

Second Sunday of Easter

April 12, 2026 – 10:30 a.m.

LSB, Holy Communion, Setting One



ST. JOHN'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Prayer before worship:

Risen Lord Jesus Christ, we come before you this day thankful for your glorious resurrection. Scatter doubt and uncertainty, and confirm our faith and trust in you. Come into our midst this day with your life-giving presence and bestow upon us your saving peace. Amen.



Welcome

Prelude

Ringling of the Bells

Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross made be made in remembrance of Baptism

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

C Amen.

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 self-examination

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.

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.

Processional Hymn

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" (LSB 469)



1 "Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day!" Saints on earth and an - gels say;
2 Love's re - deem - ing work is done, Fought the fight, the bat - tle won;
3 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Christ hath burst the gates of hell.
4 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King! Where, O death, is now thy sting?



Raise your joys and tri - umphs high; Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth, re - ply.
Lo! Our Sun's e - clipse is o'er; Lo! He sets in blood no more.
Death in vain for - bids His rise; Christ has o - pened par - a - dise.
Once He died our souls to save; Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave?

5 Soar we now where Christ has led;
Foll'wing our exalted Head.
Made like Him, like Him we rise;
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

6 Hail the Lord of earth and heav'n!
Praise to Thee by both be giv'n!
Thee we greet triumphant now:
Hail, the resurrection, Thou!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-88, alt.
Tune: French, 13th cent.
Text and tune: Public domain

Greeting

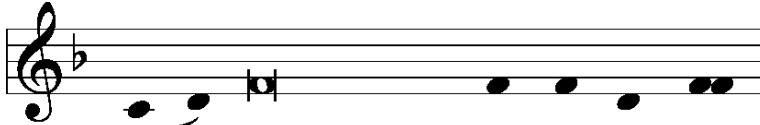
P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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.

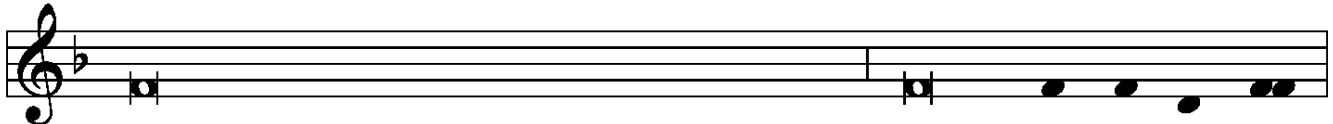
Kyrie



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



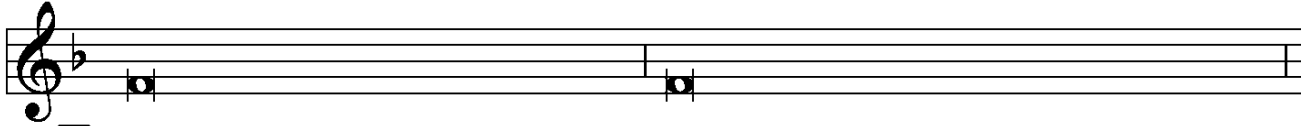
C Lord, have mer - cy.



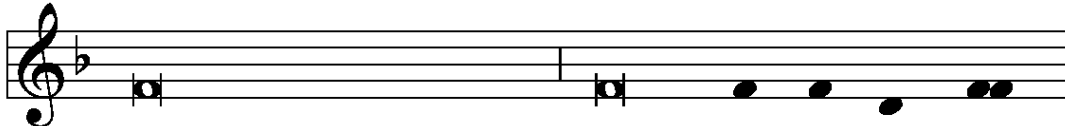
A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



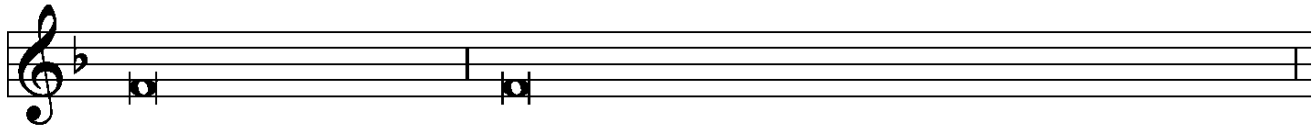
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



