



Easter

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 3, 2026 — 9:30 a.m.
Welcome to worship, we are glad you are with us!

GATHERING



PRELUDE

INTRODUCTION

As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.

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.

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

"Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"

ELW 367 vs. 1,3,4



1. Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds in praise of love that
 2. E - ter - nal is the gift he brings, there - fore our heart with
 3. Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love: set heart and will on
 4. A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring and with the heave'n - ly



still a - bounds; "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 rap - ture sings: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 things a - bove that we con - quer through your tri - umph;
 bless - ed sing: "Christ has tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!"



Sing choirs of an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song
 Now still he comes to give us life and by his pre -
 grant grace suf - fi - cient for life's day that by our lives
 Be to the Fa - ther, and our Lord, To Spir - it blest,



of glo - ry here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 sence stills all strife. Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!
 we tru - ly say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 most ho - ly God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



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

Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876-1947, alt.
 Music: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623
 Text © 1958 *Service Book and Hymnal*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

LASST UNS ERFREUEN
 8 8 8 8 8 and alleluias

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 God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

ANTHEM

"Peace I Leave with You" by David Eddleman

Chancel Choir

WORD

READINGS

Acts 7:55-60

Stephen was one of the seven men chosen by the apostles to serve tables so that the apostles could be free to serve the word (Acts 6:1-6). Stephen does more than distribute food, however. For his preaching of God's word, he becomes the first martyr of the faith.

⁵⁵ Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" ⁵⁷ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸ Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

1 Peter 2:2-10

Christ is the cornerstone of God's saving work and the foundation of our lives. We are God's chosen, holy people who continuously celebrate and declare the mercy of God we experience through Jesus Christ.

² Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation ³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ⁴ Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵ like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." ⁷ This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner," ⁸ and "A stone that makes them stumble and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. ⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Word of God, word of life.

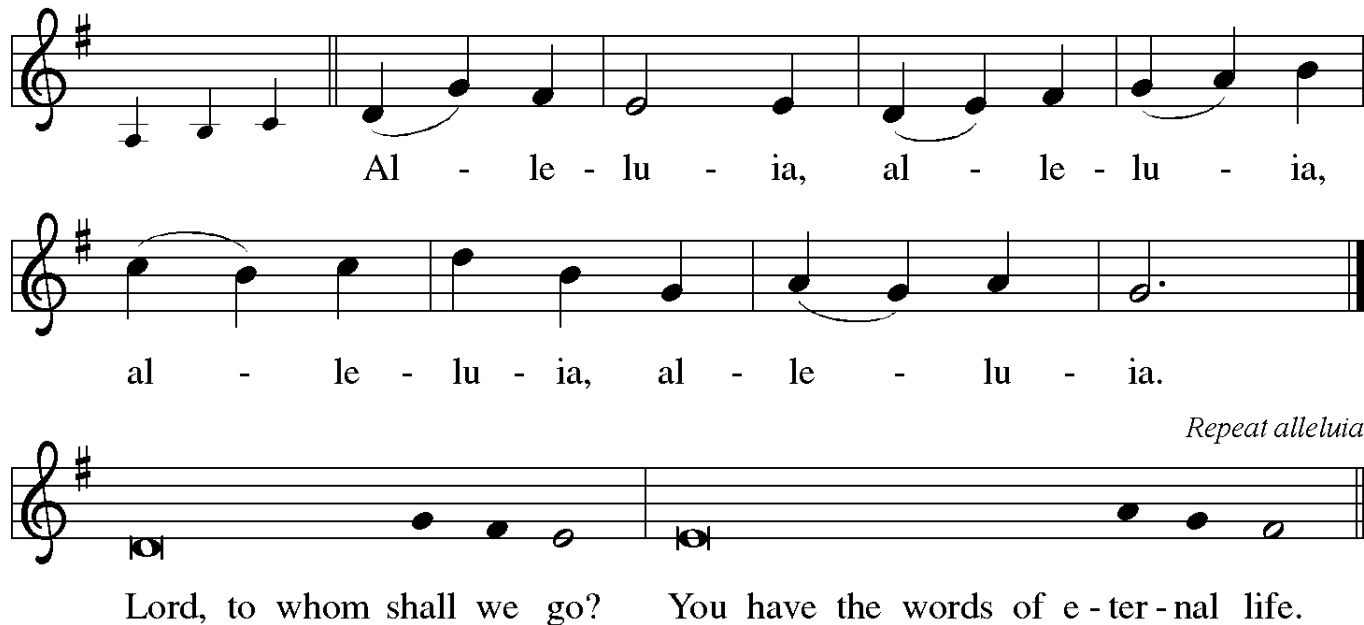
Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Pastor Ann Hultquist

Congregation: Please Rise for the Gospel Acclamation

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

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 14th chapter beginning at the 1st verse.

Glory to you, O Lord.

