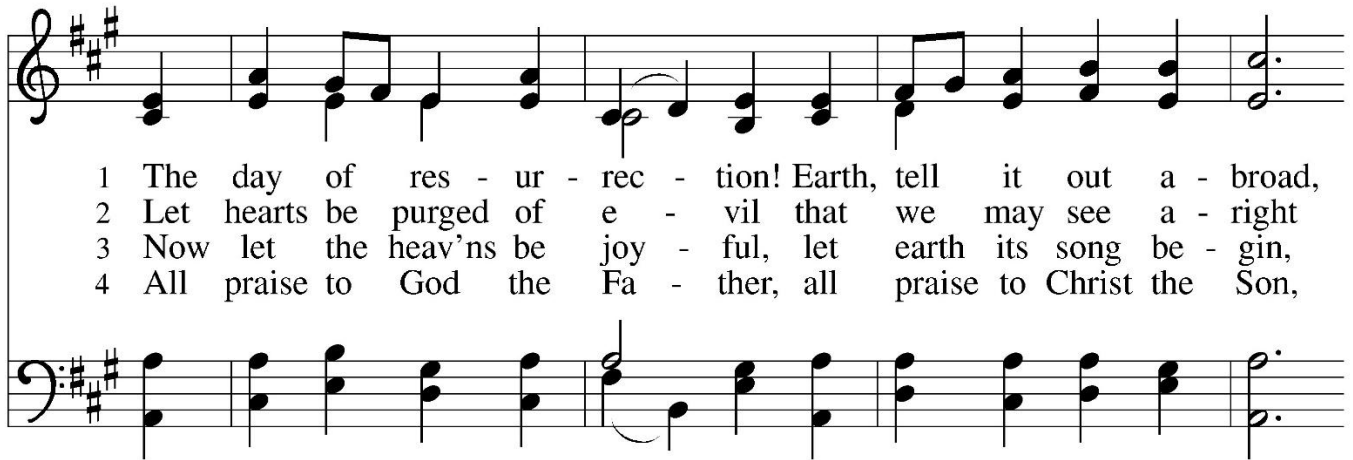
Geraniums for Pentecost order forms are available on the table in the rear of the sanctuary. *Orders and money are due by Sunday, May 25th*. Cost is \$4.25 each. Pentecost will be celebrated on Sunday June 8th and flowers may be picked up after worship service.

The Garden Crew is looking for helpers. If you would be interested in helping keep our gardens looking beautiful, please contact Mary Siemsen, 570-898-4058. Any amount of time you can volunteer would be greatly appreciated.

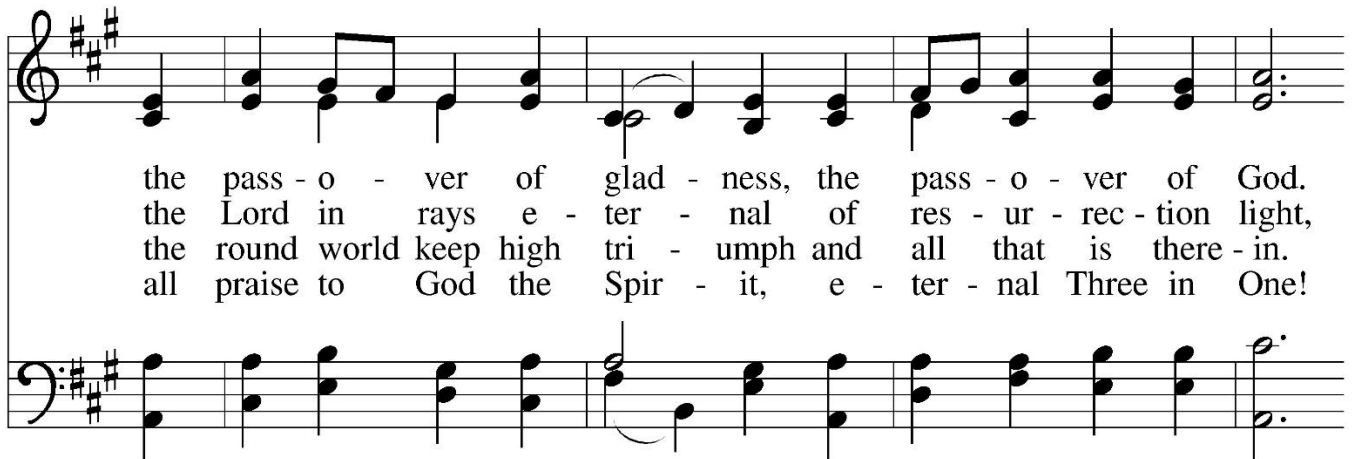
PRAYERS: Sue Stamm; Kathryn Lebo; Bob Herbert; Sue Lahr; Nathan Ferster; John Oliver; Carey Hoffman; Dixie Wagner

