

**St. John's Lutheran Church
Belleville, PA**



Easter Day
The Resurrection of Our Lord
April 9, 2023

PRELUDE ~ FANFARE

PROCESSION ~ *Hail Thee Festival Day*

ELW 394

EASTER

394

Hail Thee, Festival Day!

Refrain

Hail thee, fes - ti-val day! Blest day to be hal-lowed for - ev - er;
day when our Lord was raised, break-ing the king - dom of death.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff is the refrain, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4-A4 (beamed eighth notes), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (half). The lyrics 'Hail thee, fes - ti-val day! Blest day to be hal-lowed for - ev - er;' are written below. The second staff continues the melody: D4 (half), C4 (half), B3 (quarter), A3 (quarter), G3 (half), F#3 (quarter), E3 (half). The lyrics 'day when our Lord was raised, break-ing the king - dom of death.' are written below. The piece ends with a double bar line.

WELCOME

Welcome! We gather on this beautiful Easter Sunday blessed by the Creator's display of greenery, flowers and the message of new life. Lent's 40 days and 40 nights bring us to Easter joy and delight in the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are using the alternate readings Jeremiah 31:1-6 and John 20:1-18 which are included in the bulletin.

*ALLELUIA

P: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

*HYMN ~ *Jesus Christ is Risen Today*

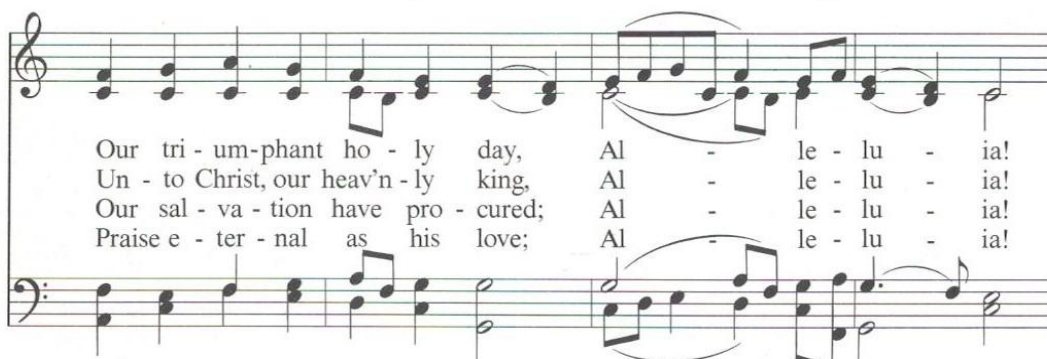
LBW # 151

151

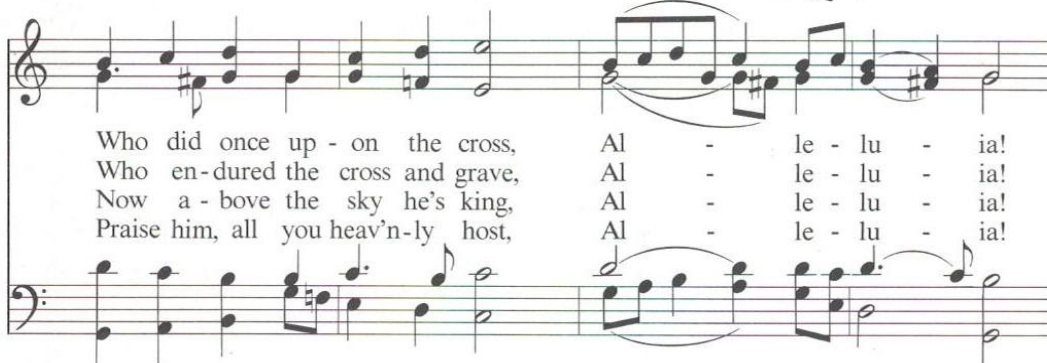
Jesus Christ Is Risen Today



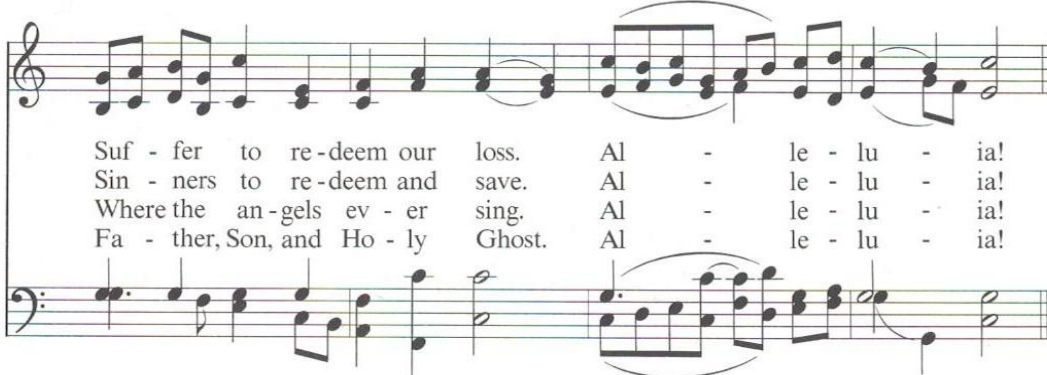
1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



Our tri - umphant 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!

Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1-3; Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, st. 4; tr.
 Lyra Davidica, London, 1708, sts. 1-3
 Tune: Lyra Davidica, London, 1708

EASTER HYMN
 77 77 and alleluias

CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

P Jesus' rising from the dead assures us that we, too, have been given new life. Let us repent of our sin before God and one another, certain of God's mercy. Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Jesus' rising from the dead assures us that we, too, have been given new life. Let us repent of our sin before God and one another, certain of God's mercy.

C **Amen**

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

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that, even on this most holy day, we are unable to believe in the victory over death shown to us in the resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Lord. We confess our utter dependence on you not only for life but also for faith, hope, and love. Without your astonishing appearance to our ancestors and your presence throughout the ages, we would be lost. Forgive us and transform us, that in every way our work and prayer will make whole what is broken and give peace on earth. Amen.**

