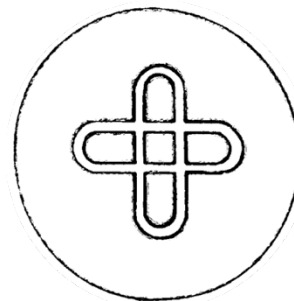


# St Mark Lutheran Church

## Service of Holy Communion



*Welcome to this divine service of worship!*

Plain font indicates portions of the liturgy shared by worship leaders.

**Bold font indicates portions of the liturgy shared by the congregation.**

*The obelisk ( † ) invites the congregation to stand as it is able.*

*The double obelisk ( ‡ ) invites the congregation to kneel or sit as it is able.*

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May 4, 2025: Third Sunday of Easter

9:00am & 11:00am

### Prelude and Preparation for Worship

**God of grace, you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may celebrate your glory and worship you in spirit and truth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### †Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

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. **Amen.**

‡ Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive 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.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God 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. **Amen.**

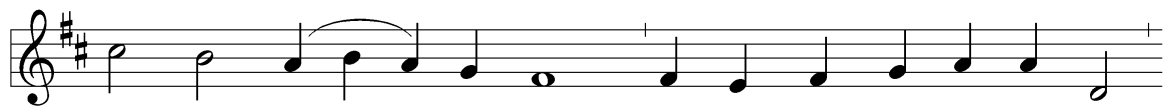
†Hymn: *At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing*

*Text: 17<sup>th</sup> c., tr. Robert Campbell, 1814-1868*

*Tune: SONNE DER GERECHTIGKEIT, Kirchengeseng, 1566*



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-phant 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 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!

†Greeting & Kyrie

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


Kyrie eleison: **Lord, have mercy.**  
 Christe eleison: **Christ, have mercy.**  
 Kyrie eleison: **Lord, have mercy.**

# †Hymn of Praise


*Refrain*




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




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



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.  
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



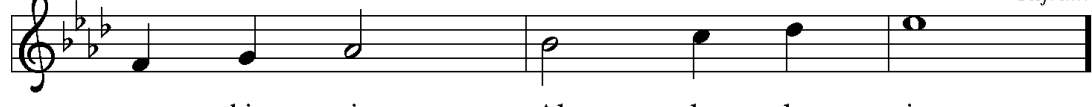
Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and  
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to



*Refrain*  
hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.  
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



*Refrain*  
gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

## †Prayer of the Day

Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

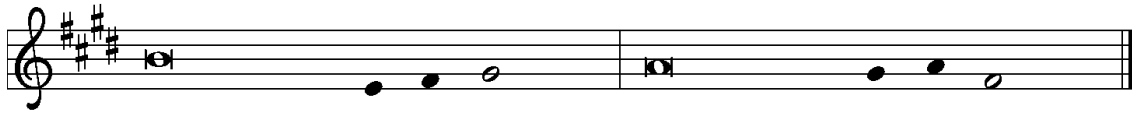
## First Reading: *Acts 9:1-20*

A reading from Acts:

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalmody: *Psalm 30***



I will exalt you, O LORD, because you have lift- | ed me up  
and have not let my enemies triumph | over me.  
O LORD my God, I cried out to you, and you restored | me to health.  
You brought me up, O LORD, | from the dead.  
You restored my life as I was going down | to the grave.  
Sing praise to the LORD, all you faithful; give thanks in ho- | ly remembrance.

**God's wrath is short; God's favor | lasts a lifetime.**

**Weeping spends the night, but joy comes | in the morning.**

**While I felt secure, I said, "I shall never | be disturbed.**

**You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong | as the mountains."**

**Then you hid your face, and I was | filled with fear.**

**I cried to you, O LORD; I pleaded with | my Lord, saying,**

"What profit is there in my blood, if I go down | to the pit?

Will the dust praise you or de- | clare your faithfulness?

Hear, O LORD, and have mer- | cy upon me;

O LORD, | be my helper."

**You have turned my wailing | into dancing;**

**you have put off my sackcloth and clothed | me with joy.**

**Therefore my heart sings to you | without ceasing;**

**O LORD my God, I will give you | thanks forever.**

**Second Reading: *Revelation 5:11-14***

A reading from Revelation:

Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, singing with full voice, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, "To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!" And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshiped.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

†Gospel Acclamation

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

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

*Repeat alleluia*

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

†Gospel: *John 21:1-19*

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. + + + When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep."

