

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



**This painting depicting *Jesus on the Road to Emmaus* is the same one which can be found hanging in our Narthex.**

**Third Sunday of Easter  
April 23, 2023**

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME** ~ This is the third Sunday of Easter. This is a time for remembering we walk in the presence of the risen Christ. This is a place for recognizing Christ's living presence with us as we gather, as we listen, as we talk, as we journey, as we walk in his footsteps together.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

We welcome Enzo Oliveira today, a Penn State Masters of Music student from Brazil. Enzo will share some of his journey and joy of music as well as help us to honor in music 'Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day' (tomorrow April 24) and the 'Long Walk' of their people in the early part of the 20th century.

**\*HYMN ~ Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!**  
(Joyful, Joyful) with cello accompaniment

PH#104

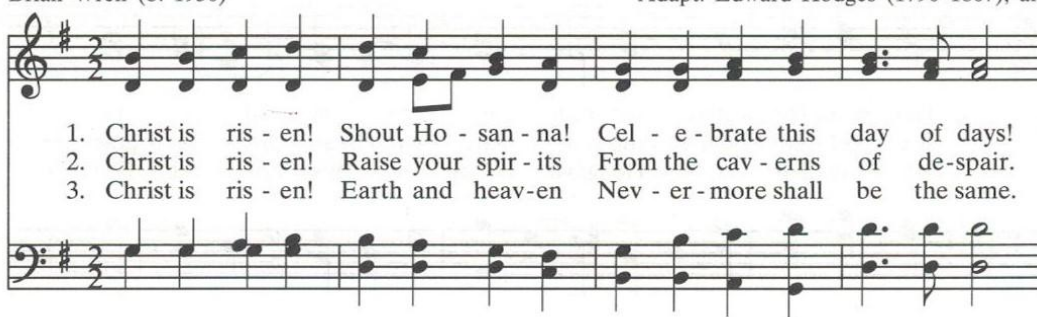
EASTER

# 104 Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

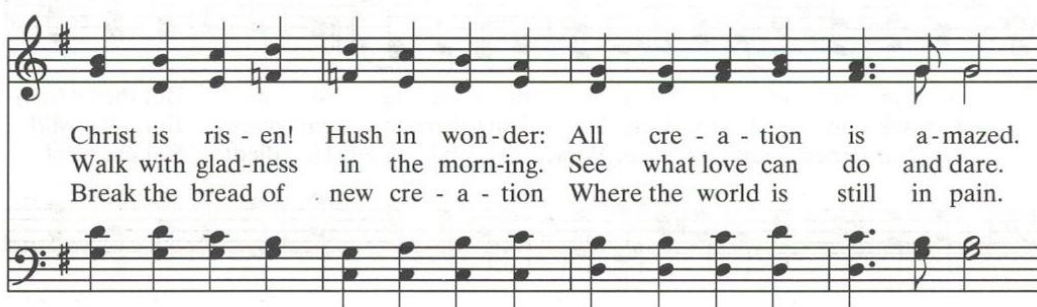
HYMN TO JOY 8.7.8.7 D

Brian Wren (b. 1936)

Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824  
Adapt. Edward Hodges (1796-1867); alt.



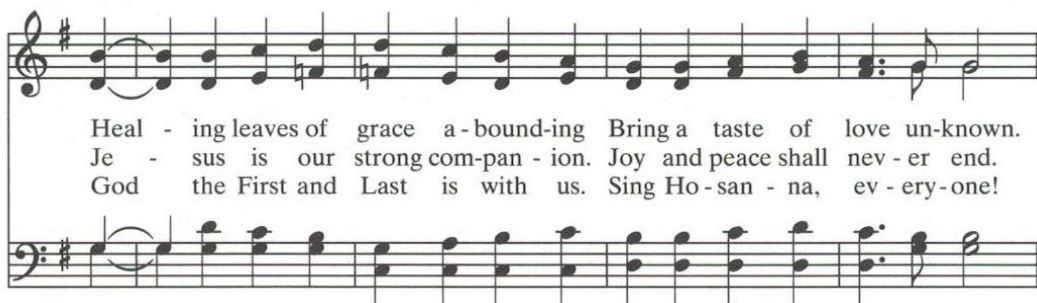
1. Christ is ris - en! Shout Ho - san - na! Cel - e - brate this day of days!  
2. Christ is ris - en! Raise your spir - its From the cav - erns of de - spair.  
3. Christ is ris - en! Earth and heav - en Nev - er - more shall be the same.



Christ is ris - en! Hush in won - der: All cre - a - tion is a - mazed.  
Walk with glad - ness in the morn - ing. See what love can do and dare.  
Break the bread of new cre - a - tion Where the world is still in pain.



