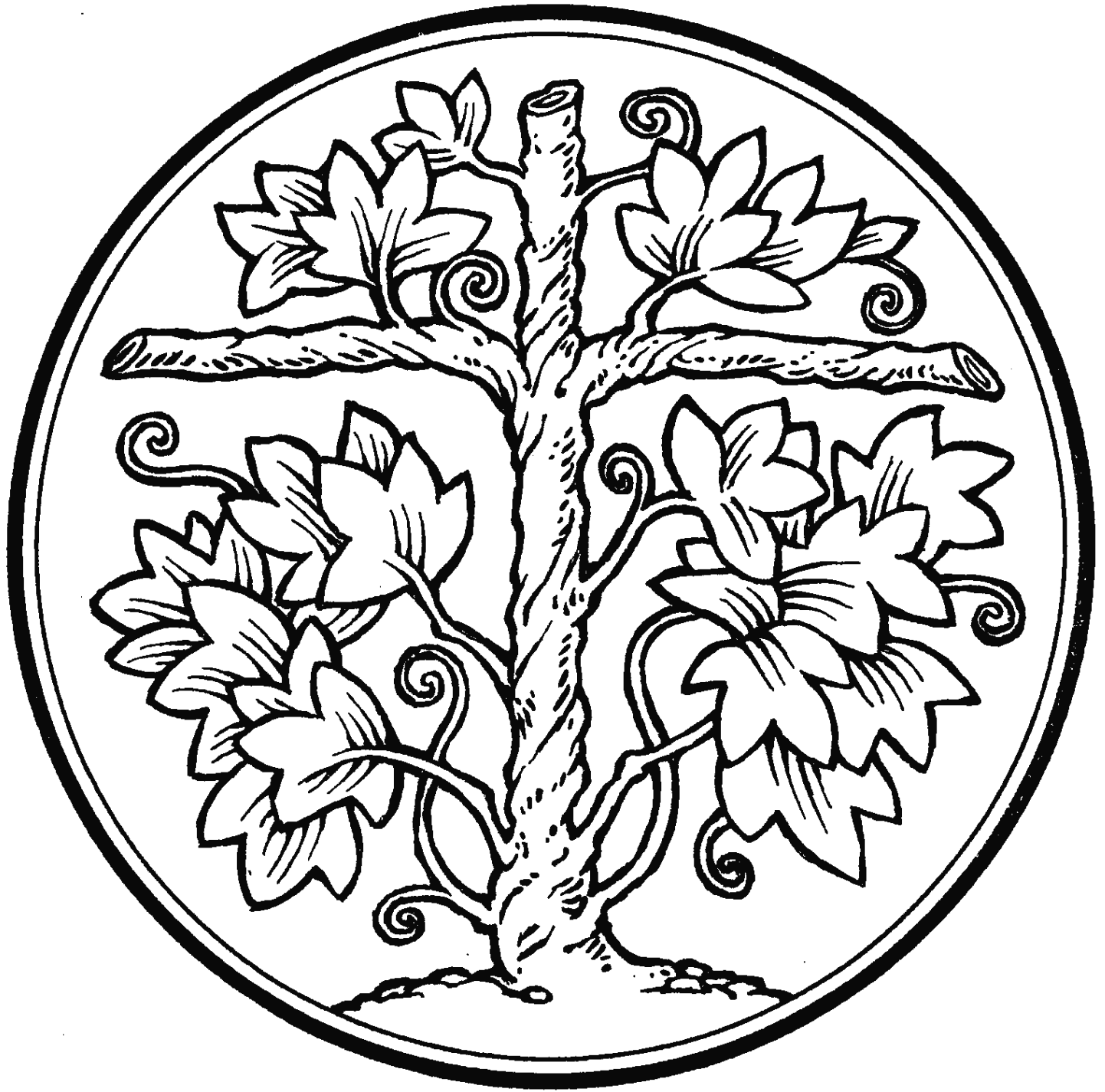


# Wheat Ridge Lutheran Church

Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024



I Am the True Vine

John 15:1-8

## 481 Scatter the Darkness, Break the Gloom



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. 110000740

Tune: Public domain

## Confession and Absolution

*Stand*

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

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

*Kneel/Stand*

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

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

**P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I 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 145:1-2, 8, 10, 21; antiphon: John 16:16*

