

EASTER VIGIL

In keeping with the Jewish faith of Jesus, a new day begins at sunset rather than sunrise, and so tonight begins the celebration of Easter. We begin outside the church in darkness, symbolizing our separation from God and our yearning to be reunited with God.
A new fire is lit, symbolizing the hope of the Resurrection and the love of God.

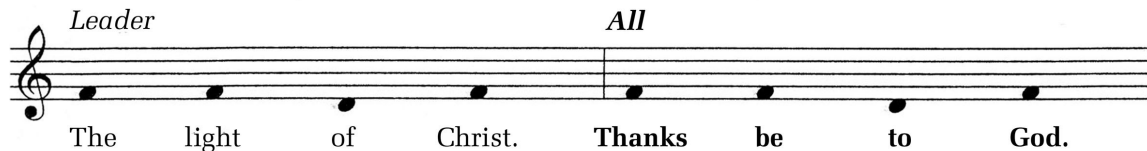
Service of Light

Greetings and Introduction

Minister: Grace and peace from Jesus Christ our Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

Opening Prayer

Lighting of the Paschal Flame



Leader: The light of Christ.
All: Thanks be to God.

Processional and Litany of Saints

*Mindful that on Easter, heaven and earth grow a bit closer,
we call upon the memories of those people of faith who have gone before us.*

Entering the Church

Upon knocking, the doors of the church open to symbolize the opening of Christ's tomb. We enter the sanctuary in darkness. Please take your seats and await the passing of the Light of Christ.



Leader: The light of Christ.
All: Thanks be to God.

Spreading the Light

Leader *All*

The light of Christ. Thanks be to God.

The musical notation is on a single staff. The first part, labeled 'Leader', consists of four quarter notes: C4, E4, G4, and A4. The second part, labeled 'All', consists of four quarter notes: C4, E4, G4, and A4.

Leader: The light of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

Easter Proclamation

All

Re - joice, heav - en - ly pow - ers! Sing, choirs of an - gels!

Je - sus Christ our King is ris - en!

The musical notation is on a single staff. The first line has 10 notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4. The second line has 10 notes: D4, C4, B3, A3, G3, F3, E3, D3, C3, B2.

Leader: Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels! Exult, all creation around God's throne! Jesus Christ our King is risen! Sound the trumpet of salvation!

All: Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!
Jesus Christ our King is risen!

Leader: Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendor, radiant in the brightness of your King! Christ has conquered! Glory fills you! Darkness vanishes forever!

All: Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!
Jesus Christ our King is risen!

Leader: Rejoice, O mother church! Exult in glory! The risen Savior shines upon you! Let this place resound with joy, echoing the mighty song of all God's people!

All: Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!
Jesus Christ our King is risen!

Leader *All*

The Lord — be with you. And al - so with you.

The musical notation is on a single staff. The first part, labeled 'Leader', consists of 8 notes: C4, E4, G4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4. The second part, labeled 'All', consists of 8 notes: C4, E4, G4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4.

Leader *All*

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

The musical notation is on a single staff. The first part, labeled 'Leader', consists of 8 notes: C4, E4, G4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4. The second part, labeled 'All', consists of 8 notes: C4, E4, G4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4.

Leader *All*

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

The musical notation is on a single staff. The first part, labeled 'Leader', consists of 8 notes: C4, E4, G4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4. The second part, labeled 'All', consists of 8 notes: C4, E4, G4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4.

Leader: It is truly right that with full hearts and minds
and voices we should praise you, the unseen God,
the all-powerful creator, and your only Son,
our Lord Jesus Christ, for Christ has ransomed us with his blood
and paid for us the debt of Adam's sin.

All: Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!
Jesus Christ our King is risen!

Leader: This is our Passover feast, when Christ, the true Lamb,
is slain, whose blood consecrates the homes of all believers.
This is the night when first you saved our forebears:
you freed the people of Israel from their slavery and led them
dry-shod through the sea. This is the night when the pillar of fire
destroyed the darkness of sin! This is the night when Christians
everywhere, washed clean from sin and freed from all
defilement, are restored to grace and grow together
in holiness. This is the night when Jesus Christ broke
the chains of death and rose triumphant from the grave.

All: Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!
Jesus Christ our King is risen!