In the des - ert all - sur - round - ing, See, a spread - ing tree has grown.  
Drink the wine of res - ur - rec - tion, Not a ser - vant, but a friend.  
Tell its grim, de - mon - ic cho - rus: "Christ is ris - en! Get you gone!"



Heal - ing leaves of grace a - bound - ing Bring a taste of love un - known.  
Je - sus is our strong com - pan - ion. Joy and peace shall nev - er end.  
God the First and Last is with us. Sing Ho - san - na, ev - ery - one!

**\*CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS**

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

C **Amen**

P 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.

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 we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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**


P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

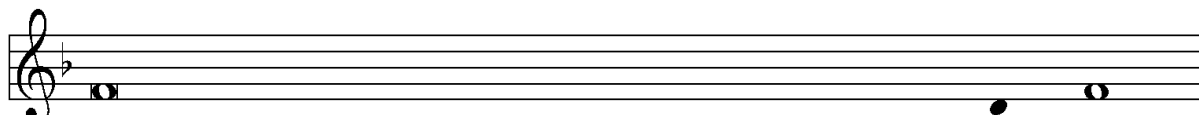
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**


**\*KYRIE**



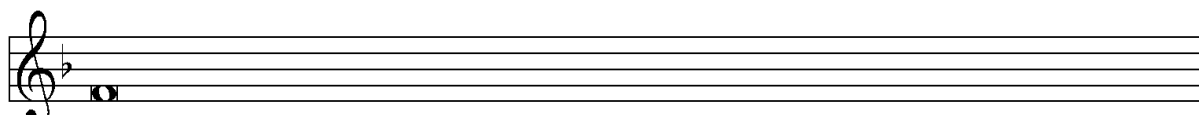
**A** In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



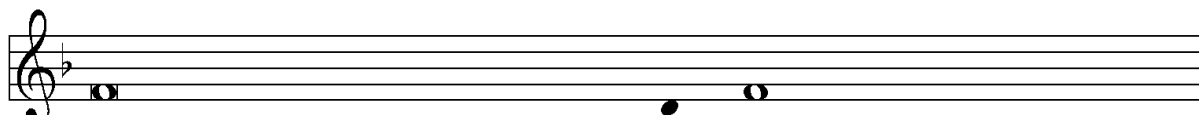
**A** For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



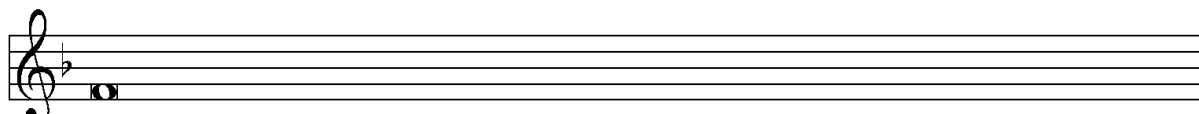
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



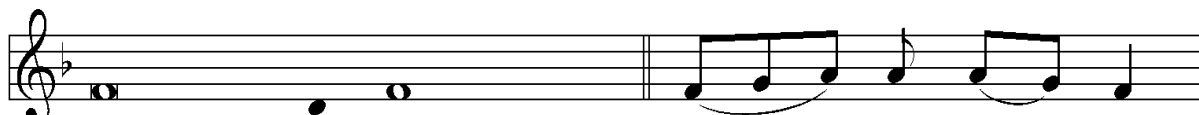
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **C** A - men

**\*HYMN of PRAISE**



Ⓐ Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



Ⓑ Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther:



We wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men

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



P Let us pray...