HOMEBOUND Doug Manning; June Diehl; Mary Rogers; Mike Payne; Nevin Brungard; Elaine Kohl; Dolly Naginey; Nancy Hendricks; William Wagner; Phyllis Gordon; Betty Yerg; Jane Ressler; David Bartholomew; Marti Row

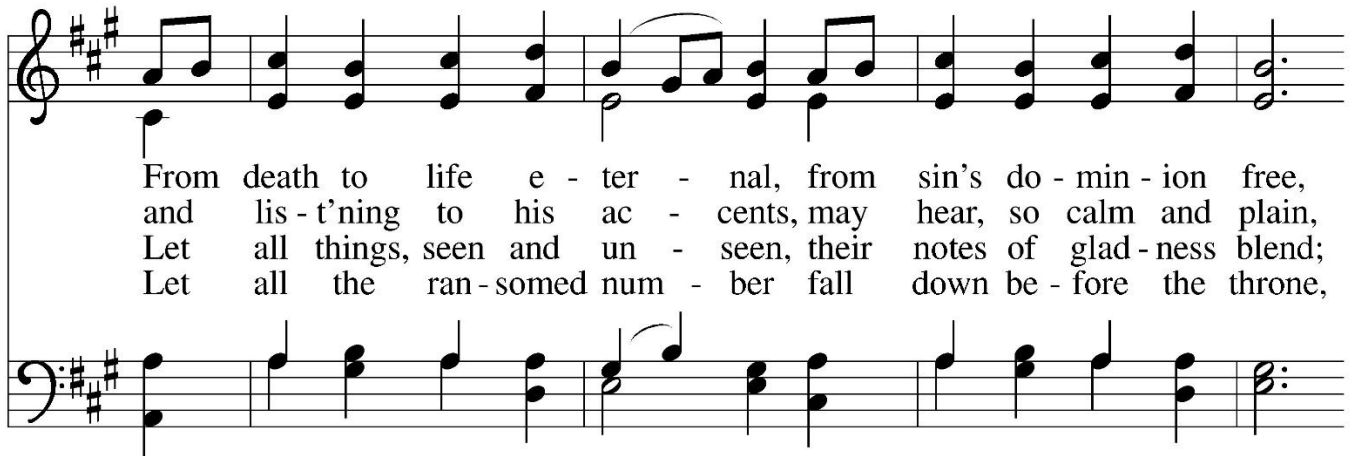
The Day of Resurrection!



1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,
2 Let hearts be purged of e - vil that we may see a - right
3 Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, let earth its song be - gin,
4 All praise to God the Fa - ther, all praise to Christ the Son,



the pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the pass - o - ver of God.
the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light,
the round world keep high tri - umph and all that is there - in.
all praise to God the Spir - it, e - ter - nal Three in One!



From death to life e - ter - nal, from sin's do - min - ion free,
and lis - t'ning to his ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,
Let all things, seen and un - seen, their notes of glad - ness blend;
Let all the ran - somed num - ber fall down be - fore the throne,



our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.
his own "All hail!" and hear - ing, may raise the glad re - frain.
for Christ the Lord has ris - en, our joy that has no end!
and hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry as - cribe to God a - lone!