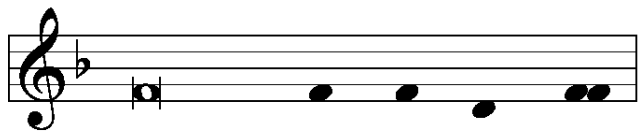
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



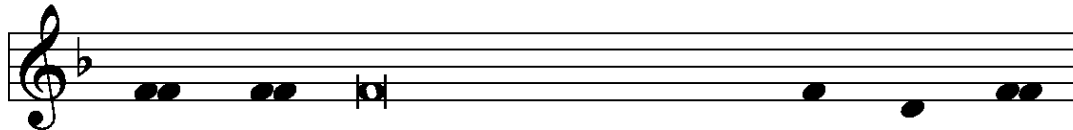
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



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

Refrain



C 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
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
 5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*

join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*

gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

Final Refrain

This is the feast of vic-tory for our God.

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

Prayer for Easter Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And al-so 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.

Children's Message

First Reading

Acts 5:29-42

²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. ³⁰The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

³³When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. ³⁴But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. ³⁵And he said to them, "Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. ³⁶For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. ³⁷After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered. ³⁸So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; ³⁹but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!" So they took his advice, ⁴⁰and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. ⁴¹Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. ⁴²And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm (*read responsively*)

Psalm 148

L Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise him in the heights!

C Praise him, all his angels;
praise him, all his hosts!

L Praise him, sun and moon,
praise him, all you shining stars!

C Praise him, you highest heavens,
and you waters above the heavens!

- L** Let them praise the name of the LORD!
For he commanded and they were created.
- C** **And he established them forever and ever;
he gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.**
- L** Praise the LORD from the earth,
you great sea creatures and all deeps,
- C** **fire and hail, snow and mist,
stormy wind fulfilling his word!**
- L** Mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars!
- C** **Beasts and all livestock,
creeping things and flying birds!**
- L** Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the earth!
- C** **Young men and maidens together,
old men and children!**
- L** Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for his name alone is exalted;
his majesty is above earth and heaven.
- C** **He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his saints,
for the people of Israel who are near to him.
Praise the LORD!**

Epistle

1 Peter 1:3-9

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. ⁸Though you have not seen

him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, ⁹obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse



C 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.

Holy Gospel

John 20:19–31

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



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

*Please join in reading aloud the **bolded portion** of Scripture and consider committing this passage to memory in the week ahead.*

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

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

can I trust The news that I've re - ceived?
 am a - live With wounds that ev - er show.
 wears the wounds Of scourge and nail and spear.
 Je - sus' name And tell good news a - broad.

Text: Sylvia Dunstan, 1955-1993, © 1991, GIA Publications, Inc.
 Tune: DETROIT, CM; Supplement to *Kentucky Harmony*, 1820; harm. by Gerald H. Knight, 1908-1979, © The Royal School of Church Music

Profession of Faith

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, 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 from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he 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 death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will

come again in glory to judge 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 in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, ✠ and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

P Rejoicing with all the witnesses of the resurrection, let us pray in confidence for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Special prayer requests are announced followed by a brief silence for private prayer.

During the season of Easter each petition ends with the phrase:

"Hear us, O God."

Please respond by saying: "Your mercy is great."

The prayers end with the words:

P In resurrection hope we commend to you all for whom we pray, trusting in the promise of new life; through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C Amen.

Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying,

"Peace be with you,"

as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).

Announcements

Offertory Prayer

L Let us pray: Blessed are you,

C O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface



P The Lord be with you.