A little while, and you will see me no | longer,\*  
and again a little while, and you will | see me.  
I will extol you, my | God and King,\*  
and bless your name forever and | ever.  
Every day I will | bless you\*  
and praise your name forever and | ever.  
The LORD is gracious and | merciful,\*  
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.  
All your works shall give thanks to you, | O LORD,\*  
and all your saints shall | bless you!  
My mouth will speak the praise | of the LORD,\*  
and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and | ever.  
**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.**  
A little while, and you will see me no | longer,\*  
and again a little while, and you will | see me.

### Kyrie

LSB 186

**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

### Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187

**P** Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward

men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor-ship Thee,

we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al-mighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-

on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. A-men.

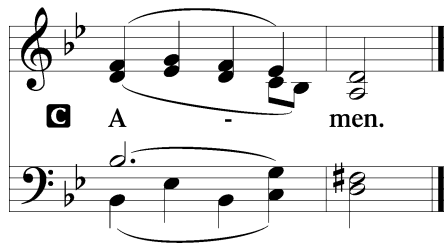
**Salutation and Collect of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spir-it.

**P** Let us pray.

**P** O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

## First Reading

*Acts 8:26–40*

<sup>26</sup>An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is a desert place. <sup>27</sup>And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup>and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>And the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and join this chariot.” <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” <sup>31</sup>And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. <sup>32</sup>Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter  
and like a lamb before its shearer is silent,  
so he opens not his mouth.

<sup>33</sup>In his humiliation justice was denied him.  
Who can describe his generation?  
For his life is taken away from the earth.”

<sup>34</sup>And the eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” <sup>35</sup>Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?” <sup>38</sup>And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. <sup>39</sup>And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. <sup>40</sup>But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual

*adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6*

Christ has risen | from the dead.\*  
[God the Father] has crowned him with glory and | honor.  
He has given him dominion over the works | of his hands;\*  
he has put all things un- | der his feet.

## Epistle

*1 John 4:1–21*

<sup>1</sup>Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. <sup>2</sup>By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, <sup>3</sup>and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. <sup>4</sup>Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. <sup>5</sup>They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. <sup>6</sup>We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup>In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. <sup>16</sup>So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. <sup>17</sup>By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. <sup>18</sup>There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. <sup>19</sup>We

love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. <sup>21</sup>And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

### Alleluia

*LSB 190*

**C** Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

The musical notation for the Alleluia consists of two staves. The top staff is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features a melody of eighth and quarter notes with some ties. The bottom staff is in G major and 4/4 time, providing a harmonic accompaniment with chords and some moving lines. The lyrics "Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia." are written below the top staff.

### Holy Gospel

*John 15:1–8*

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

**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

The musical notation for the Holy Gospel consists of two staves. The top staff is in G major and 4/4 time, featuring a simple melody of quarter and eighth notes. The bottom staff is in G major and 4/4 time, providing a harmonic accompaniment with chords. The lyrics "Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord." are written below the top staff.

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup>Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

The musical notation for the Holy Gospel consists of two staves. The top staff is in G major and 4/4 time, featuring a simple melody of quarter and eighth notes. The bottom staff is in G major and 4/4 time, providing a harmonic accompaniment with chords. The lyrics "Praise be to Thee, O Christ." are written below the top staff.

### 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  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

### 633 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to  
 2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His  
 3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dread  
 4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide  
 sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—  
 an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um-phane go  
 vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

- 5 Mighty Victim from the sky,  
 Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;  
 You have conquered in the fight,  
 You have brought us life and light.  
 Alleluia!
- 6 Now no more can death appall,  
 Now no more the grave enthrall;  
 You have opened paradise,  
 And Your saints in You shall rise.  
 Alleluia!
- 7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!  
 This alone can sin destroy;



From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,  
Newborn souls in You to be.  
Alleluia!

