



A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church In America



SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 27, 2025 - 10:00 AM - in the Gym



Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church

As disciples of Christ working for peace and justice in the world, we welcome, affirm, and embrace all people, without exception, into the fullness of God's love. We advocate for racial, gender, queer, and economic equity. We celebrate people of all cultures, ages, races, sexual orientations, gender identities, gender expressions, physical or mental abilities, socioeconomic statuses, appearances, family status, and citizenship as equally loved and valued in the eyes of God and in this community. All are invited to join us as we worship God, grow in faith, and strive to love and serve one another.

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of their 35th Anniversary by David and Donna Potts.

SERVING TODAY

Presiding Minister	Jon Heiliger
Preaching	Dexter Brecht
Assisting Ministers	Angie McCormack Richard Moose
Pianist and Choir Director	Shelton Ridge Love
Lector	Jay Hilbourn
Prayers	Carol Dorman
Communion Assistants	Rachel Colbourn
Cantor/Soloist	Amanda Cook
Acolyte	Lauren Whitworth
Children's Worship Activity Leaders	Lynn Andrews Amanda Cook
Nursery	Margaret Roth
Praying for Possibilities	Dora Welch
Greeters	Mark Allen Anne Harmon Renee Heiliger Linda Morgan John Roberts Maria Roberts
Ushers	William Bryant Danny Fagala Calvin Harmon
Fellowship Hosts	Jo Lewis, Mary Brown Austin Blythe, Carl Witherspoon
Video	Henry Wilcox
Audio	Gregg Alley

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME AND AFFIRMATION

Please stand as able

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

In the name of ✝ the One

who was, who is, and who is to come.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection,
and called to live the baptized life,
let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God,

we give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that make a people your own,
that restore to wholeness,
and empower us to be witnesses in your name.

Baptized into you, O Living One,

make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that strengthen believers
and give new life to beloved servants of your church;
waters that extend your boundless love
and cross barriers of our own making.

Baptized into you, O Living One,

make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that open the hearts of believers
and give a voice in the night to those in captivity;
waters that set your people on a new path,
rejoicing in the Spirit's power.

Baptized into you, O Living One,

make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One,
that our every day is shaped by these waters
that give us our very lives in you.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

Amen.

**Alleluia! Jesus is risen!
Trumpets resounding in glorious light!
Splendor, the Lamb, heaven forever!
Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!**

Refrain

**Jesus is risen and we shall arise.
Give God the glory! Alleluia!**

**Walking the way, Christ in the center
telling the story to open our eyes;
breaking our bread, giving us glory:
Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise. *Refrain***

**Jesus the vine, we are the branches;
life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree;
heaven to earth, Christ to the people,
gift of the future now flowing to me. *Refrain***

**Weeping, be gone; sorrow, be silent:
death put asunder, and Easter is bright.
Cherubim sing: O grave, be open!
Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light. *Refrain***

**City of God, Easter forever,
golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,
river of life, saints and archangels,
sing with creation to God the I Am! *Refrain***

GREETING

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

CANTICLE 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. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain

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.

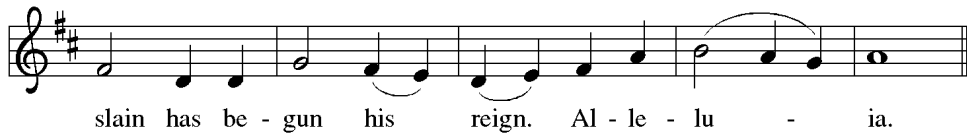
Refrain

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.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord is with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

WORD

FIRST READING

Acts 5:27-32

A reading from Acts.

²⁷ When they had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸ saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." ²⁹ But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰ The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹ God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³² And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm Refrain



You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.