Leader: Lord God, how wonderful your care for us! How boundless
your merciful love! To ransom a slave you gave away your Son.
Most blessed of nights, chosen by God to see Christ rising from
the dead! The power of this holy night dispels all evil,
washes guilt away, restores lost innocence, brings mourners joy;
it casts out hatred, brings us peace, and humbles earthly pride.
Night truly blessed, when heaven is wedded to earth
and we are reconciled with God! Therefore, gracious God,
in the joy of this night, receive our evening sacrifice of praise,
your church's solemn offering. May this Easter candle always
dispel the darkness of this night! May the morning star which
never sets find this flame still burning: Christ, that morning star,
who came back from the dead and shed his peaceful light on
all creation, your Son, who lives and reigns forever and ever.
Amen.

All: Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!
Jesus Christ our King is risen!

As we keep vigil for the Resurrection, we keep our candles lit.

Service of Readings

Reading “The Story of Creation”
Genesis 1:1–2:4a

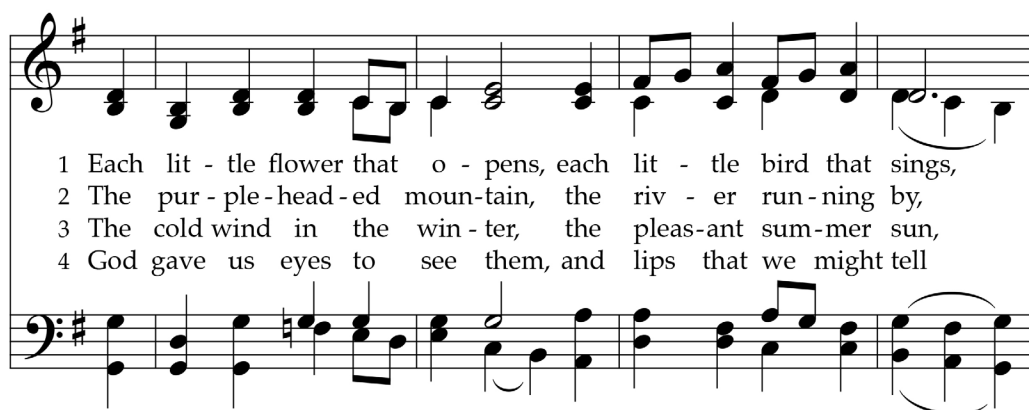
Hymn “All Things Bright and Beautiful”



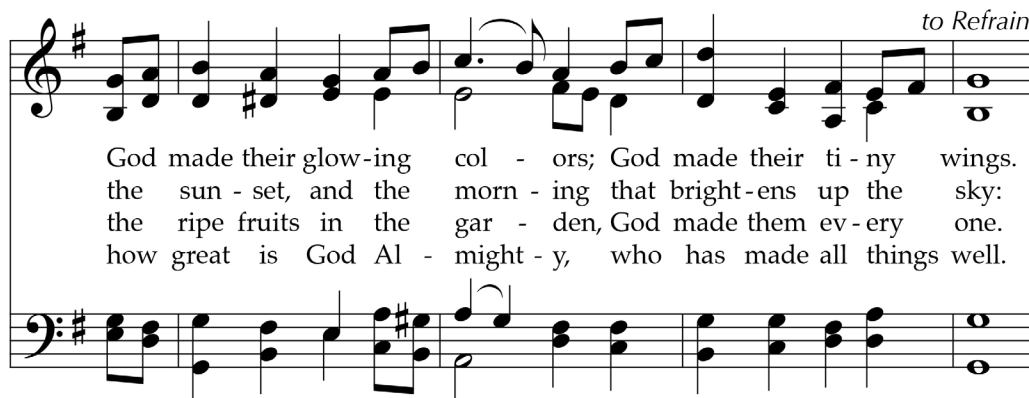
All things bright and beau-ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,



all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all. *Fine*



1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
 2 The pur - ple-head-ed moun-tain, the riv - er run - ning by,
 3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas-ant sum-mer sun,
 4 God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell



God made their glow-ing col - ors; God made their ti - ny wings.
 the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright-ens up the sky:
 the ripe fruits in the gar - den, God made them ev - ery one.
 how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well. *to Refrain*

Reading “The Flood”
Genesis 7:1–5, 11–18; 8:6–18; 9:8–13

Hymn “God Is Our Help, Refuge, and Strength”



God is our help, ref-uge, and strength. In trou-bling times, we will not fear.