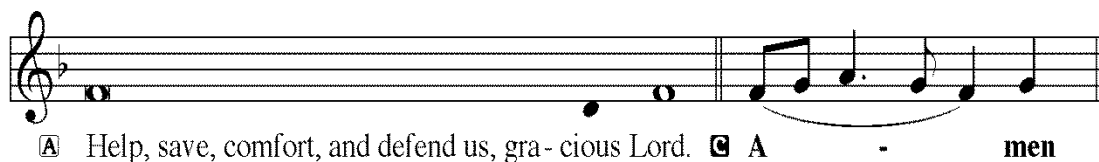
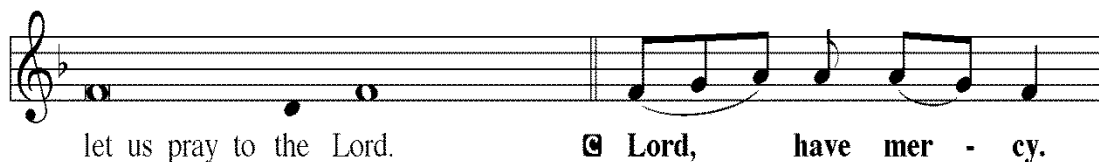
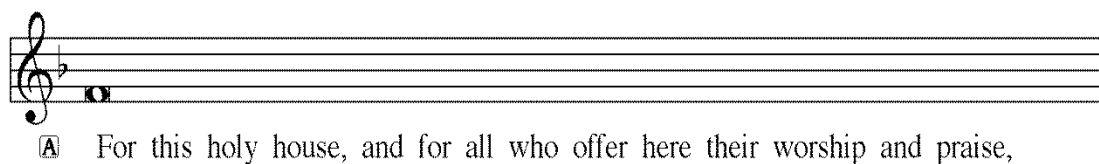
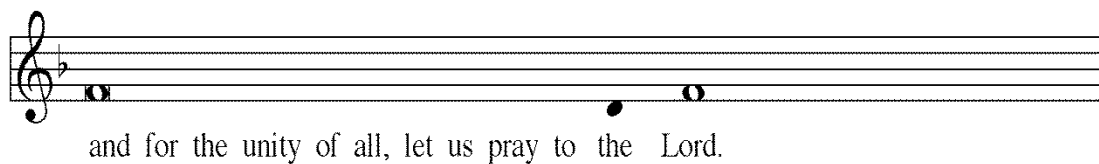
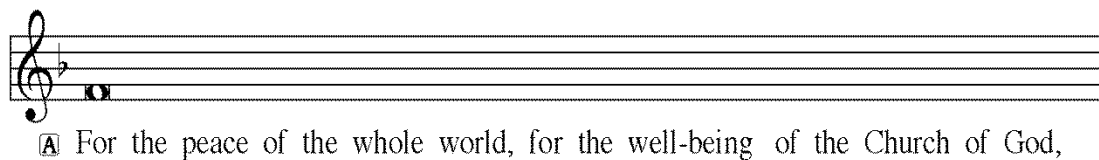
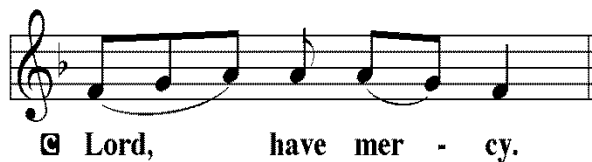
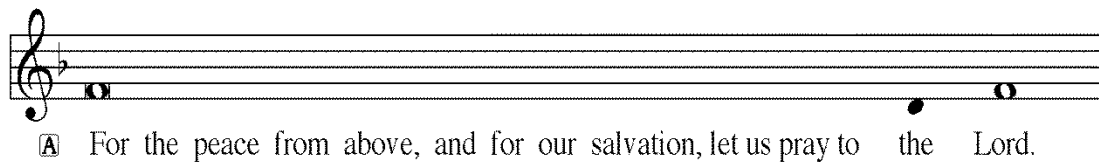
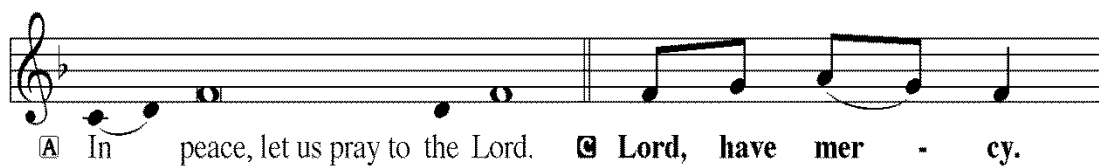
P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. By the grace of God and the witness of our ancestors, the good news of Jesus' resurrection is our rock and our salvation. You shall not die but live. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by Christ's authority, I declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen**

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

C **And also with you.**

***KYRIE**



***HYMN of PRAISE** (organ will play a prelude)

1 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.

2 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
strength, and hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his.

3 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. **3** Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and
join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing, hon-or, glo-ry, and
might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

Continued on next page

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

al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. **II** For the Lamb who was

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

C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

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

***PRAYER of the DAY ~ (in unison)**

P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

P Let us pray...

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.

CHILDREN'S MUSICAL CREED - I Believe

*Children's from St. John's daycare and grandchildren of congregants
Led by Seulki Yoo and Jami Zook*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

LESSONS

First Lesson ~ A reading from Jeremiah 31:1-6

At that time, says the LORD, I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people. Thus says the LORD: The people who survived the sword found grace in the wilderness; when Israel sought for rest, the LORD appeared to him from far away. I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you. Again I will build you, and you shall be built, O virgin Israel! Again you shall take your tambourines, and go forth in the dance of the merrymakers. Again you shall plant vineyards on the mountains of Samaria; the planters shall plant, and shall enjoy the fruit. For there shall be a day when sentinels will call in the hill country of Ephraim: "Come, let us go up to Zion, to the LORD our God."

after the reading

P The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 ~ *with response*

*Second Lesson ~ A reading from Acts 10:34-43 (*found on page 1 of Celebrate*)

after the reading

R The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

* P The Gospel of the Resurrection of our Lord according to John the 20th Chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

John 20:1-18

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him."

Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

Then the disciples returned to their homes. But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet.

They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?"

She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus.

Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?"