O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**LESSONS**

First Lesson ~ A reading from Acts 2:14, 36-41

*after the reading*

R The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 ~ *with response*

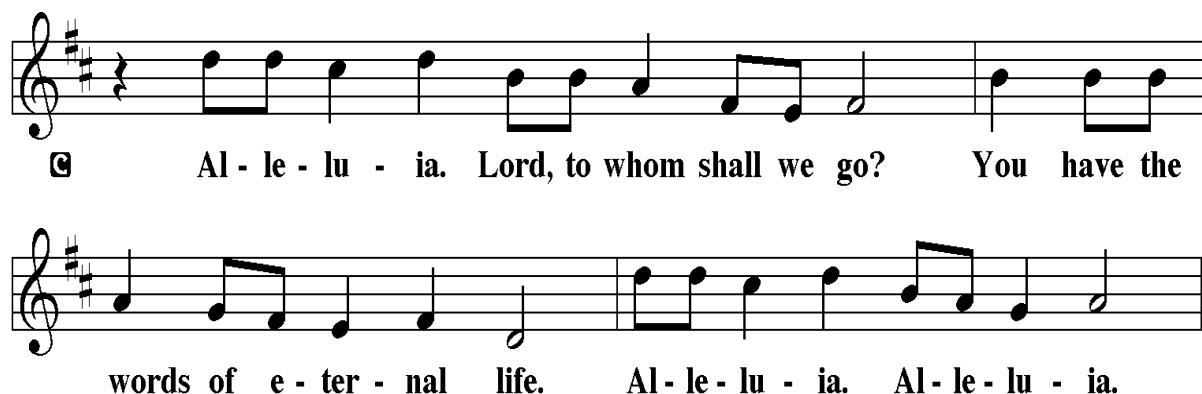
Second Lesson ~ A reading from 1 Peter 1:17-23

*after the reading*

R The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

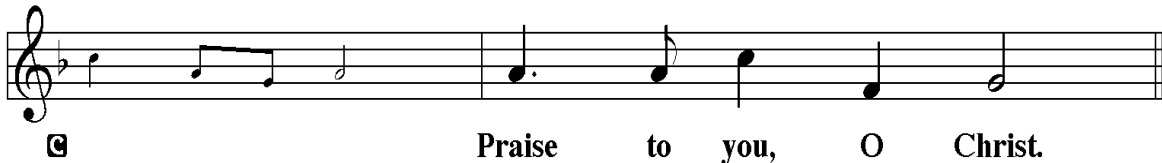


Gospel Reading ~ P The Holy Gospel according to John the 24<sup>th</sup> chapter.



*The Gospel is read. After the reading*

P The Gospel of the Lord



**MESSAGE** ~ *How Long a Walk? How Great a Joy?*

**PRAYER** *Remembering the 'long walk' of the Armenian Genocide.  
Prayer for recognizing the Love of God always in our midst.*

**SPECIAL MUSIC** ~ *1st Movement Shostokovich Cello Sonata* Enzo Oliveira

**\*APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.\*  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again 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**

**OFFERING** ~ you may leave your gifts in one of the offering plates at the end of the front and back pews.



## \*OFFERTORY



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -  
 it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take  
 not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the  
 joy of your sal-va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