He said to him the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”

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

Sermon

*Pastor Joel Neübauer*

†Hymn: ***Earth, Earth, Awake!***

*Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923-2007*  
*Tune: STUEMPFLE, Sally Ann Morris, b. 1952*



1 Earth, earth, a - wake! Your prais - es sing! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 2 All na - ture sings of hope re - born! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 3 Win - ter is past; the night is gone! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 4 Praise we the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son! Al - le - lu - ia!



Greet with the dawn your ris - en King! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Christ lives to com - fort those who mourn! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Christ's light, tri - um - phant, brings the dawn! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Praise we the vic - t'ry God has won! Al - le - lu - ia!



Bright suns and stars, your hom - age pay! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 First fruit of all the dead who sleep! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Cre - a - tion spreads its spring-time bloom! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Praise we the Lamb who reigns a - bove! Al - le - lu - ia!



Life reigns a - gain this Eas - ter day! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Prom - ise of joy for all who weep! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Life bursts like flame from death's cold tomb! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Praise we the King whose rule is love! Al - le - lu - ia!

†Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the 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,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who 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 Intercession

*God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.*

Your love sustains the church and its ministries. By that love, equip youth directors, Sunday school teachers, and all who guide formation in the church to nurture vibrant, living faith among your people. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your abundance is made known throughout creation. Preserve oceans and rivers, lakes and estuaries so that all creatures living in them might flourish. Make us wise stewards of our local watersheds. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your wisdom guides all who strive for justice and peace. Strengthen the work of grassroots organizers, especially among communities on the frontlines of justice work. Amplify the voices of those most in need, that their leadership guides the way forward. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your compassion surrounds all who are in need. We pray for all people experiencing poverty and food insecurity, and for all struggling with debt and economic uncertainty. Reassure all who experience hopelessness or need your tender care. Be gentle with all whom we remember aloud on our lips and silently in our hearts including.... Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You invite all people to your table of grace. Make this a community of radical hospitality where all feel loved and celebrated. Show us how to better welcome visitors and bless the ministries of hospitality in this place. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We praise you for the witness of your saints of all times and places. May their lives of faith guide us in our own journeys with you, today and every day. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

*We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. Amen.*

## †Peace and Offering

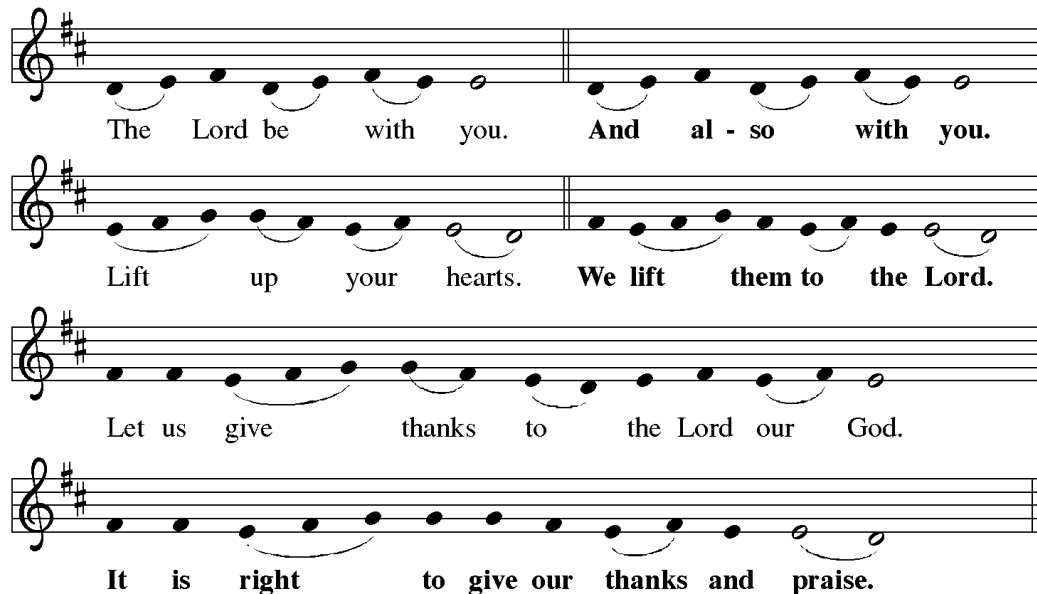
The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