△ 8 Father, who the crown shall give,  
Savior, by whose death we live,  
Spirit, guide through all our days:  
Three in One, Your name we praise.  
Alleluia!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814–68, alt.  
Tune: Kirchengeseng, 1566, Ivanceice  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

*Stand*

## Offertory

LSB 192



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 Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

*Sit*

## Offering

Stand

## Prayer of the Church

# Service of the Sacrament

## Preface

LSB 194



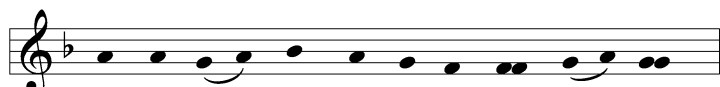
**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spir - it.



**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.

**C** It is meet and right so to do.

**P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

LSB 195

**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;

heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,

ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,

bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.

Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

### Lord's Prayer

**P** 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.

**C** For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the

glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

## The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

**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  $\text{†}$  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  $\text{†}$  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 197



**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.

**C** A - men.

## Agnus Dei

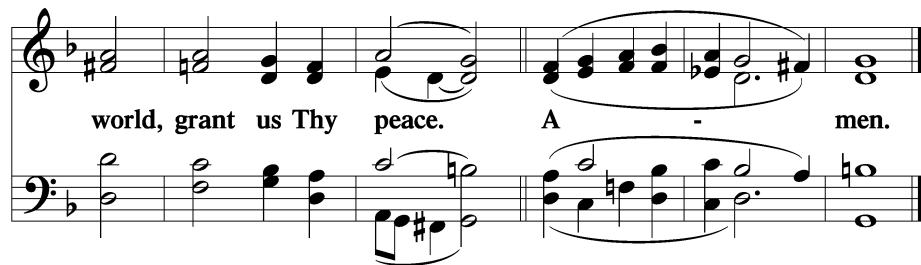
LSB 198

**C** O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the

world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that

tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sit

## Distribution

### 623 Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray



- 1 Lord Je - sus Christ, we hum - bly pray That we may
- 2 Give us, who share this won - drous food, Your bod - y
- 3 By faith Your Word has made us bold To seize the
- 4 One bread, one cup, one bod - y, we, Re - joic - ing
- 5 Lord Je - sus Christ, we hum - bly pray: O keep us



feast on You to - day; Be - neath these forms of  
 bro - ken and Your blood, The grate - ful peace of  
 gift of love re - told; All that You are we  
 in our u - ni - ty, Pro - claim Your love un -  
 stead - fast till that day When each will be Your



bread and wine En - rich us with Your grace di - vine.  
 sins for - giv'n, The cer - tain joys of heirs of heav'n.  
 here re - ceive, And all we are to You we give.  
 til You come To bring Your scat - tered loved ones home.  
 wel - comed guest In heav - en's high and ho - ly feast.

Text: Henry E. Jacobs, 1844–1932, alt.  
 Tune: Cationale Germanicum, 1628, Gochsheim  
 Text and tune: Public domain

### 466 Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia



- 1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia.
- 2 For three long days the grave did its worst
- 3 The an - gel said to them, "Do not fear!
- 4 "Go spread the news: He's not in the grave;
- 5 Christ has a - ris - en; He sets us free;



Re - joice and praise Him, al - le - lu - ia.  
 Un - til its strength by God was dis - persed.  
 You look for Je - sus who is not here.  
 He has a - ris - en this world to save.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, to Him prais - es be.

For our Re - deem - er burst from the tomb,  
 He who gives life did death un - der - go;  
 See for your - selves the tomb is all bare;  
 Je - sus' re - deem - ing la - bors are done;  
 Je - sus is liv - ing! Let us all sing;

E - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.  
 And in its con - quest His might did show.  
 On - ly the grave cloths are ly - ing there."  
 E - ven the bat - tle with sin is won."  
 He reigns tri - um - phant, heav - en - ly King.

*Refrain*

Let us sing praise to Him with end - less joy;

Death's fear - ful sting He has come to de - stroy.

Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Bernard Kyamanywa, 1938; tr. Howard S. Olson, 1922-2010  
 Tune: Tanzanian  
 Text: © 1977 Howard S. Olson. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000740  
 Tune: Public domain

### 473 Our Paschal Lamb, That Sets Us Free

1 Our Pas - chal Lamb, that sets us free, Is sac - ri - ficed. O keep  
 2 Let all our lives now cel - e - brate The feast; let mal - ice die.  
 3 Let all our deeds, u - nan - i - mous, Con - fess Him as our Lord

The feast of free - dom gal - lant - ly; Let al - le - lu - ias leap:  
 Let love grow strong a - new, and great, Let truth stamp out the lie.  
 Who by the Spir - it lives in us, The Fa - ther's liv - ing Word.

