



**Easter**

# **FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Third & Terry, Longmont, Colorado  
(303) 776-2800 | [www.firstluth.org](http://www.firstluth.org)  
Pastor: Garrett Struessel and Deacon Korra Looschen



Second Sunday of Easter  
April 12, 2026 — 9:30 a.m.  
*Welcome to worship, we are glad you are with us!*

## **GATHERING**

### **PRELUDE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

In today's gospel the risen Christ appears to the disciples and offers them the gift of peace. Even amid doubts and questions, we experience the resurrection in our Sunday gathering around word and meal, and in our everyday lives. Throughout the coming Sundays of Easter the first two readings will be from the Acts of the Apostles and the first letter of Peter. Even as the early Christians proclaimed the resurrection, we rejoice in the new birth and living hope we receive in baptism.

### **WELCOME**

### **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!

**Amen.**

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.*

Merciful God,

**you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us**

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace.

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **GATHERING HYMN**

*"The Day of Resurrection"*

ACS 936 VS. 1.2.4 (See Insert)

# The Day of Resurrection



1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,  
2 Let hearts be purged of e - vil that we may see a - right  
3 Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, let earth its song be - gin,  
4 All praise to God the Fa - ther, all praise to Christ the Son,



the pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the pass - o - ver of God.  
the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light,  
the round world keep high tri - umph and all that is there - in.  
all praise to God the Spir - it, e - ter - nal Three in One!



From death to life e - ter - nal, from sin's do - min - ion free,  
and lis - t'ning to his ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,  
Let all things, seen and un - seen, their notes of glad - ness blend;  
Let all the ran - somed num - ber fall down be - fore the throne,



our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.  
his own "All hail!" and hear - ing, may raise the glad re - frain.  
for Christ the Lord has ris - en, our joy that has no end!  
and hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry as - cribe to God a - lone!

Text: John of Damascus, c. 696–c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.

Music: ANASTASEOS HEMERA, Robert Buckley Farlee, b. 1950

Music © 2014 Robert Buckley Farlee, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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## GREETING

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.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God,

**The strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

## ANTHEM

"I've Got the Joy, Joy, Joy" arr. by Aaron David Miller

Sunday School Children

"Hallelujah! Praise Ye the Lord!" arr. by Aaron David Miller

Accompanied by Jeffrey Hartmann

## WORD

## READINGS

### Acts 2:14a, 22-32

*After the Holy Spirit comes to the apostles on Pentecost, Peter preaches the gospel to the gathered crowd. He tells them that Jesus, who obediently went to his death according to God's plan, was raised from the dead by God. Finally, he appeals to scripture, quoting Psalm 16:8-11, to show that Jesus is the Messiah: though crucified, the risen Jesus is now enthroned.*

<sup>14a</sup> Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]:<sup>22</sup> "Fellow Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know<sup>23</sup> this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law.<sup>24</sup> But God raised him up, having released him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power.<sup>25</sup> For David says concerning him, 'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;<sup>26</sup> therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover, my flesh will live in hope. <sup>27</sup> For you will not abandon my soul to Hades or let your Holy One experience corruption. <sup>28</sup> You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'<sup>29</sup> "Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day.<sup>30</sup> Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. <sup>31</sup> Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, 'He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.'<sup>32</sup> "This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### 1 Peter 1:3-9

*This epistle was written to encourage Christians experiencing hardships and suffering because of their faith in Christ. The letter opens by blessing God for the living hope we have through Christ's resurrection even amid difficult circumstances and surroundings.*

<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead <sup>4</sup> and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup> who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup> In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, <sup>7</sup> so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable,

is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. <sup>8</sup> Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, <sup>9</sup> for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

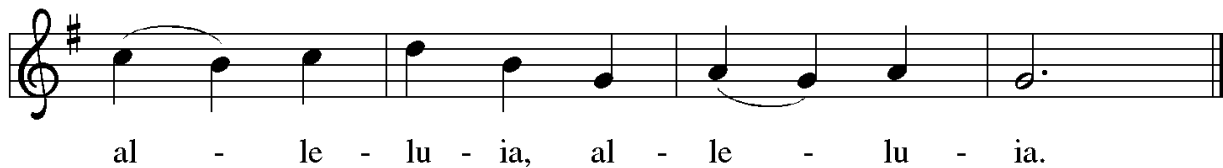
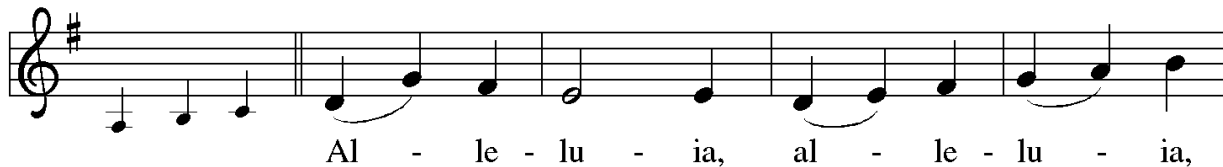
## CHILDREN'S TIME