Psalm Tone



- 14 The LORD is my strength | and my song,
and has become | my salvation.
- 15 **Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents | of the righteous:
“The right hand of the | LORD acts valiantly!**
- 16 The right hand of the LORD | is exalted!
The right hand of the | LORD acts valiantly!”
- 17 **I shall not | die, but live,
and declare the works | of the LORD. R**
- 18 The LORD indeed pun- | ished me sorely,
but did not hand me o- | ver to death.
- 19 **Open for me the | gates of righteousness;
I will enter them and give thanks | to the LORD.**
- 20 “This is the gate | of the LORD;
here the righ- | teous may enter.”
- 21 **I give thanks to you, for you have | answered me
and you have become | my salvation. R**
- 22 The stone that the build- | ers rejected
has become the chief | cornerstone.
- 23 **By the LORD has | this been done;
it is marvelous | in our eyes.**
- 24 This is the day that the | LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be | glad in it.
- 25 **Hosanna! | O LORD, save us!
We pray to you, LORD, pros- | per our days! R**
- 26 Blessed is the one who comes in the name | of the LORD;
we bless you from the house | of the LORD.
- 27 **The LORD is God and has giv- | en us light.
Form a procession with branches up to the corners | of the altar.**
- 28 You are my God, and | I will thank you;
you are my God, and I | will exalt you.
- 29 **Give thanks to the LORD, for the | LORD is good;
God’s mercy en- | dures forever. R**

SECOND READING

Revelation 1:4-8

A reading from Revelation.

⁴ From John, To the seven churches in the province of Asia: Grace and peace to you, from the One who is, who was, and who is to come, from the seven spirits before the throne ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the Firstborn from the dead, sovereign of the rulers of the earth. To Christ—who loves us, and who has freed us from our sins by the shedding of blood, ⁶ and who has made us to be a kin-dom of priests to serve our God and Creator—to Jesus Christ be glory and power forever and ever! Amen. ⁷ Look! Christ is coming on the clouds for every eye to see, even those who pierced Jesus, and all the peoples of the earth will mourn over Christ. So be it! Amen. ⁸ “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says our God, “who is, who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

Angie McCormack

Please stand as able

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -

- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -

Hal - le - lu - jah.

lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

The musical score is written for two voices, Treble and Bass, in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps). The melody is primarily composed of chords, with some moving lines in the Treble staff. The lyrics are: 'Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.' The score is divided into three systems, each with a Treble and Bass staff. The first system covers the first line of lyrics. The second system covers the second and third lines. The third system covers the fourth and fifth lines. The piece concludes with a final chord in the Bass staff.

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John the twentieth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the religious authorities, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After Jesus said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw Jesus. ²¹He said to them again, "Peace be with you. As Abba God has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."²⁴But Thomas who was called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But Thomas said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

SERMON

Pastor Dexter Brecht

Please stand as able

**The risen Christ, who walks on wounded feet
from garden tomb through darkened city street,
unlocks the door of grief, despair, and fear,
and speaks a word of peace to all who hear.**

**The risen Christ, who stands with wounded side,
breathes out his Spirit on them to abide
whose faith still wavers, who dare not believe;
new grace, new strength, new purpose they receive.**

**The risen Christ, who breaks with wounded hand
the bread for those who fail to understand,
reveals himself, despite their ling'ring tears,
enflames their hearts, then quickly disappears.**

**May we Christ's body, walk and serve and stand
with those oppressed in this and every land,
till all are blessed and can a blessing be,
restored in Christ to true humanity.**

APOSTLES' CREED

God has made us God's people through our Baptism into Christ.
Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

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.

A brief silence

Inspire the church with the breath of your Holy Spirit, that we proclaim the good news of the resurrection at all times and in all spaces so that more and more people can experience the hope and joy of new life. Inspire pastors and deacons, lay leaders and bishops to boldly proclaim your love for all people, without exception. Hear us, O God,
Your mercy is great.

Preserve the earth as a safe home for all creatures. Restore habitats contaminated by pollution or overuse, strengthen efforts to shape more sustainable communities, and make us mindful of the impact of our daily lives on the well-being of creation and the health and well-being of our neighbors. Hear us, O God,
Your mercy is great.

Kindle in the nations a spirit of cooperation and mutual care. Raise up creative and courageous leaders committed to shaping just solutions to complex challenges in our local and global communities. Renew the passion and energy in our Greenville community to establish and sustain affordable housing so that all your beloveds may rest safely and peacefully each night with a roof over the heads and nutritious food in their bellies. Hear us, O God,
Your mercy is great.