*Refrain*

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! A -

gain Sing al - le - lu - ia, cry a - loud: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-76  
 Tune: Walter L. Pelz, 1926  
 Text and tune: © 1974 Augsburg Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000740

## 865 Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain



1 Lord, help us ev - er to re - tain The Cat - e -  
 2 Help us Your ho - ly Law to learn, To mourn our  
 3 Hear us, dear Fa - ther, when we pray For need - ed  
 4 Lord, when we fall or go a - stray, Ab - solve and



chism's — doc - trine plain As Lu - ther taught the  
 sin and from it turn In faith to You and  
 help from day to day That as Your chil - dren  
 lift us up, we pray; And through the Sac - ra -



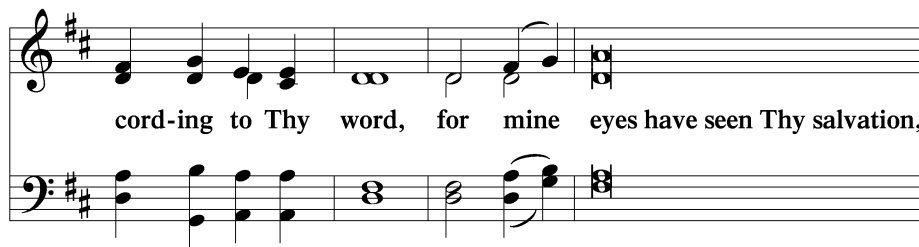
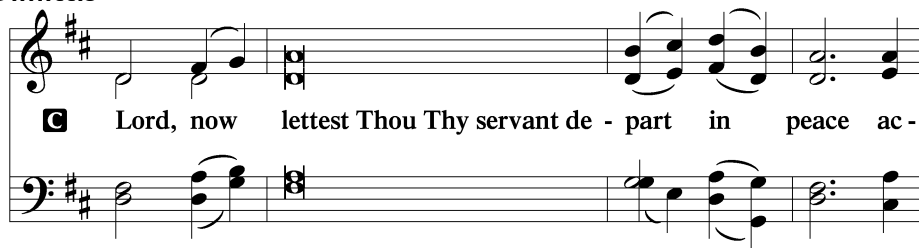
Word of truth In sim - ple style to ten - der youth.  
 to Your Son And Ho - ly Spir - it, Three in One.  
 we may live, Whom You bap - tized and so re - ceived.  
 ment in - crease Our faith till we de - part in peace.

Text: Ludwig Helmbold, 1532-98; tr. Matthias Loy, 1828-1915, alt.  
 Tune: As hymnodus sacer, 1625, Leipzig  
 Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

## Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199



people Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and  
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

### Thanksgiving

LSB 200

**A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,  
**C** and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

**A** 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.

**C** A - men.

**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

**Benedicamus**

LSB 202

**A** Bless we the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Benediction**

LSB 202

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

**C** A - men, a - men, a - men.

**919 Abide, O Dearest Jesus**

1 A - bide, O dear - est Je - sus, A - mong us with Your grace  
 2 A - bide, O dear Re - deem - er, A - mong us with Your Word,  
 3 A - bide with heav'n - ly bright - ness A - mong us, pre - cious Light;  
 4 A - bide with rich - est bless - ings A - mong us, boun - teous Lord;



That Sa - tan may not harm us Nor we to sin give place.  
And thus now and here - af - ter True peace and joy af - ford.  
Your truth di - rect and keep us From er - ror's gloom - y night.  
Let us in grace and wis - dom Grow dai - ly through Your Word.

5 Abide with Your protection  
Among us, Lord, our strength,  
Lest world and Satan fell us  
And overcome at length.

6 Abide, O faithful Savior,  
Among us with Your love;  
Grant steadfastness and help us  
To reach our home above.

Text: Josua Stegmann, 1588–1632; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.  
Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615  
Text and tune: Public domain

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Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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