Deacon Korra Looschen

**Congregation: Please Rise for the Gospel Acclamation**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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*Repeat alleluia*



## GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 20<sup>th</sup> chapter beginning at the 19<sup>th</sup> verse.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

### John 20:19-31

*The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. But one of their number is missing, and his unbelief prompts another visit from the Lord.*

<sup>19</sup> When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup> When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." <sup>24</sup> But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he 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." <sup>26</sup> A 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." <sup>27</sup> Then 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." <sup>28</sup> Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." <sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup> But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### APOSTLE’S CREED

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 THE PEOPLE

Merciful God  
Receive our prayers

### PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
And also, with you.

## MEAL

### OFFERTORY

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

Merciful God,

accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus.  
Amen.

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

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

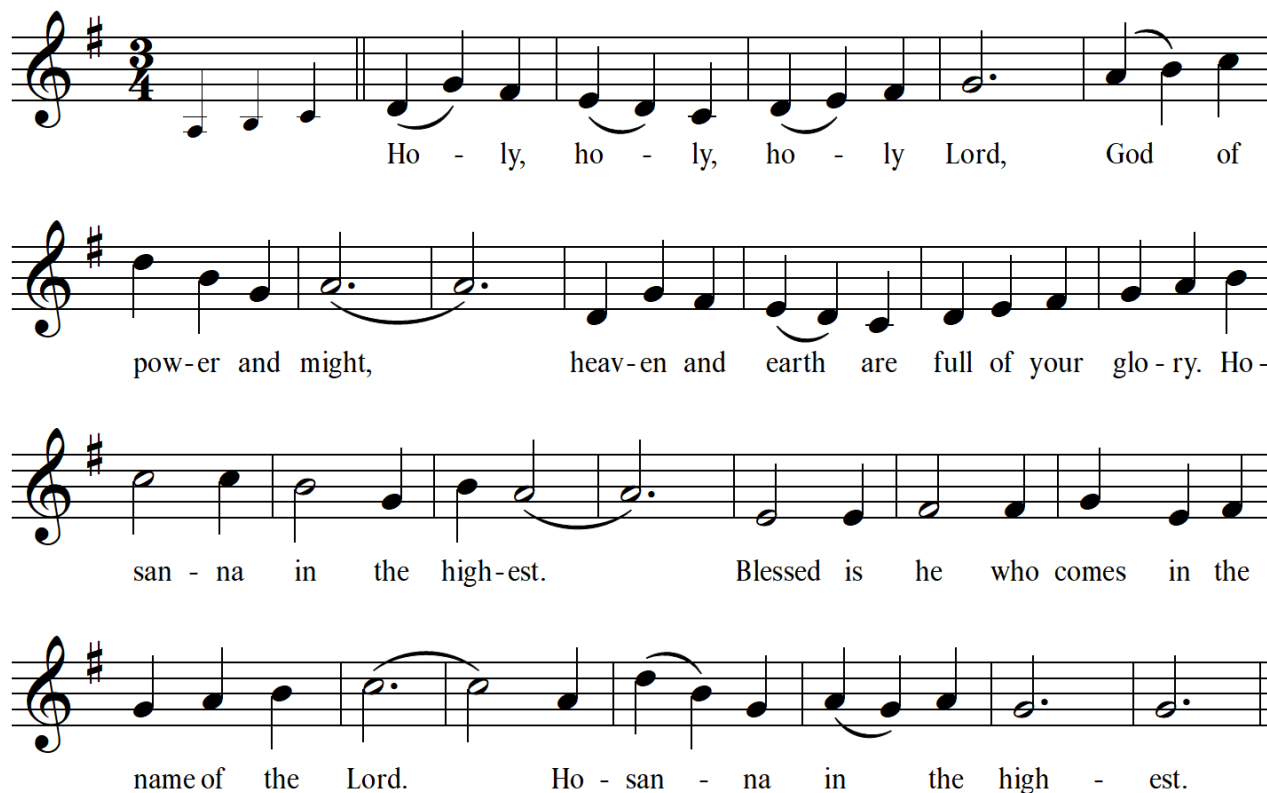
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

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Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