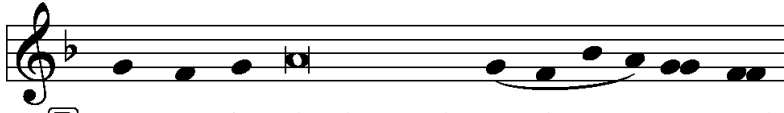
C And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



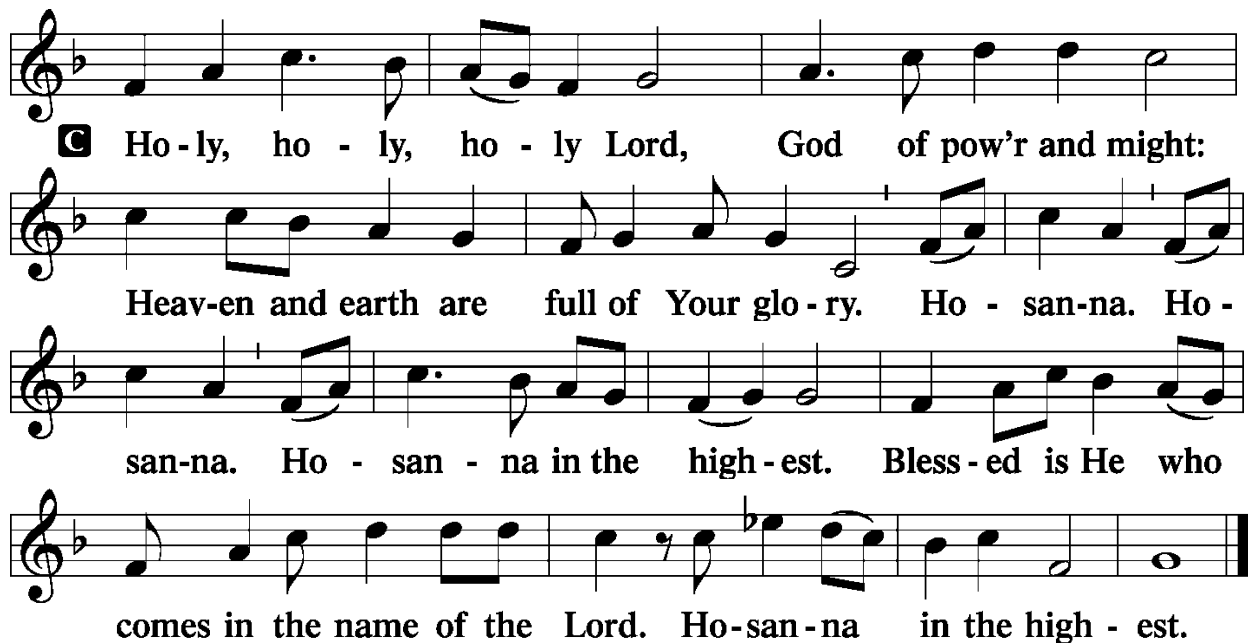
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and ever-living God. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by his 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:

Sanctus



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

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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.

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."

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

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.

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

G 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.
Please be seated

Distribution of Holy Communion

Lutheran Christians believe and teach that in the Sacrament of the Altar, Christ's body and blood are given to those who receive the bread and wine. With the bread and wine, the gifts of His body and blood are given to Christ's people for forgiveness of sins, strength for our journey of faith, and a foretaste of the heavenly banquet. All who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and who trust His words that these gifts are given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins, are invited to receive the Eucharist.

Please follow the direction of the ushers to come to the Lord's Table. The bread will be distributed first. **Gluten-free wafers** are available for those who may need these. Please indicate this to the pastor at the distribution. The wine is then received by individual glasses only. Non-alcoholic grape juice is available for those who for medical or recovery purposes must abstain from alcohol.

Children who do not receive the Sacrament are invited to come forward and receive a blessing. Please cross arms over chest so the pastor and lay assistant are able to distinguish children who do commune from those who do not yet receive the Sacrament.

For additional self-preparation to receive the Sacrament, please see "Christian Questions with Their Answers" beginning on page 1351 in the pew Bible.

Music at Distribution

"O Sons and Daughters of the King"

(LSB 470)



1 O sons and daugh - ters of the King, Whom heav'n - ly
2 That Eas - ter morn, at break of day, The faith - ful
3 An an - gel clad in white they see, Who sits and
4 That night the a - pos - tles met in fear; A - mong them



hosts in glo - ry sing, To - day the grave has lost its sting!
wom - en went their way To seek the tomb where Je - sus lay.
speaks un - to the three, "Your Lord will go to Gal - i - lee."
came their mas - ter dear And said, "My peace be with you here."