John 14:1-7

On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the one through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹ "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ² In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going." ⁵ Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Ann Hultquist

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

Page 107

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

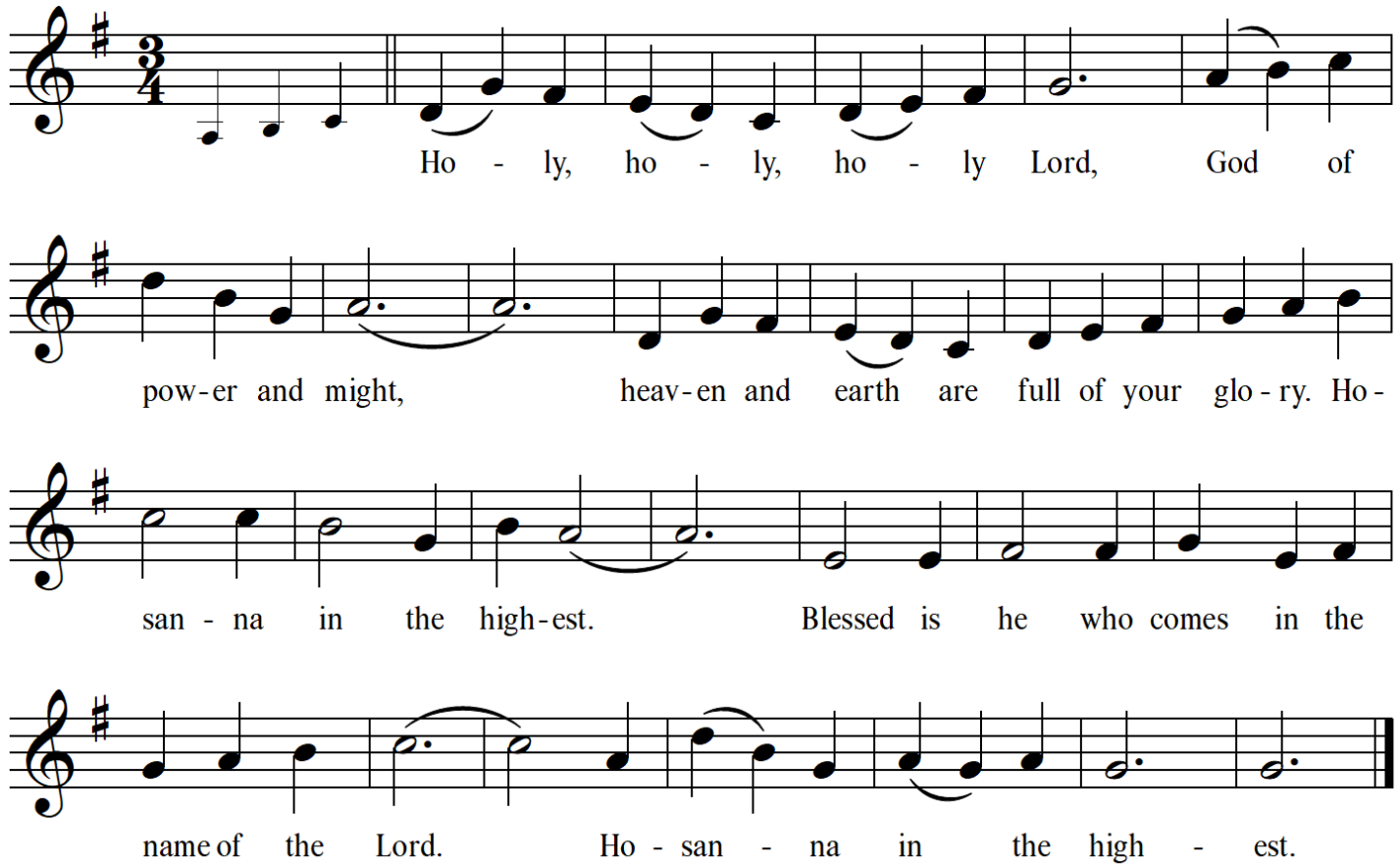
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. —

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



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

"We Come to the Hungry Feast"

ELW 479

"You Satisfy the Hungry Heart"

ELW 484

"Eat This Bread"

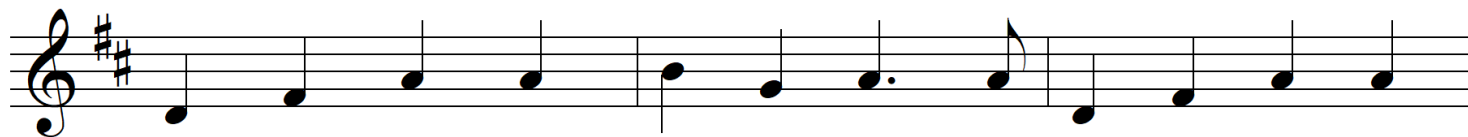
ELW 472

We Come to the Hungry Feast

ELW 479



1. We come to the hun-gry feast hun-gry for a word of peace. To
2. We come to the hun-gry feast hun-gry for a world re - leased from
3. We come to the hun-gry feast hun-gry that the hun - ger cease, and



hun - gry hearts un - sat - is - fied the love of God is
hun - gry folk of ev - 'ry kind, the poor in bod - y,
know - ing, though we eat our fill, the hun - ger will stay



not de - nied. We come, we _ come to the hun - gry feast.
poor in mind. We come, we _ come to the hun - gry feast.
with us; still we _ come, we _ come to the hun - gry feast.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943