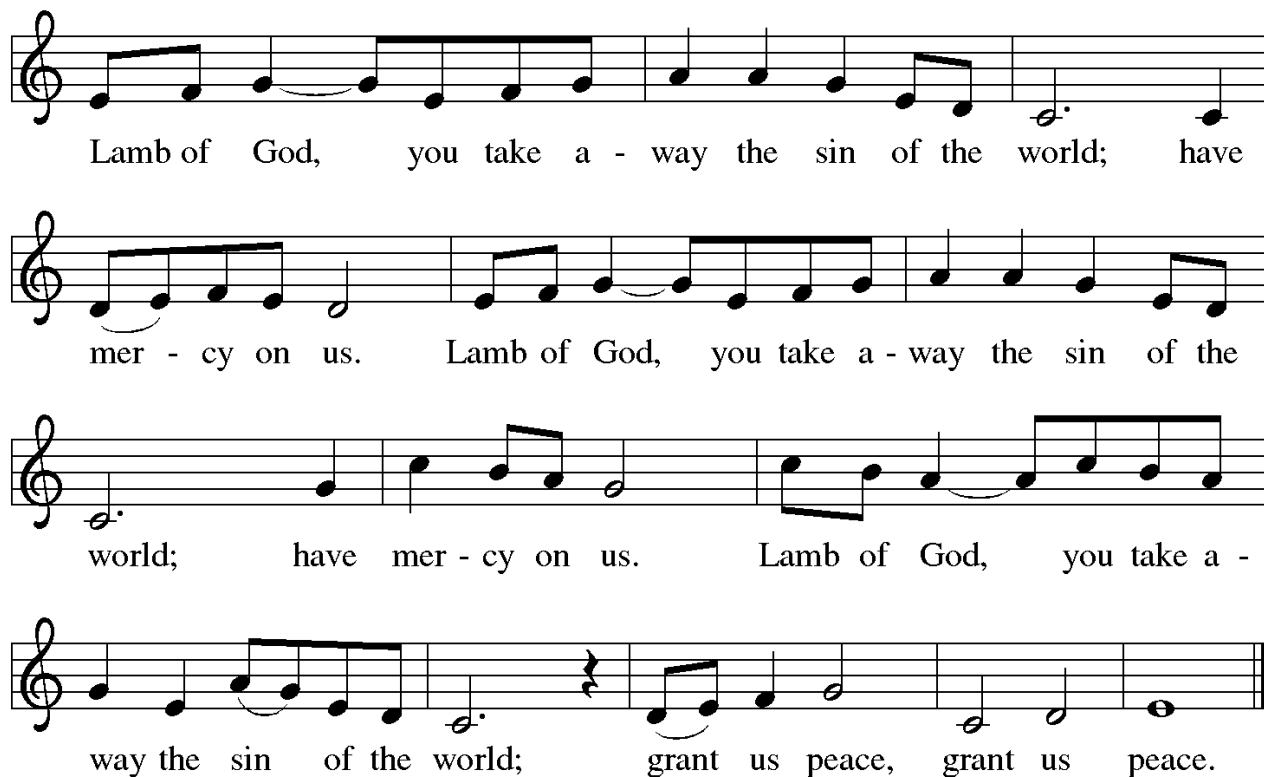
### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

## COMMUNION

*All are welcome who come trusting in the gift of God's presence in the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation, shared in this meal. "The body of Christ, broken for you," and "the blood of Christ shed for you," include the promise of the forgiveness of sin, life and salvation in Christ Jesus our Lord. The ushers will invite you to come forward for communion. We invite everyone to receive communion if you so desire. The invitation to receive Holy Communion is from Christ Jesus; therefore "all are welcome". In our serving communion trays, wine is darker red on the outside, and grape juice is the lighter color in the center. We serve only gluten-free bread prepared in a kitchen excluding wheat flour, to include everyone regardless of wheat-gluten sensitivities. Come, taste and see, that the Lord is good.*

# LAMB OF GOD



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 HYMNS

*"Let Us Break Bread"*  
*"As the Grains of Wheat"*  
*"Eat This Bread"*

ELW 471  
ELW 465  
ELW 472

# Let Us Break Bread Together

ELW 471

1. Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;  
2. Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;  
3. Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.  
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.  
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

*Refrain*

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing

sun, O Lord have mer - cy on me.