God is our help, ref-uge, and strength. In trou-bling times, we will not fear.

Leader: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though
the mountains be toppled in the depths of the sea; though its waters rage
and foam, and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.
The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

All: God is our help, refuge, and strength. In troubling times, we will not fear.
God is our help, refuge, and strength. In troubling times, we will not fear.

Leader: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.
God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be overthrown;
God shall help it at the break of day.
The nations make much ado, and the realms are shaken;
God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away.
The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

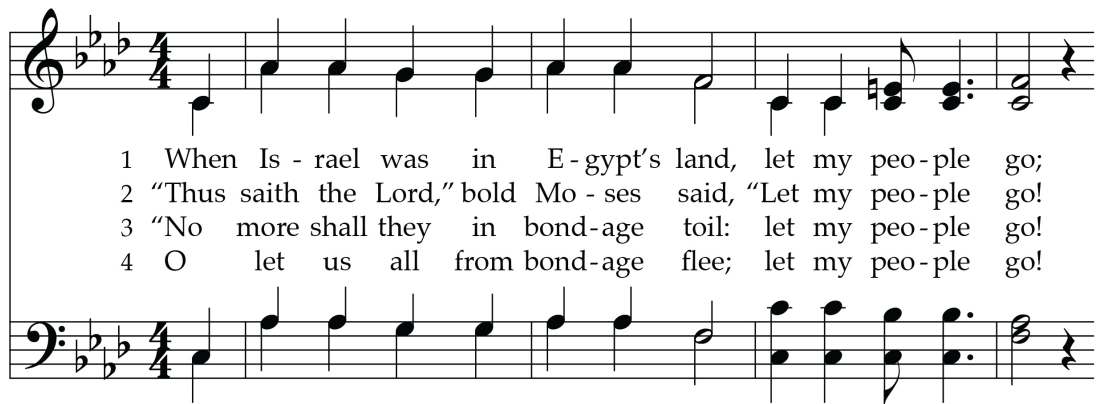
All: God is our help, refuge, and strength. In troubling times, we will not fear.
God is our help, refuge, and strength. In troubling times, we will not fear.

Leader: Come now and look upon the works of the Lord;
what awesome things God has done on earth.
It is the Lord who makes war to cease in all the world,
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.
“Be still, then, and know that I am God; I am exalted among the nations;
I will be exalted in the earth.”
The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

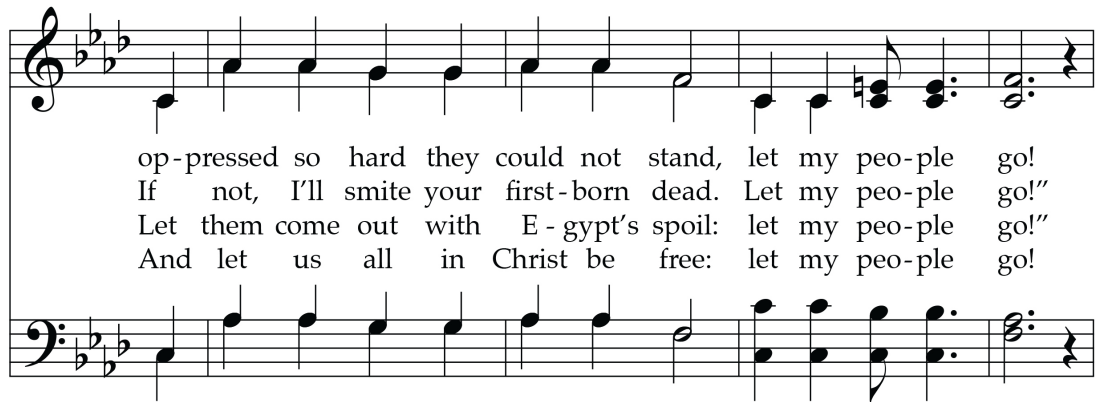
All: God is our help, refuge, and strength. In troubling times, we will not fear.
God is our help, refuge, and strength. In troubling times, we will not fear.