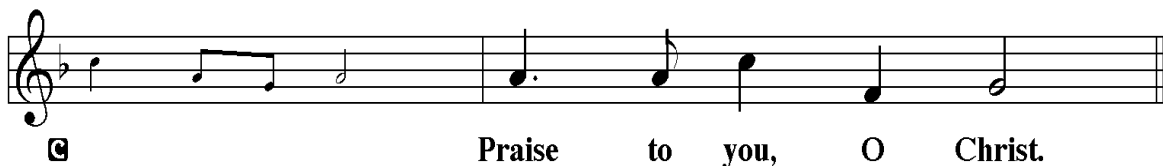
Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away."

Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

After the reading

P The Gospel of the Lord

**MESSAGE**

SPECIAL EASTER MUSIC: Michael Thomas and Seulki Yoo

***NICENE CREED**

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

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

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son He is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and life of the world to come. Amen.

***THE PEACE** ~ Let us extend the Peace that Christ brings to us today with the greeting: 'Christ is Risen!' and responding 'Christ is Risen indeed!'

P The Peace of Christ be with you.

C And also with you.

P Christ is Risen!

C Christ is Risen indeed!

ALL: Hallelujah! Blessed is the Resurrection of Christ! Hallelujah!


*Please extend the Peace to those in the sanctuary and beyond our walls
with the words and response ~*

Christ is Risen!

Christ is Risen indeed!

OFFERING ~ you may place your gifts in one of the offering plates at the end of the front and back pews on your way out.

***OFFERTORY**



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

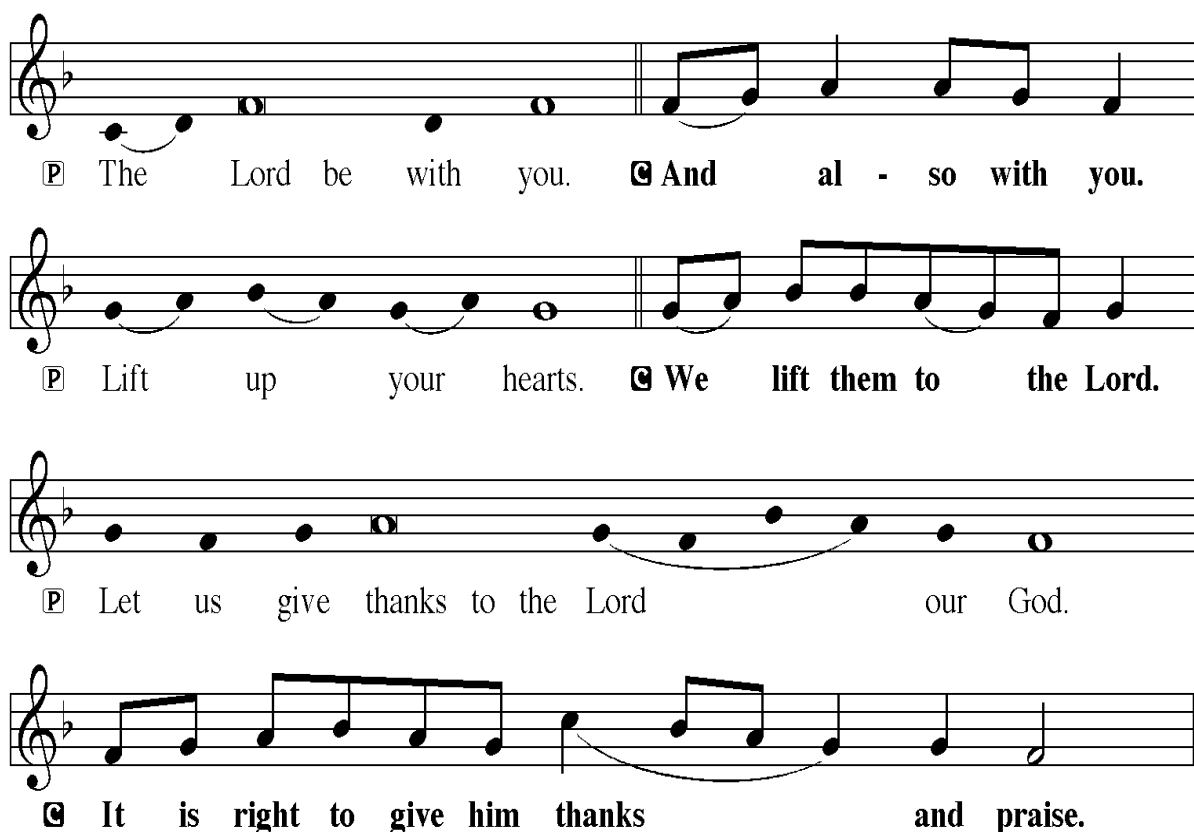
***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

P Let us pray. Merciful Father,

C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given
us--ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your
gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered
himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**



P The Lord be with you. **G** And al - so with you.