*Our offering is given for the mission of the church, and caring for those in need. Offerings may be shared in the plates at the doors of the sanctuary or online by using this QR code with your smart device. As partners in ministry, we thank God for our shared commitment!*

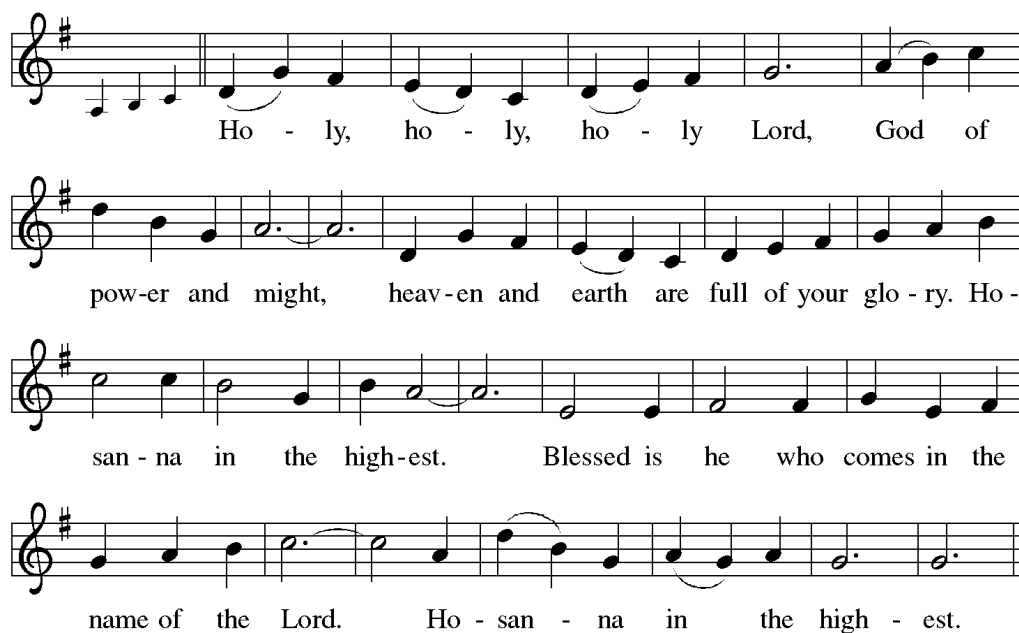


Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, **and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

†Great Thanksgiving (*Dialogue, Preface, Sanctus, Eucharistic and Lord's Prayers*)



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

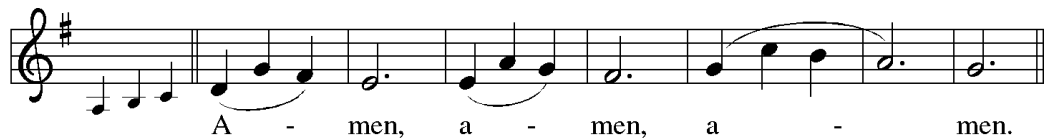


Blessed are you, O Lord our God, sovereign of the universe,  
who calls new life from the dust of Eden,  
who calls new life from the mud pits of Egypt,  
who calls new life from the promised land of Canaan,  
who calls new life from the cross and tomb of Jerusalem.

We thank you for this gift of life, especially for the new life you give in our Lord Jesus  
who, in the night in which he was betrayed, took bread,  
gave thanks, broke it and gave it for them to eat, 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 them to drink, saying,  
“Take and drink, this cup is the new testament in my blood,  
shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

Remembering Christ’s life, death, resurrection and ascension, we await his coming among us.

Send your Holy Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine  
that we might receive Jesus’ body and blood in, with and under them  
and gather us into one body of Christ  
that in him we too may be broken and given for the life of the world.  
Through him all honor and glory is yours, Holy Father,  
with the Holy Spirit, One God, in your holy Church both now & forever.



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

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

***Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo,  
santificado sea tu nombre.  
Venga tu reino.  
Hágase tu voluntad  
en la tierra como en el cielo.  
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día.  
Perdona nuestras ofensas  
como también nosotros  
perdonamos a los que nos ofenden.  
No nos dejes caer en tentación  
y líbranos del mal.  
Porque tuyo es el reino, tuyo es  
el poder y tuya es la gloria,  
ahora y siempre. Amén.***

### †Invitation to Communion

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Agnus Dei

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, grant us peace.