Reading “Israel’s Deliverance at the Red Sea”
Exodus 14:10–31; 15:20–21

Hymn "When Israel Was in Egypt's Land"

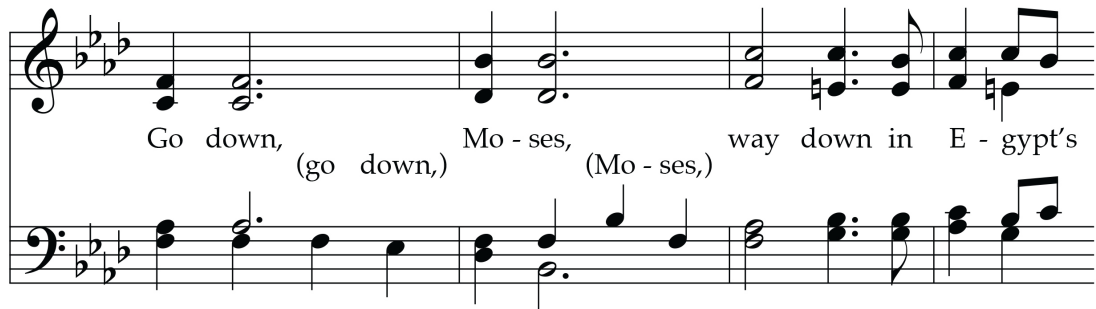


1 When Is - rael was in E - gypt's land, let my peo - ple go;
 2 "Thus saith the Lord," bold Mo - ses said, "Let my peo - ple go!
 3 "No more shall they in bond - age toil: let my peo - ple go!
 4 O let us all from bond - age flee; let my peo - ple go!



op - pressed so hard they could not stand, let my peo - ple go!
 If not, I'll smite your first - born dead. Let my peo - ple go!"
 Let them come out with E - gypt's spoil: let my peo - ple go!"
 And let us all in Christ be free: let my peo - ple go!

Refrain



Go down, (go down,) Mo - ses, (Mo - ses,) way down in E - gypt's



land; tell old Pha - raoh: let my peo - ple go!

Reading "Salvation Offered Freely to All"

Isaiah 55:1-11

Hymn “In the Lord I’ll Be Ever Thankful”

The musical score is written for a two-part setting in 3/4 time, featuring a treble and bass staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is primarily composed of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some chords. The lyrics are: "In the Lord I'll be ev - er thank - ful; in the Lord I will re -
joice! Look to God; do not be a - fraid. Lift up your
voic - es; the Lord is near. Lift up your voic - es; the Lord is near." There are triplets marked with a '3' in the treble staff on the second and fourth lines of music.

Reading “A New Heart and a New Spirit”
Ezekiel 36:24–28

Hymn “As Pants the Deer for Living Streams”



1 As pants the deer for liv - ing streams, in dry or des - ert space,
 2 Tears are my bread both night and day; fools crush me, soul and bone.
 3 Deep calls to deep, the bil - lows roar; they cov - er me with pain.
 4 O send your light to guide me home; my Sav - ior, guide me still.



I thirst for you, O liv - ing God; I long to see your face!
 They laugh and ask, “Where is your God?” I hope in you a - lone.
 I cry for heal - ing and for home; God, show your love a - gain!
 With shout-ing pil - grims I will come to climb your ho - ly hill.



O how I miss the hap - py days when with the throng I’d praise!
 Why cast me off? Where have you gone? Why is your grace with-drawn?
 With-out your peo - ple, who am I? With-out you I will die.
 Then with the harp I’ll sing your praise; my hap - py voice I’ll raise.



Take cour - age now, my trem - bling heart, for God will take your part!

Reading “The Valley of the Dry Bones”
Ezekiel 37:1-14

Solo “Dry Bones” African American spiritual

Proclamation of the Resurrection

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

*Ringing of Bells

Please extinguish your candles and move to the front of the sanctuary.