## \*PRAYERS of the PEOPLE ~ See Celebrate

P United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

## \*THE LORD'S PRAYER

P 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

## SPECIAL MUSIC ~ from the Bach Cello Suites

Enzo Oliveira

## \*THE BLESSING

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

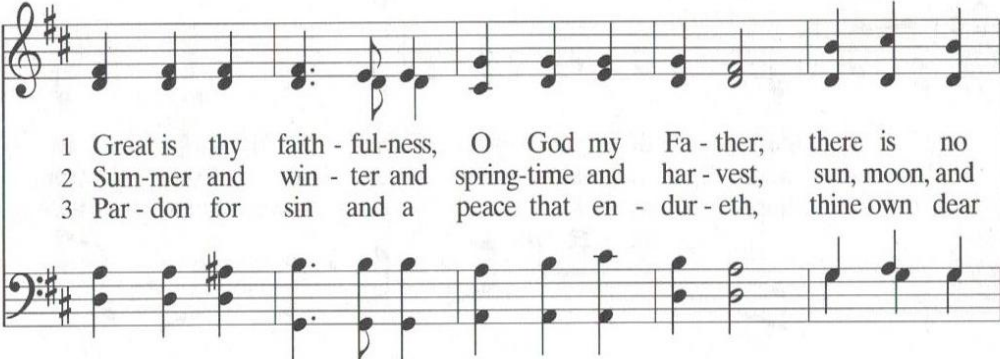


\*HYMN ~ Great Is Thy Faithfulness

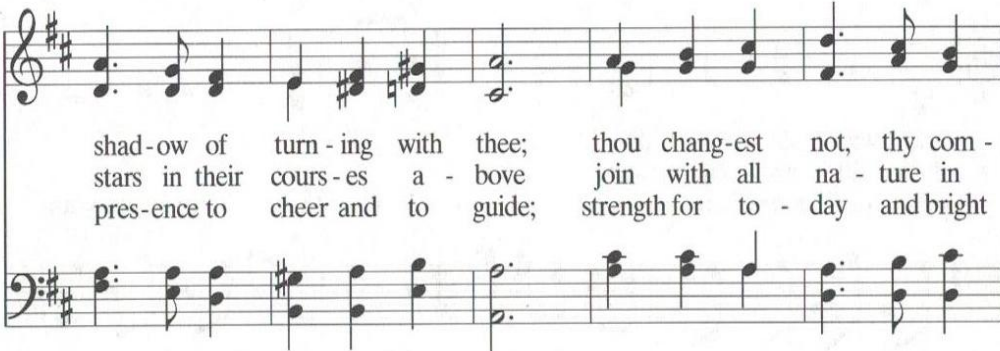
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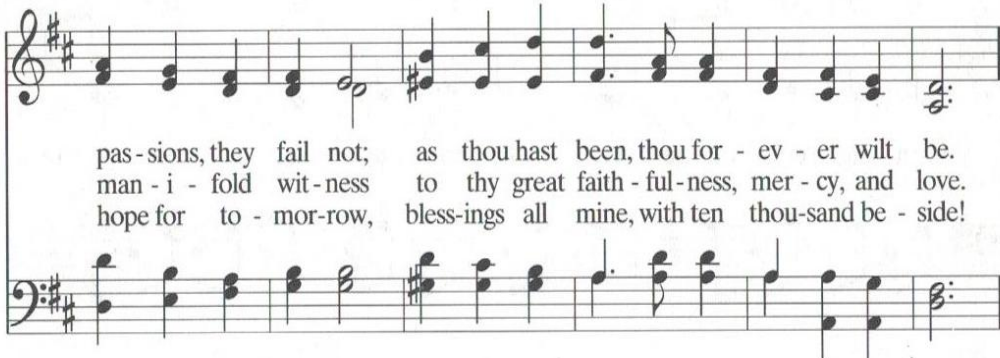
# Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1 Great is thy faith - ful-ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no  
 2 Sum-mer and win - ter and spring-time and har - vest, sun, moon, and  
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear



shad-ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang-est not, thy com -  
 stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in  
 pres-ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright



pas-sions, they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
 man - i - fold wit-ness to thy great faith - ful-ness, mer - cy, and love.  
 hope for to - mor-row, bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be - side!

Refrain



Great is thy faith - ful-ness! Great is thy faith - ful-ness!

**\*DISMISSAL**

P Go in Peace. Serve the Lord

**R Thanks be to God**

**POSTLUDE**

**Pastor:** Reverend Ela J. Robertson Phone 740-338-7123

**Organist:** Seulki Susie Yoo

**Today**

**Altar Care:** Joy Byler; **Greeter:** Jay Byler

**Lay Reader:** Jami Zook; **Sound:** Jay Byler

**Next Sunday, April 30**

**Altar Care:** Joy Byler; **Greeters:** Jami Zook and Mike Boring

**Lay Reader:** Jami Zook; **Sound:** Ed Bilich

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

**FROM the PASTOR**

**SPECIAL GUEST TODAY**

Enzo Cipriani Oliviera, a Penn State Music Masters student from Brazil, visits with us today. When I first met him and asked what he most missed about his country - he said his mom! His mother has been associated with the Presbyterian Church in Brazil and surprisingly they already knew much about the Amish. We welcome having him at St. Johns and West Kish today and showing him Big Valley.

## SYNOD ASSEMBLY REPRESENTATIVES

Please consider being a representative from St. Johns to the Synod Assembly. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet people from other churches in our area with similar concerns. This might be particularly useful for people on our transition and call committee. Workshops and worship services are enlightening and enlivening. You may attend one or both days in person or online. Speak to a council member, Pastor or Kelly if you would like to be our representative.

The Upper Susquehanna Synod Assembly will convene on June 16-17, 2023, in Weber Chapel Auditorium (Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove) under the theme “Baptized into Christ: United, Supporting, Serving.” Assembly workshops will focus on leadership and congregation vitality.

Voting members of the Synod Assembly are the rostered leaders of this synod as well as two lay members from each congregation. Once registered, voting members will receive updates via email, and on the synod website and social media pages.

We encourage our smaller congregations to elect voting members to this assembly: We will spend some of our time in discussion about providing for ministry and pastoral care in creative ways that address our current financial and leadership realities.

## 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.

Camp Mt. Luther ~ The church will once again be paying camp fees for any children who would like to attend this summer. If you bring a friend who has never been there, we can get 25% off the registration fee. Program and registration information can be found at [www.campmountluther.org](http://www.campmountluther.org). CML brochures are also available in the narthex. Please contact the church office if interested in attending.

January 1 thru April 19, 2023

Last week's attendance ~ 23      Offering ~ \$ 2,145.00

St. John's ~ Income \$50,160.15    Expense \$58,497.99

Net Income \$ -8,337.84

Daycare ~ Income \$113,431.51    Expense \$111,218.85

Net Income \$2,212.66