**Communion** — *please see back cover for a note on receiving Holy Communion.*

### †Post Communion Blessing & Prayer

The body & blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you & keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

### †Nunc Dimittis



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -

filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the

sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions

and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

The musical score is written on five staves in treble clef. It features a mix of eighth, quarter, and half notes, with some measures containing rests. The lyrics are placed below the corresponding musical phrases.

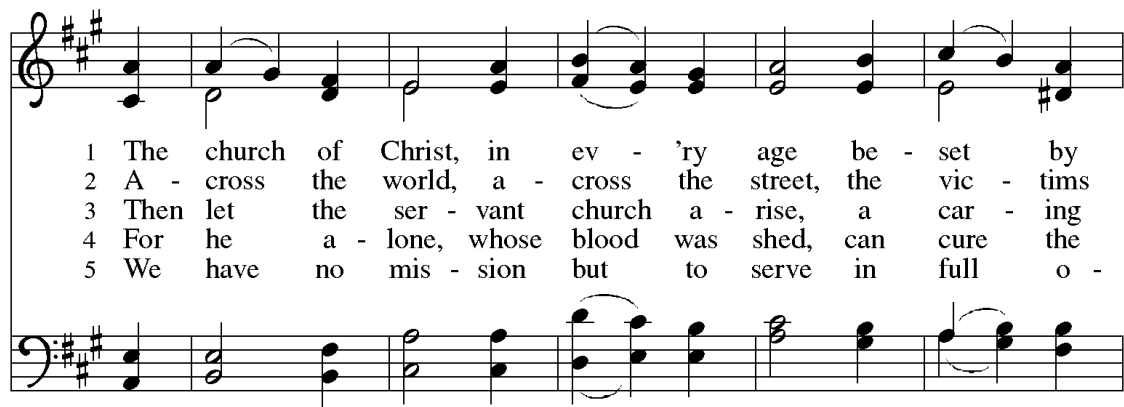
### †Benediction

The LORD bless you and keep you;  
the LORD smile on you and be gracious unto you;  
the LORD look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Amen.**

†Hymn: *The Church of Christ, In Every Age*

*Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000*

*Tune: WAREHAM, William Knapp, 1698-1768*



1 The church of Christ, in ev - 'ry age be - set by  
 2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims  
 3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing  
 4 For he a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the  
 5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -



change, but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its  
 of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for  
 church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's  
 fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to  
 be - dience to our Lord; to care for all, with -



her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.  
 bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.  
 sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.  
 share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.  
 out re - serve, and spread his lib - er - at - ing word.

†Dismissal — *from 3 John 1:2*

Beloved, I pray that all may go well with each one of you, and that you may be in good health, just as it is well with your soul. Go in peace. Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

*Amados y amadas, yo deseo que ustedes sean prosperado en todas las cosas y que tengan salud, así como prosperan sus almas. Vayan en paz. ¡Aleluya! ¡Cristo ha resucitado!*

***¡Verdaderamente ha resucitado! ¡Aleluya!***

**Postlude**

## A Note on Receiving Holy Communion

*Believing in the real presence of Christ, this church practices eucharistic hospitality. All baptized Christians are welcomed to receive Christ's body and blood; all people are welcomed to receive God's blessing in the love and life of Jesus for you today and always.*

*We share Christ's body and blood in bread and wine. After washing hands with rubbing alcohol, the pastor will dip the host into the cup and offer the bread and wine together; to receive the host without wine, please inform the pastor with words or by placing a hand on your chest. Truly Christ is fully present in each element separately. Christ is for you.*

*Communicants will come forward to the feast in continuous procession.*

## PJ's reflection on the Gospel — **John 21:1-14**

They're sinners, friend, not angels, yet they're saints  
as far as Jesus seems concerned, these guys  
who go out fishing—fishing for complaints  
from history: there's Peter, who denies  
God's friendship; Thomas, who demands to see;  
Nathanael, who says nothing good can come  
from Nazareth; the sons of Zebedee  
who vie to reign as kings of Christendom;  
and then two others—you and me, perhaps?—  
and one of us is called Belovèd, who  
stands otherwise unnamed among these chaps,  
but all of us are sinners. Yet the view  
Christ Jesus comes to take of us instead?  
“Be loved as saints and come and break my bread.”

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Parish Administrator: Amanda Kral / [akral@smlconline.org](mailto:akral@smlconline.org)  
Minister of Music: Greta Melson / [music@smlconline.org](mailto:music@smlconline.org)  
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