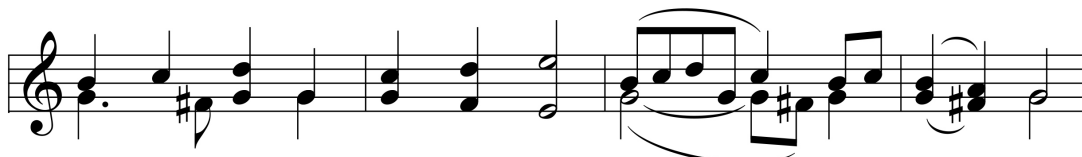
*Hymn "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"



1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day,
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 But the pains which he en - dured,
4 Sing we to our God a - bove,



our tri - um - phant ho - ly day,
un - to Christ, our heaven - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!
our sal - va - tion have pro - cured.
praise e - ter - nal as God's love.



who did once up - on the cross,
who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
Now a - bove the sky he's King,
Praise our God, ye heaven - ly host,



suf - fer to re - deem our loss.
sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
where the an - gels ev - er sing.
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Prayer of the Day

Epistle Reading Romans 6:3–11

Psalm 114 (*All sing this refrain after each of the verses.*)

REFRAIN



1. When Israel came out of Egypt,
and Jacob from a foreign land,
Judah became the Lord's holy people,
and Israel the dominion of God.

Refrain: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

2. The sea looked and ran away.
The Jordan River turned back;
the mountains skipped like rams,
and the little hills like young sheep.

Refrain: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

3. Sea, what makes you run away?
O Jordan, why did you turn back?
Why, mountains, do you skip like rams,
and you, little hills, like young sheep?

Refrain: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

4. Tremble, O earth, before the Lord,
at the coming of the God of Jacob,
who turns the rock into a pool of water,
the granite cliff into a fountain.

Refrain: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel Reading Mark 16:1–8

Sermon "Paschal Homily" St. John Chrysostom, Fourth Century

***Hymn**..... “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!”

1 “Christ the Lord is risen to - day!”
 2 Love’s re-deem-ing work is done, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King,
 4 Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!

All cre - a - tion, join to say:
 Fought the fight, the bat - tle won,
 Where, O death, is now your sting? Al - le - lu - ia!
 Praise to you by both be given,

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high,
 Death in vain for - bids him rise,
 Je - sus died, our souls to save, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Ev - ery knee to you shall bow,

Sing, O heavens, and earth re - ply,
 Christ has o - pened par - a - dise.
 Where your vic - to - ry, O grave? Al - le - lu - ia!
 Ris - en Christ, tri - um - phant now.

Reaffirmation of Baptisms

Invitation

***Profession of Faith**

Minister: Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world? Do you?

People: I do.

Minister: Who is your Lord and Savior?

People: Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.

Minister: Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love? Will you?

People: I will, with God's help.

***Apostles' Creed** (*unison*)

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
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 again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Thanksgiving for Baptism and Act of Remembrance

*Hymn. "Baptized in Water"



1 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the
2 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the
3 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the



blood of Christ our King; heirs of sal - va - tion, trust - ing the
tomb with Christ our King; one with his ris - ing, freed and for -
sign of Christ our King; born of the Spir - it, we are God's



prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.
giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.
chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

Minister: As we prepare to come to the table of our Lord,
let us not be strangers to one another,
but family in Christ.
May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

We invite you to greet those around you, wishing them "peace" or "the peace of Christ."

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation

Minister: Christ is risen!

People: Christ is risen indeed!

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to God.

Minister: Let us give thanks to God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

Minister: . . . who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Sanctus (*sung*) The Hymnal, 565

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth
are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Minister: All-embracing God . . . that we might live in love.

Memorial Acclamation (*sung*) The Hymnal, 566

All: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.
Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead
us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