Embrace all who carry wounds, the physical wounds easily seen as well as the emotional wounds that often remain hidden, that they may know compassion and care. Draw near to those with chronic pain and anxiety and ease their suffering. Make a way for them in the wilderness and remind all hurting people that you hold us all in the palm of your hand. We pray for those who stand in special need of your love and care... Hear us, O God,
Your mercy is great.

Transform our fear into curiosity and love, especially across differences in race, religion, gender identity, and economic situation. Unravel stereotypes that lead to discrimination and destroy oppressive systems that marginalize vulnerable communities. We pray especially for the LGBTQIA+ community, our siblings of color, refugees and immigrants, and all who suffer under the weight of injustice. Hear us, O God,
Your mercy is great.

We remember the faithful departed from all times and places. Confident that you are the Alpha and Omega, we pray for your wisdom and guidance until our earthly pilgrimage is complete. 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

The peace of Christ is with you always.

And also with you.

Please share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.

Please be seated

MEAL

OFFERING

*Touch That Soothes and Heals
(See My Hands and Feet)*

Amanda Cook

Music: Gregg DeMey, Text: Mary Louise Bringle

Touch that soothes and heals the hurting, hands that break a loaf of bread;
steps that walk beside the weary, bearing burdens in their stead:

Refrain

"See my hands and feet," said Jesus, love arisen from the grave.

"Be my hands and feet," said Jesus, "live as ones I died to save."

Feed the hungry, clothe the naked, visit ones in need of care,
give the homeless warmth and shelter: Christ will find a welcome there. *Refrain*

Love and serve without distinction all earth's people, first and least.
Know within each act of kindness hope and wholeness are increased. *Refrain*

Hands that beckon little children, bind a wound, prepare a meal,
feet that rush to share good tidings, Christ arisen, still reveal. *Refrain*

Please stand as able

Refrain

***Hail thee, festival day! Blest day to be hallowed forever;
day When our Lord was raised, breaking the kingdom of death.***

**All the fair beauty of earth from the
death of the winter arising! Ev'ry good
gift of the year now with its master returns: *Refrain***

**Rise from the grave now, O Lord, the author of
life and creation. Treading the pathway of
death new life you give to us all: *Refrain***

Let us pray, Risen One,
**you have gathered us around your table of grace
along with these gifts we bring.
Come among us again,
breathe your life into us,
and enliven us with this meal,
that we may live as your risen body in the world.
Amen.**

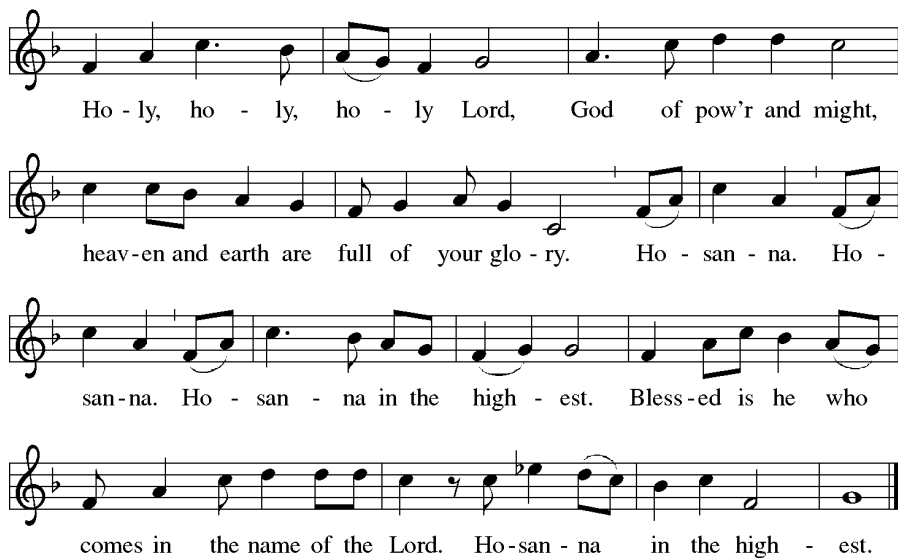
GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord is with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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:



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 all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection,
we await the day when Jesus shall return
to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death.
Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen.

Amen.

Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate,
to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup
with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world.
Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen.

Amen.

Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age,
that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection,
we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table of grace.

The gift of new life belongs to you...to ALL of you!

Thanks be to God!

Please be seated

COMMUNION

All, without exception, are welcome at the table of God's grace and love. Both wine and grape juice are available in the split chalice— wine in the larger section and grape juice in the smaller section. Christ's grace and forgiveness is found in the bread, wine, and grape juice.

Gluten free wafers are available.

At the direction of the ushers, worshippers are invited to move to the front of the center aisle to dip the wafer into the chalice to receive Communion by intinction.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: "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." The word "grant" is underlined in the original image. The score ends with a double bar line.

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.

**Now all the vault of heav'n resounds
in praise of love that still abounds: "Christ has
triumphed! He is living!" Sing, choirs of
angels loud and clear! Repeat their song of glory
here: "Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Eternal is the gift he brings,
therefore our heart with rapture sings: "Christ has
triumphed! He is living!" Now still he
comes to give us life and by his presence stills all
strife. "Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Oh, fill us Lord, with dauntless love;
set heart and will on things above that we
conquer through your triumph; grant grace sufficient
for life's day that by our lives we truly
say: "Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Adoring praises now we bring
and with the heav'nly blessed sing: "Christ has
triumphed! Alleluia!" Be to the
Father, and our Lord, to Spirit blest, most holy
God, all the glory, never ending!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me

#860

**I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me,
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.**

**Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me.
Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me.
Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me,
singing glory hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.**

**When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me,
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.**

**Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.**

**Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now, and touching ev'ry place and time.**

**In ev'ry insult, rift, and war, where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives where even hope has died.**

**Women and men, in age and youth, can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth, reveled in Jesus, freed for all.**

**Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and ev'ry age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise**

Thine Is the Glory

#376

**Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son; endless is the
vict'ry thou o'er death hast won! Angels in bright raiment
rolled the stone away, kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.**

Refrain

***Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won!***

**Lo, Jesus meets thee, risen from the tomb! Lovingly he
greet's thee, scatters fear and gloom; let his church with gladness
hymns of triumph sing, for the Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting! *Refrain***

**No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life; life is naught without
thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than conqu'rors, through
thy deathless love; bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above. *Refrain***

Please stand as able

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

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Living One,
in this feast you have made yourself known to us.
Send us now to tell of your wonders,
sing of your glory,
and proclaim your risen life
to a wounded and weary world.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

The triune God,
who was, who is, and who is to come,
Sovereign, ✚ Savior, and Spirit,
light your way with resurrection dawn,
now and always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises

#535

Refrain

Hallelujah! We sing your praises, all our hearts are filled with gladness. Hallelujah! We sing your praises, all our hearts are filled with gladness. Repeat

**Christ the Lord to us said: I am wine, I am bread,
I am wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hunger.**

**Christ the Lord to us said: I am wine, I am bread,
I am wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hunger. Refrain**

**Now he sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt,
strong in faith, free of doubt. Tell to all the joyful gospel.**

**Now he sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt,
strong in faith, free of doubt. Tell to all the joyful gospel Refrain**

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Following worship, everyone is invited to gather
for refreshments and fellowship in the back corner of the Gym.*

The Risen Christ

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Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

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Alleluia Jesus Is Risen

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Hail Thee, Festival Day

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Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

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Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing

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Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises

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CHURCH STAFF

Susan J. Crowell
Senior Pastor

James C. Parham, III
Associate Pastor for Worship and Music

Patrick D. Preacher
Queer and Justice Ministry Coordinator
Pastoral Intern

Angie H. McCormack
Youth and Children's Ministry Coordinator

Kay M. Cook
Office Manager

Henry W. Wilcox
Accountant and
Digital Media Manager

Karen M. Craig
Administrative Assistant

Roy L. Cook
Facilities Manager

Beth C. Oswald
Nursery Attendant

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Lani Wise
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Mike Boliek
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Danny Fagala

Jaime Fivecoat

Angie Hager

Deirdre Hixson

Dean Hybl

Richard Moose

Donna Potts
Secretary

Lexie Thomas-Harewood
Youth

Patrick Morgan

Jeff Rehm

Margaret Roth

Kerry Sease

Chris Sorenson

Chris Wannemacher