Touch That Soothes and Heals

See My Hands and Feet



1 Touch that soothes and heals the hurt - ing, hands that
 2 Feed the hun - gry, clothe the na - ked, vis - it
 3 Love and serve with - out dis - tinc - tion all earth's
 4 Hands that beck - on lit - tle chil - dren, bind a



break a loaf of bread; steps that walk be - side the
 ones in need of care, give the home - less warmth and
 peo - ple, first and least. Know with - in each act of
 wound, pre - pare a meal, feet that rush to share good



wea - ry, bear - ing bur - dens in their stead:
 shel - ter: Christ will find a wel - come there.
 kind - ness hope and whole - ness are in - creased.
 tid - ings, Christ a - ris - en, still re - veal.

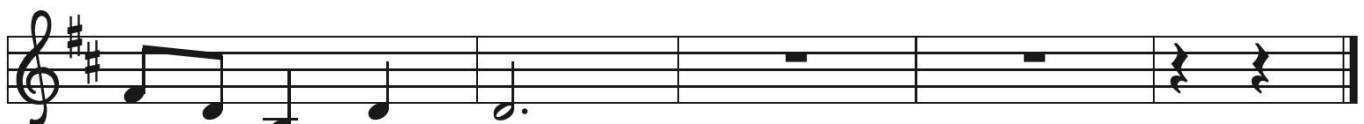
Refrain



"See my hands and feet," said Je - sus, love a - ris - en from the



grave. "Be my hands and feet," said Je - sus, "live as



ones I died to save."

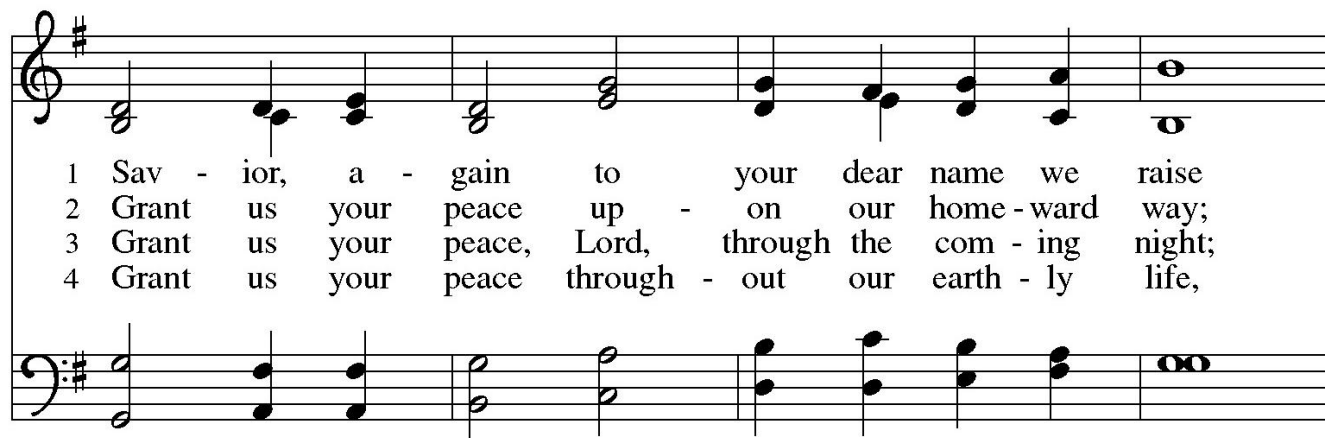
Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: CIVILITY, Gregg DeMey, b. 1972

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Music © 2008 Re:Create Music, admin. Faith Alive Christian Resources