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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

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

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

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

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: attr. Jean Tisserand, d. 1494; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt., Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615, Text and tune: Public domain

"Scatter the Darkness, Break the Gloom"

(LSB 481)



1 Scat - ter the dark - ness, break the gloom; Sun, re - veal an
 2 Bear - ing the stan - dard from on high As the Lamb of
 3 Ban - ners of tri - umph, be un - furled! Trum - pets, sound through-



emp - ty tomb Shin - ing with joy for all our sor - rows,
 God to die; He who for us, so cruel - ly treat - ed,
 out the world! Cry - ing and sighs, give way to sing - ing:



Hope and peace for all to - mor - rows, Life un - e -
 Lives a - gain— our foes de - feat - ed! Where is your
 Life from death, our Lord is bring - ing! Let there be-



clipsed by doubt and dread: Christ has ris - en from the dead!
 sting, O death and grave? Christ has shown His strength to save!
 gin the ju - bi - lee— Christ has gained the vic - to - ry!

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955
 Tune: French
 Text: © 1995 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005318
 Tune: Public domain

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 - jice 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.

Post-Communion Collect

L 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 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.

C Amen.

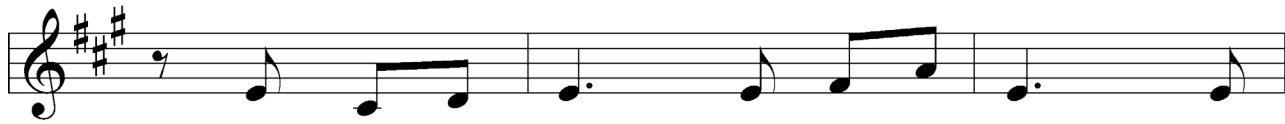
Benediction

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.

Recessional Hymn

"We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight" (LSB 720)



1 We walk by faith and not by sight, No
2 We may not touch His hands and side, Nor
3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; And
4 For You, O res - ur - rect - ed Lord, Are
5 Lord, when our life of faith is done, In



gra - cious words we hear From Him who spoke as
fol - low where He trod; But in His prom - ise
may our faith a - bound To call on You when
found in means di - vine: Be - neath the wa - ter
realms of clear - er light We may be - hold You



none e'er spoke, But we be - lieve Him near.
we re - joice And cry "My Lord and God!"
You are near And seek where You are found.
and the Word, Be - neath the bread and wine.
as You are, With full and end - less sight.

Text: Henry Alford, 1810-71, alt.

Tune: Marty Haugen, 1950

Text: Public domain

Tune: © 1984 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005318

Postlude

Our Ministry Of Worship

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Officiant/Preacher | Pastor Meehan |
| Welcome & Children's Message | Jennifer Hills, Director of Discipleship |
| Lay Assistant | Angie Stiens |
| Communion Lay Assistant | Steve Rempe |
| Organist/Pianist | David Leahey, Director of Music |
| Acolyte | Breanna Tillman |
| Ushers | Benjamin May Michelle May |
| Altar Care | Karen Kemmet |
| AV Operator | Scott Budizen Caroline Ehlers |
| Welcome Host | Joseph Godwin |
| Nursery | Emily Seaton Anita Bradford |

Acknowledgments

Holy Communion, Setting One from "Lutheran Service Book" © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved.

Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. LSB Hymn License 200-2399. LS Builder Support NH 200-299.

Reprinted/Podcast/Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-701520. All rights reserved.



St. John's Lutheran Church
5952 Franconia Road
Alexandria, VA 22310



A member congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

Church and ECEC Staff

| | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Pastor | Rev. John Meehan | pastor.meehan@sjlc.com |
| Director of Discipleship | Jennifer Hills, DCE | jennifer.hills@sjlc.com |
| Director of Music | David Leahey | david.leahey@sjlc.com |
| Office Administrator | Michelle May | office@sjlc.com |
| Finance Administrator | Jennifer Smith | finance@sjlc.com |
| Director of ECEC | Amanda Parks | ecec@sjlc.com |
| ECEC Administrator | Kari Wells | ecec.admin@sjlc.com |

Contact Information

Office: (703) 971-2210

ECEC: (703) 971-3581

Website: www.sjlc.com