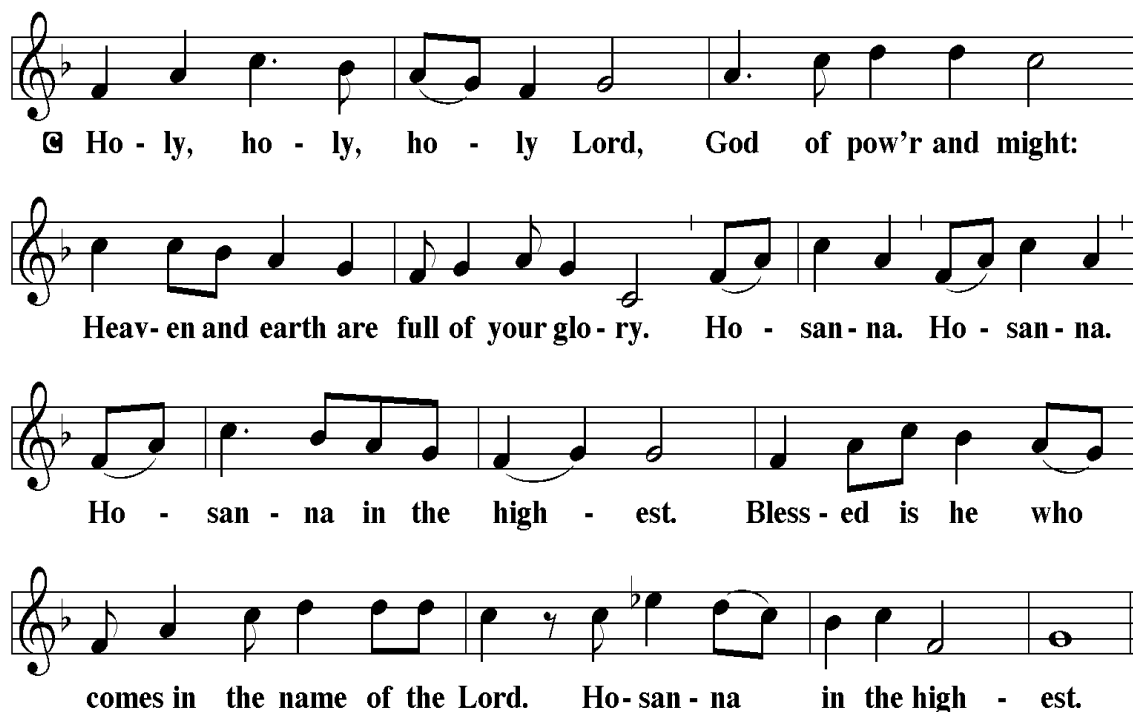
P Lift up your hearts. **G** We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

G It is right to give him thanks and praise.

***PREFACE for EASTER.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, almighty and eternal Father, and in these days of Easter to celebrate with joyful hearts the memory of your wonderful works. For by the mystery of his passion Jesus Christ, your risen Son, has conquered the powers of death and hell and restored in men and women the image of your glory. He has placed them once more in paradise and opened to them the gate of life eternal. And so, in the joy of this Passover, earth and heaven resound with gladness; while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation sing forever the hymn of your glory:



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
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

P 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.

The Lord's Prayer

P Let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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

COMMUNION

Invitation to Communion:

P Partake of the banquet, for all is now ready, taste and see that the Lord is good.

P The Bread of Life: the body of Christ, given for you;

C Amen.

P The Cup of the Covenant: the blood of Christ, shed for you.

C Amen.