Text: African American spiritual  
Music: African American spiritual

BREAK BREAD TOGETHER  
10 10 and refrain

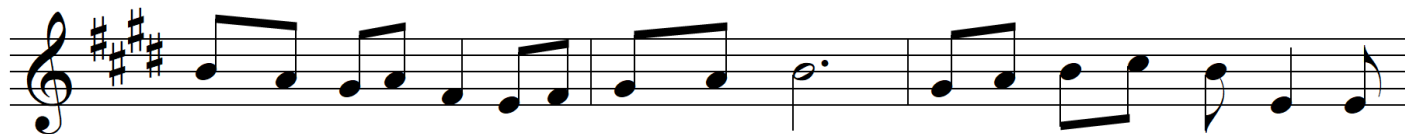
# As the Grains of Wheat

ELW 465

*Refrain*



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were



gath-ered in-to one to be-come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from

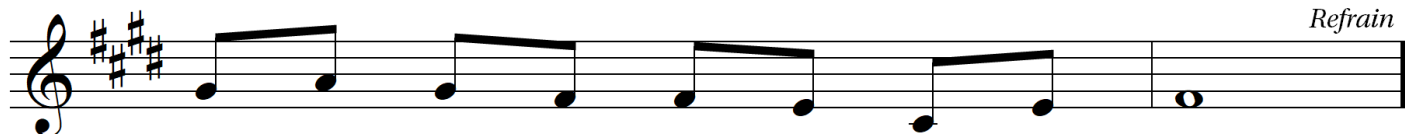


all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.



1. As this cup of bless - ing is shared with - in our midst, \_\_\_\_\_

2. Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when



*Refrain*

may we share the pres - ence of your love.  
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Test: Shirley Erena Murray, b. 1931

Music: Carlton R. Young, b. 1926

Text and music © 1996 Hope Publishing Company

AS THE GRAINS

Irregular

# Eat this Bread

ELW 472

"Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev-er be hun - gry.

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. It features a melody of eighth and quarter notes. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, providing a harmonic accompaniment of chords and single notes.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst."

The second system of music also consists of two staves in the same key signature and time signature. The melody in the upper staff continues with eighth and quarter notes. The bass staff provides accompaniment with chords and single notes, ending with a double bar line.

Text: Taizé Community  
Music: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994  
Text and music © Les Presses de Taizé, admin GIA Publications, Inc.

BERHTIER  
Irregular

## **COMMUNION BLESSING**

## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Holy One,

**through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, Amen.**

## **SENDING**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **BENEDICTION**

## **SENDING HYMN**

*"Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!"*

ELW 380

## **SENDING**

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## **POSTLUDE**

# Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!



1 Hal-le - lu - jah! Je - sus lives! He is now the Liv - ing One;  
2 Je - sus lives! Why do you weep? Why that sad and mourn - ful sigh?  
3 Je - sus lives! And thus, my soul, life e - ter - nal waits for you;  
4 Je - sus lives! Let all re - joice. Praise him, ran - somed of the earth.  
5 Hal-le - lu - jah! An - gels, sing! Join with us in hymns of praise.



from the gloom - y halls of death Christ, the con - quer - or, has gone,  
Christ who died our broth - er here lives our broth - er still on high,  
joined to Christ, your liv - ing head, where he is, you shall be too;  
Praise him in a no - bler song, cher - u - bim of heav'n - ly birth.  
Let your cho - rus swell the strain which our fee - bler voic - es raise:



bright fore - run - ner to the skies of his peo - ple, yet to rise.  
lives for - ev - er to be - stow bless - ings on his church be - low.  
with the Lord, at God's right hand, as a vic - tor you shall stand.  
Praise the vic - tor king, whose sway sin and death and hell o - bey.  
Glo - ry to our God a - bove and on earth his peace and love!

Text: Carl B. Garve, 1763–1841; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt.  
Music: FRED TIL BOD, Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887

**WELCOME to Worship!**

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME IN WORSHIP, and families can sit anywhere in the sanctuary, including the chapel near the front. A NURSERY is available downstairs across from the Choir Room for children under 5. Follow the signs.

LARGE-PRINT BULLETINS & HYMNS are available from the ushers.

ADDITIONAL PARKING is available in the Ahlberg Chapel parking lot, one-half block north of the church on Terry Street. RESTROOMS are located on the upper level of the church, along the hallway leading to the Big Room. There are handicap accessible restrooms on the lower level near the elevator, and in the Big Room.

We are blessed to be able to record our worship services so that others may enjoy worship remotely. Please note that today's worship service is audio and video recorded for online sharing and archival purposes.

We love seeing you in worship!

Preacher: Pastor Monica Butler

President: The Rev. Garrett Struessel

Worship Assistant: Deacon Korra Looschen

Council Hosts:

Ushers: Holly Keenan  
Mike Shiveley

Reader: Milenda Powers

Communion Assistants: Dwight Tilford  
Marilyn Williams

Organist: Jeffrey Hartmann

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