



**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

Sixth Sunday of Easter  
May 10, 2026 — 9:30 a.m.  
*Welcome to worship, we are glad you are with us!*

## **GATHERING**



### **PRELUDE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that in our gathering around the Lord's table the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the world.

### **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**

*"Come, Thou Almighty King"*

ELW 408 vs. 1,4

# Come, Thou Almighty King

ELW 408

1. Come, thou al - might - y King, help us thy name to sing;  
 2. Come, thou in - car - nate Word, mer - ci - ful, might - y Lord;  
 3. Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, thy sa - cred wit - ness bear  
 4. To thee, great One in Three, e - ter - nal prais - es be

help us to praise; Fa - ther all glo - ri - ous, o're all vic -  
 our prayer at - tend. Come and thy peo - ple bless, and give thy  
 in this glad hour! Thou who al - might - y art, rule now in  
 hence ev - er - more! Thy sov - 'reign maj - es - ty may we in

to - ri - ous, come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.  
 word suc - cess, and let thy righ - teous - ness on us de - scend.  
 ev - 'ry heart, nev - er from us de - part, Spir - it of pow'r.  
 glo - ry see, and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.

Text: source unknown, c. 1757, alt.  
 Music: Felice de Giardini, 1716-1796

ITALIAN HYMN  
 6 6 4 6 6 4

## 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 ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen**

## ANTHEM

*“Concerto” by Vivaldi*

Rick Burton, Clarinet  
Accompanied by Jeffrey Hartmann

## WORD

## READINGS

### Acts 17:22-31

*In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian tradition. He proclaims that the “unknown god” whom they worship is the true Lord of heaven and earth who will judge the world with justice through Jesus, whom God has raised from the dead.*

<sup>22</sup> Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. <sup>23</sup> For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup> The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, <sup>25</sup> nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. <sup>26</sup> From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, <sup>27</sup> so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. <sup>28</sup> For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we, too, are his offspring.’ <sup>29</sup> “Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. <sup>30</sup> While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup> because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### 1 Peter 3:13-22

*The author of 1 Peter encourages Christians to remain faithful even in the face of defamation and persecution. In baptism we are made clean to act in accordance with what is right.*

<sup>13</sup> Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? <sup>14</sup> But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, <sup>15</sup> but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, <sup>16</sup> yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. <sup>17</sup> For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God’s will, than to suffer for doing evil. <sup>18</sup> For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup> in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup> who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. <sup>21</sup> And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup> who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

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.

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

*Repeat alleluia*

## GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 14<sup>th</sup> chapter beginning at the 15<sup>th</sup> verse.**Glory to you, O Lord.****John 14:15-21**

*In final words to his disciples on the night of his arrest, Jesus encourages obedience to his commandments and speaks of the Spirit, who will be with them forever.*

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>15</sup>“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup>And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup>This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you. <sup>18</sup>“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. <sup>19</sup>In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup>On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup>They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

Pastor Garrett Struessel

## 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.

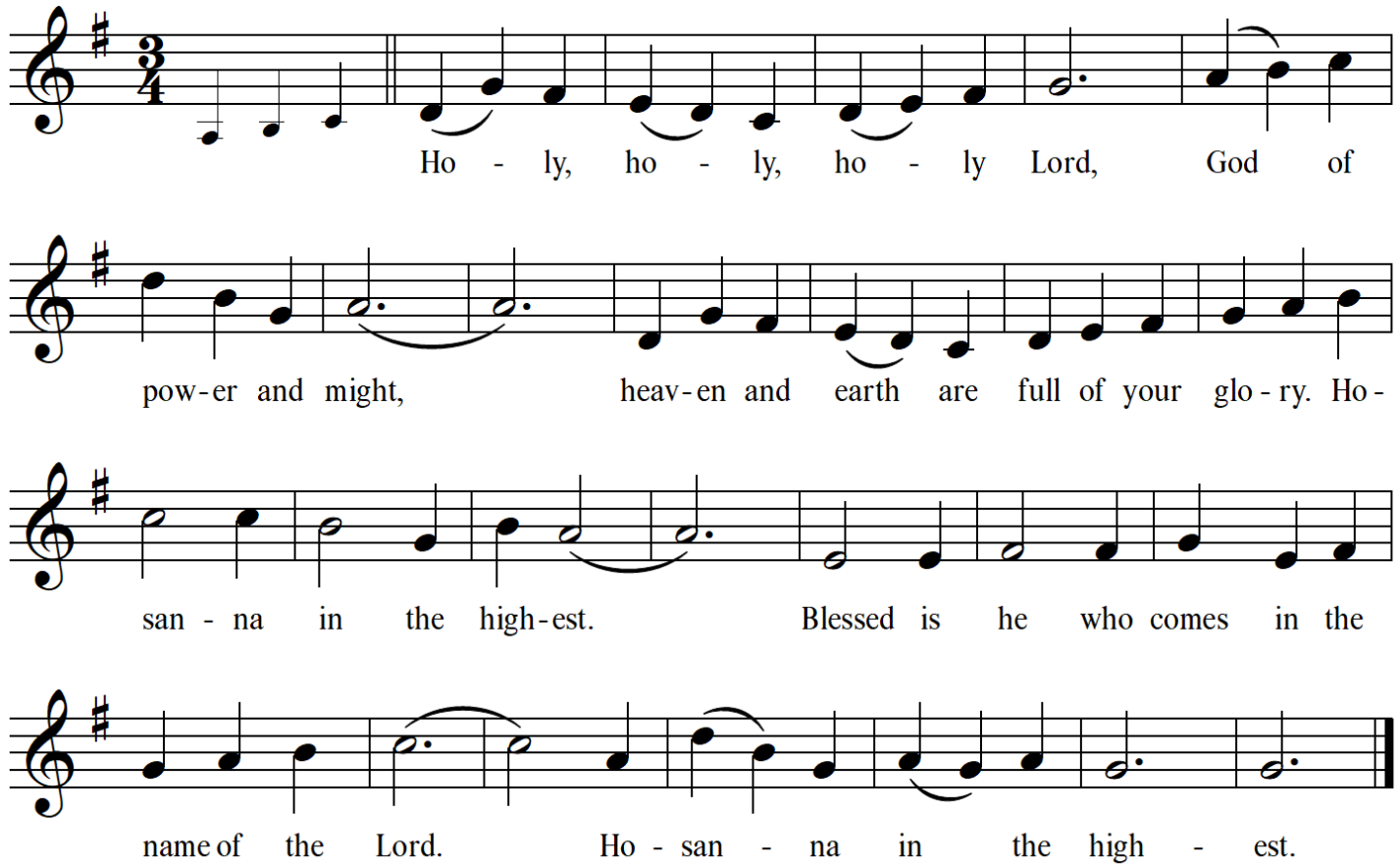
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. —