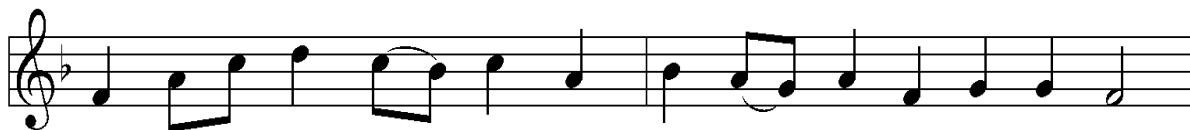
After Communion

P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C Amen.**

***POST COMMUNION CANTICLE**



C Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with



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

P Let us pray.

P As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us from this table to be the body of Christ in all the world. Send us with a spirit of courage, a spirit of power and love, that we may be witnesses in all creation to the unending story of your word breathing life into the dust. Keep us faithful, and fruitful, and hopeful, and peaceful, until we come at last to the one table of your Kingdom, to feast with all your saints in the joy of your eternal realm, with you and with your Word, through Christ and in Christ, the one who came for us, died for us, and rose for us.

C Amen.

***THE BLESSING**

P Now may the truth of the empty tomb—the astonishing reality of Jesus' resurrection—keep you fearless and sure that you will see the Resurrected One again and again in this life. May the power of God's endless love surround you and guide you, this day and always.

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.

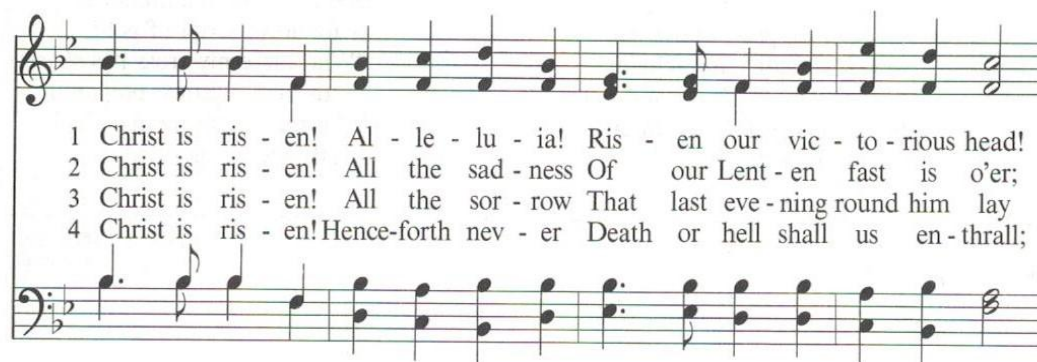
C Amen

***HYMN ~ Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!**

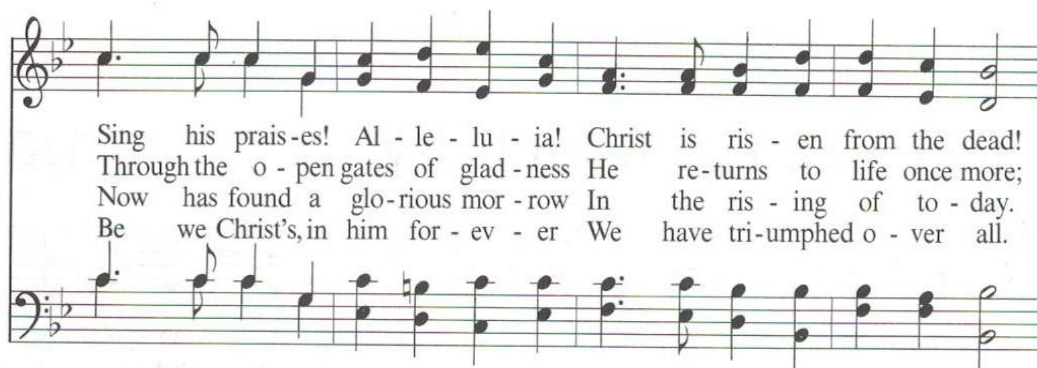
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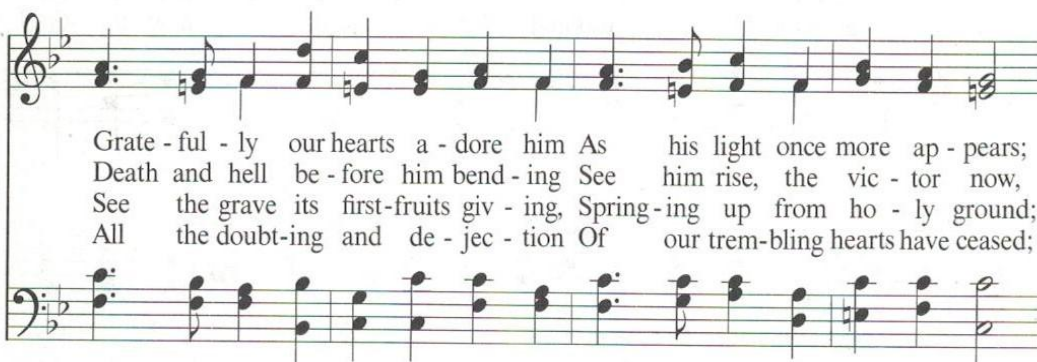
Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!