Music: Ray Makeever

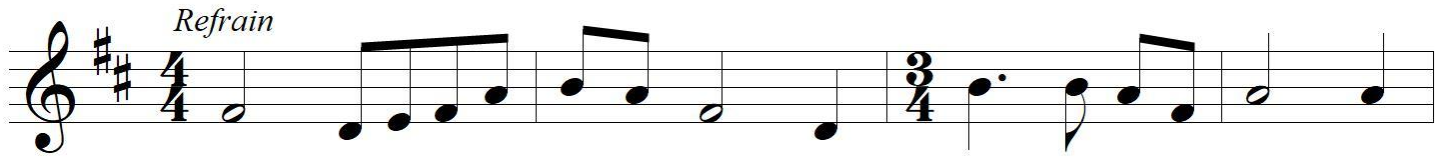
Text and music © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress

HUNGRY FEAST

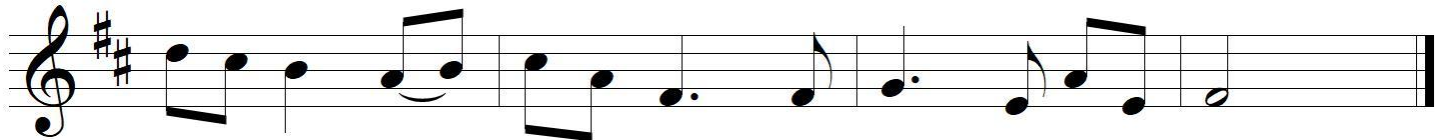
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You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

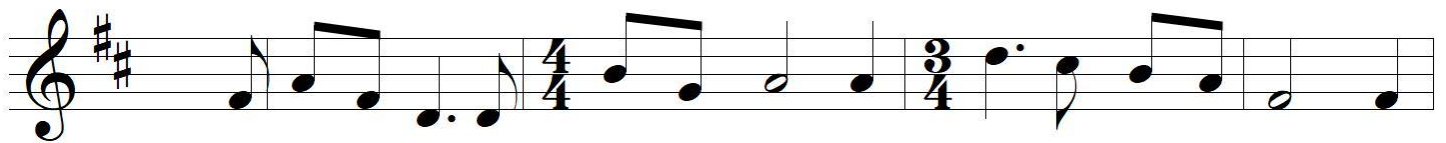
ELW 484



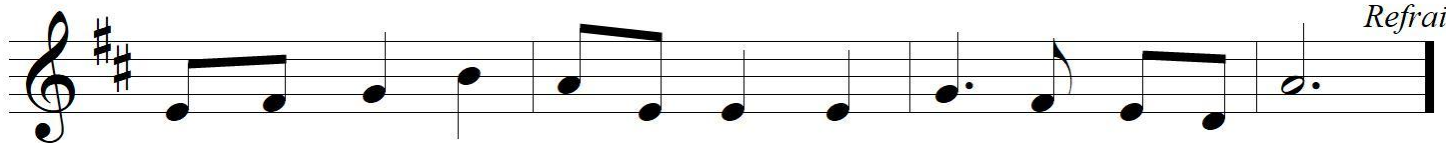
You sat-is-fy the hun-gry heart with gift of fin-est wheat. Come



give to us O sav-ing Lord, the bread of life to eat.



1. As when the shepherd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice; so
2. With joy-ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat-i-tude that
3. Is not hte cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out-poured? Do
4. The mys-t'ry of your pres-ence, Lord, no mor-tal tongue can tell: whom
5. You give your-self to us, O Lord; then self-less let us be, to



when you call your fam-'ly, Lord, we fol-low and re-joice.
you should count us wor-thy, Lord, to share this heav'n-ly food.
not one cup, one loaf, de-clare our one-ness in the Lord?
all the world can-not con-tain comes in our hearts to dwell.
serve each oth-er in your name in truth and char-i-ty.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916-1997

Music: Robert E. Kreutz, 1922-1996

Text and music© 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia

BICENTENNIAL

CM and refrain

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 eighth 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 eighth 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

“Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing”

ELW 389 vs. 1,4,5

SENDING

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

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/Presider: The Rev. Ann Hultquist

Council Hosts: Dorothea Ekx
Eric Pederson

Ushers: Holly Keenan
Mike Shiveley

Reader: Fran von Hagel

Communion Assistants: Jeff Satur
Shannon Satur

Choir Director: Sally Campbell

Organist/Pianist: Gary Elmquist

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Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing

ELW 389

1. Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians. sing. The corss stands
2. Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
3. In ev - ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,
4. Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
5. Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to

emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing
scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and

prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.
loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
life, the thruth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
o - ceans ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936
Music: T. Williams, *Psalmodia Evangelica*, 1789
Text © 1975, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company

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