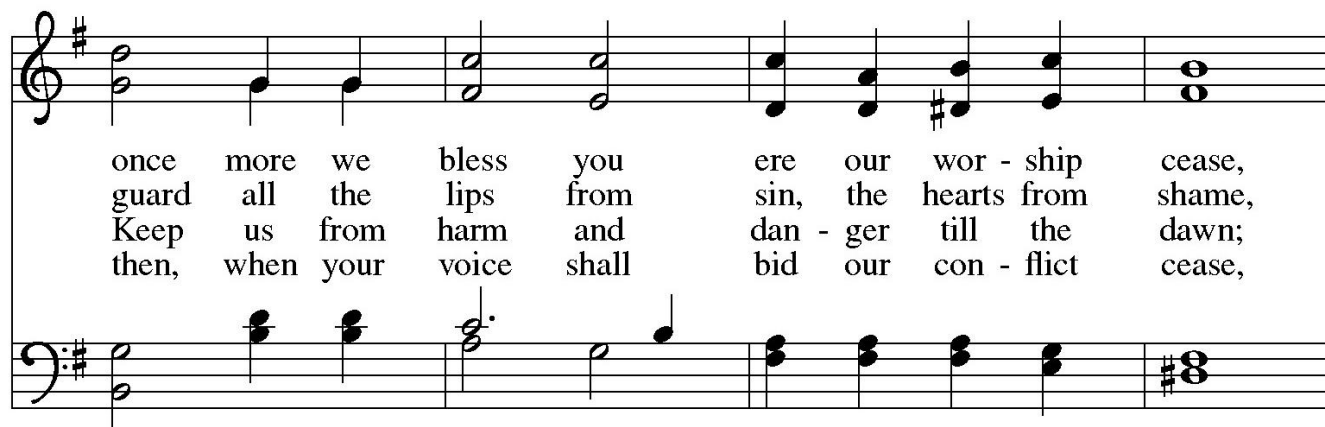
Savior, Again to Your Dear Name



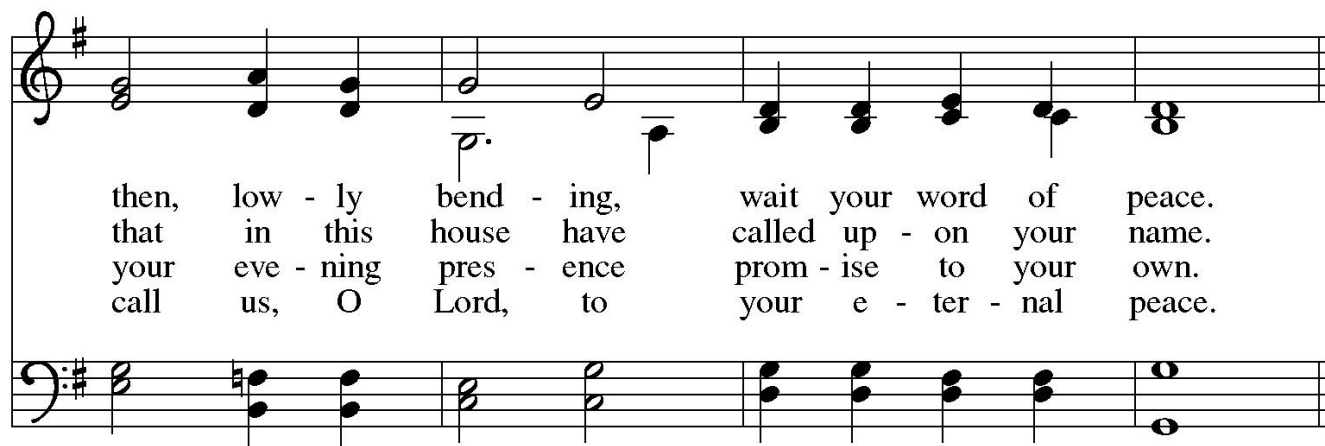
1 Sav - ior, a - gain to your dear name we raise
 2 Grant us your peace up - on our home - ward way;
 3 Grant us your peace, Lord, through the com - ing night;
 4 Grant us your peace through - out our earth - ly life,



with one ac - cord our part - ing hymn of praise;
 with you be - gan, with you shall end the day;
 for us trans - form its dark - ness in - to light.
 our balm in sor - row, and our stay in strife;



once more we bless you ere our wor - ship cease,
 guard all the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
 Keep us from harm and dan - ger till the dawn;
 then, when your voice shall bid our con - flict cease,



then, low - ly bend - ing, wait your word of peace.
 that in this house have called up - on your name.
 your eve - ning pres - ence prom - ise to your own.
 call us, O Lord, to your e - ter - nal peace.