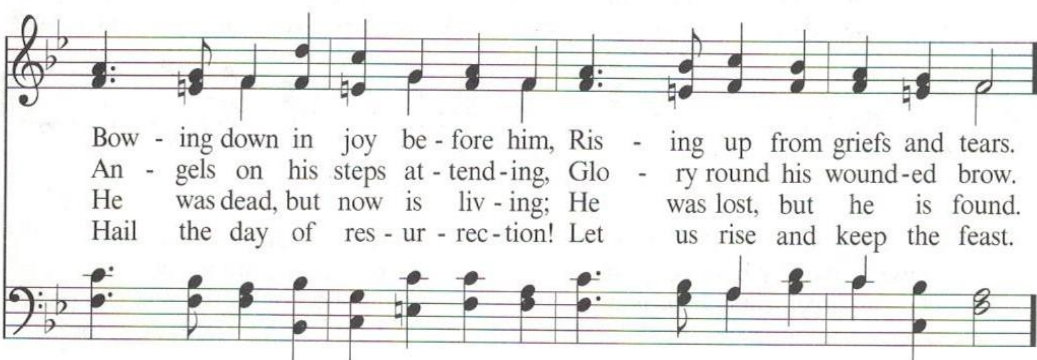
1 Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!
 2 Christ is ris - en! All the sad - ness Of our Lent - en fast is o'er;
 3 Christ is ris - en! All the sor - row That last eve - ning round him lay
 4 Christ is ris - en! Hence - forth nev - er Death or hell shall us en - thrall;



Sing his prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!
 Through the o - pen gates of glad - ness He re - turns to life once more;
 Now has found a glo - rious mor - row In the ris - ing of to - day.
 Be we Christ's, in him for - ev - er We have tri - umphed o - ver all.



Grate - ful - ly our hearts a - dore him As his light once more ap - pears;
 Death and hell be - fore him bend - ing See him rise, the vic - tor now,
 See the grave its first - fruits giv - ing, Spring - ing up from ho - ly ground;
 All the doubt - ing and de - jec - tion Of our trem - bling hearts have ceased;



Bow - ing down in joy be - fore him, Ris - ing up from griefs and tears.
 An - gels on his steps at - tend - ing, Glo - ry round his wound - ed brow.
 He was dead, but now is liv - ing; He was lost, but he is found.
 Hail the day of res - ur - rec - tion! Let us rise and keep the feast.

Continued on next page

Refrain

Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic -

to - rious head! Sing his prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!

Christ is ris - en from the dead!

***DISMISSAL**

P Go from here renewed and strong, knowing that the Lord is alive, almighty, and present. Look for the blessings that await you this week. Weep with those who weep. Rejoice with those who celebrate. Tell the story of hope. Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

R Thanks be to God

POSTLUDE

Worship Team

Pastor: Rev. Ela J. Robertson
 Organist: Seulki Susie Yoo
 Special Music: Children's choir
 Special Music: Michael Thomas, trombone
 Assisting Pastor: Rev. Rosalie Smith
 Altar Care: Joy Byler
 Greeters: John and Denise Chester
 Lay Reader: John Chester
 Sound: Joe Kanagy

Special thanks to our Worship and Music Committee for helping to plan this service.

The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by
Joseph Kanagy in memory of Zachary J. Kanagy,
and in honor of Brooke, Sam and family.

The Candelabra greens are given to the Glory of God in honor of the
Lawrence “Linz” and Susanne “Toot” Stroup Family.