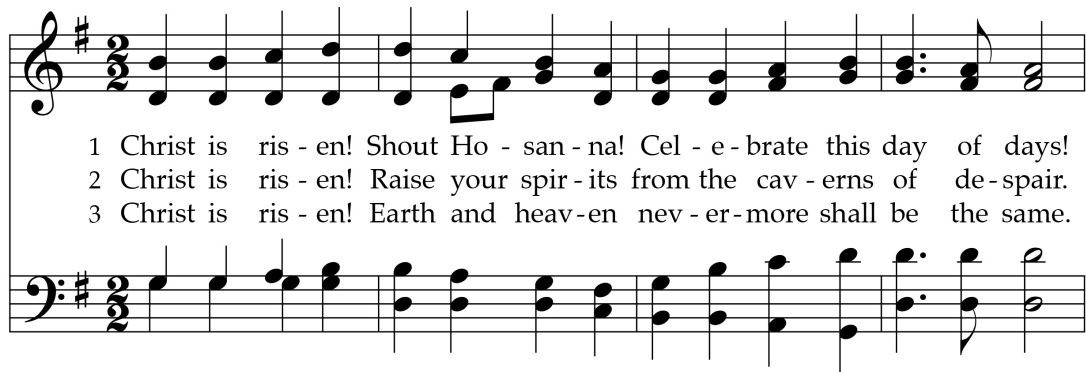
The Communion

Communion Solo "Up, Up My Heart with Gladness" Johann Sebastian Bach

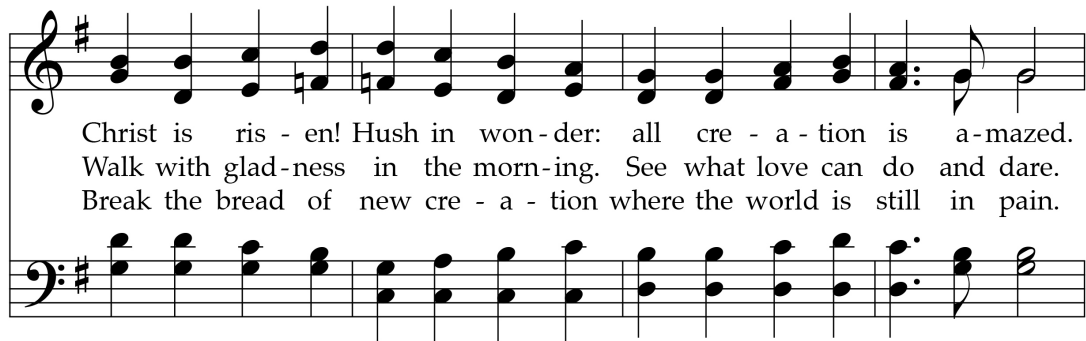
The Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

Gracious God, you have made us one with all your people in heaven and
on earth. We have recalled your mighty acts in holy history. We have
seen your power in sending light to drive away shadows. You have poured
out the waters of baptism to give us life, and the bread of heaven to
nourish us in love. Send us with your salvation and joy to all the world,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Hymn 248 "Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!"**



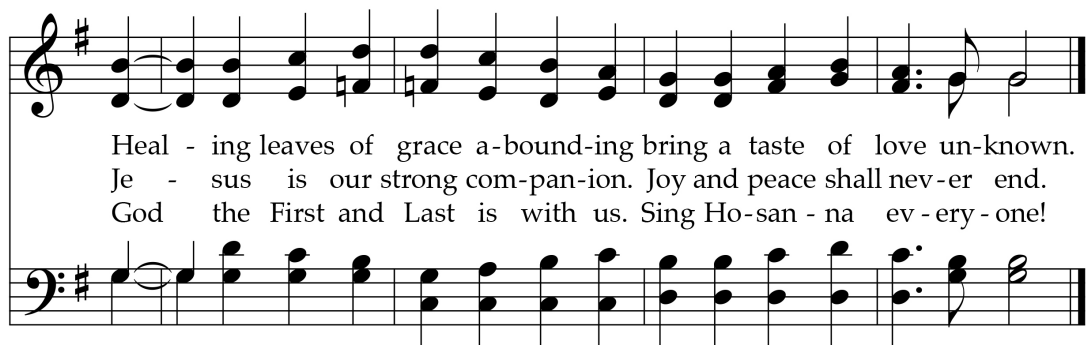
1 Christ is ris - en! Shout Ho - san - na! Cel - e - brate this day of days!
 2 Christ is ris - en! Raise your spir - its from the cav - erns of de - spair.
 3 Christ is ris - en! Earth and heav - en nev - er - more shall be the same.



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



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



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

Charge and Blessing

Leader: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord in the power of Christ's resurrection.
Alleluia! The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

People: Amen.

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: Christ is risen!

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: Christ is risen!

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia, alleluia!

Postlude Symphonie V Charles-Marie Widor
 Toccata

Worship Leaders

Nanette Sawyer Associate Pastor

Lucy Forster-Smith Senior Associate Pastor

Cole Seaton Tenor Soloist

John W. W. Sherer Organist and Director of Music

Kat Evans • Arlene Raine • Ivette Monroy Lay Liturgists

Roger Wilson • Judy Kerch • Isabella Monroy

Regina Monroy • David Nelson

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Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 1: Advent through Pentecost. Westminster John Knox Press.



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