The Easter Flowers in St. John’s
are given to the Glory of God by...

*Edna Chester in memory of her loved ones,
and in honor of her family.*

Marge Shilling in loving memory of husband, Dick.

*Jami Zook and Mike Boring in honor of
their children and grandchildren.*

*Bob and Susan Keller in memory of their parents,
Bob and Virginia Keller, Mark and Dot Smoker.*

Neil Himes and family in loving memory of Pam Himes.

*John and Brenda Boring in honor of
beautiful sunsets, sunrises, spring flowers,
buds on trees, bunnies, birds...all things good from God,
especially, His Son and our salvation.*

*Jane Fultz in loving memory of husband, Bud,
and her loved ones, and in honor of
Ron and Carol, Cheryl and Dave, and their families.*

*Reba Harmon in memory of James L. Harmon,
and in honor of her children,
Holly Cleck, Jami Zook and Jim Harmon.*

*Don and Rosalie Smith in memory of their parents,
Bud and Elsie Smith, Merrill and Henrietta Naylor,
Rosalie’s brother and sisters, George, Jackie and Bibbie,
and Don’s sisters, Lynn and Evelyn.*

Mike and Michele Harshbarger in honor of their children.

*Rev. Ela J. Robertson in honor of St. John's
council, committees and congregation.*

*Rev. Ela J. Robertson in memory of Richard Byler, Carol Yoder,
Larry Stroup, Gwen Hornberger and Don F. Smith.*

*Carolyn Conner and family in memory of their loved ones and friends,
and in honor of their family and friends.*



Next Sunday, April 16

Altar Care: Joy Byler; **Greeters:** Don and Rosalie Smith

Lay Reader: Ed Bilich; **Sound:** Jay Byler

Church Office: 935-2032; **Email us at** secretary@stjohnsbelleville.org

St. John's Christian Day Care: 935-2959

Our Mission Statement

*We, the members of St. John's congregation, promise to share
the good news of Jesus Christ, to worship and to love one another
in our homes, church, community and the world.*

Our Vision Statement

*To be people who are welcoming and encourage God's love in our community
through our prayer, devotion, benevolence and deeds.*

Please remember in prayer ~ Miriam Williamson, Anne Peachey, Desa Keiser, Elliana Byler, Kyung Sun Yim, Bob Treaster, Samantha Smith, our members ~ Joyce Stuck (Greenwood Village), Betty Harmon (Celebration Villa) and Don Wolfe (VVH).

FROM the PASTOR

Pastor Ela will be taking Monday off following the eventful Holy Week.

From the office of the Bishop:

We encourage smaller congregations to elect voting members to the Upper Susquehanna Assembly - Jun 16-17 at Susquehanna University.

We will spend some of our time in discussion about providing for ministry and pastoral care in creative ways that address our current realities.

Early bird registration is April 15. Talk to Pastor Ela for further information and/or if you feel called to this important service.

Upper Susquehanna Synod Bishop Craig Miller is asking congregations and members to hold the congregation of Salem, Selinsgrove, in their prayers. Monday morning April 3, there was a fire at the 125-year-old church and there is extensive damage to the building. No one was injured. It is likely that the congregation will not be able to return to their building for several months. The church's pastor, Rev. Stina Schaeffer, also serves as the assistant to the bishop for mobility and transition and is the representative who will be working with our transition and call process. Please pray for Stina and the Selinsgrove church.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The knotters are in need of full/queen sheets to use as comfort backs or patches. If you have any in good clean condition, please place them on the counter in the blue room.

April 15 is the early registration deadline for Camp Mt. Luther. A \$30 discount is given for all early registrants. The St. Johns council has determined they will help any camper who would like to attend, relatives and neighbors of congregants, and day care families.

Encourage children you know! We all know what a difference being out in Nature with God and learning and living the Gospel stories can make to a child's life!

January 1 thru April 5, 2023

Last week's attendance ~ 33 Offering ~ \$2,190.00

St. John's ~ Income \$ 46,698.84 Expense \$ 49,828.86

Net Income \$ -3,130.02

Daycare ~ Income \$ 99,080.91 Expense \$ 96,594.91

Net Income \$ 2,486.00