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"*

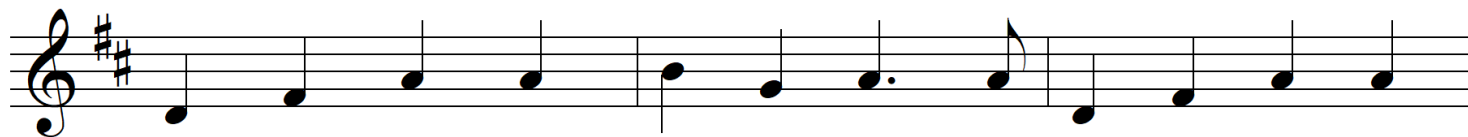
ELW 472

# 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

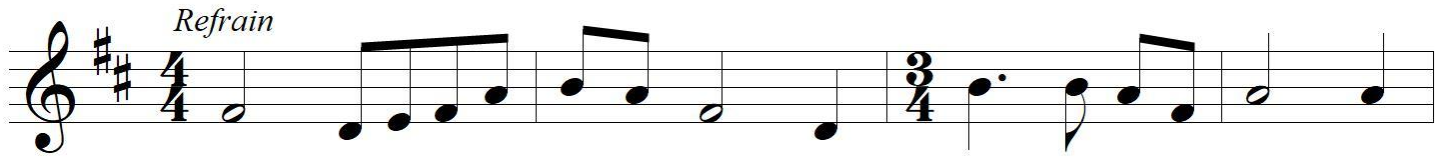
Text and music © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress

HUNGRY FEAST

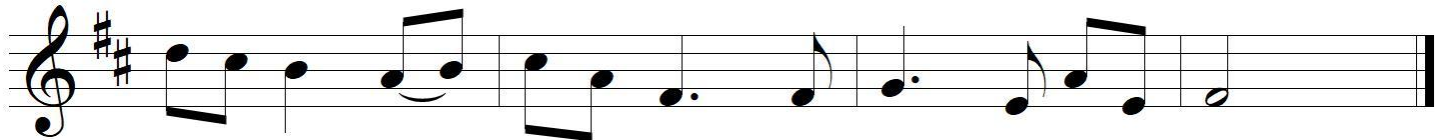
7 7 8 8 9

# You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

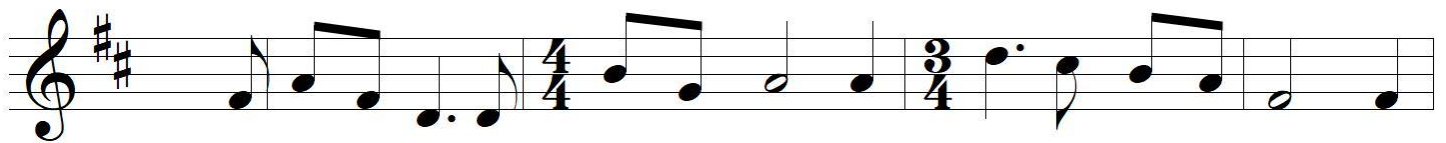
ELW 484



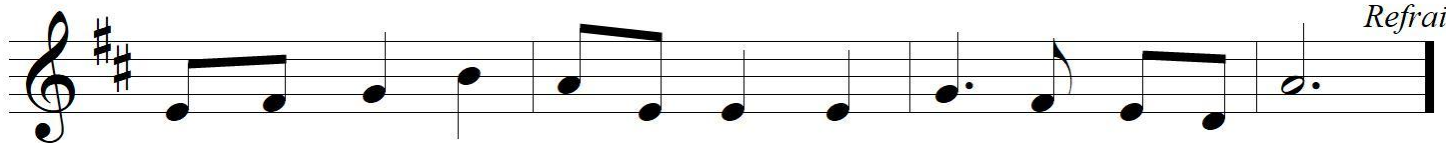
You sat-is-fy the hun-gry heart with gift of fin-est wheat. Come



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 moving lines.

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 similar rhythmic patterns. The lower staff provides accompaniment, 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

*“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”*

ELW 392 vs. 1,3

## SENDING

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## POSTLUDE

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### 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.

WORSHIP SERVICES AND LIVE STREAMED AND RECORDED 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. Garrett Struessel

Worship Assistant: Deacon Korra Looschen

Council Hosts: Eric Pederson  
Al Manley

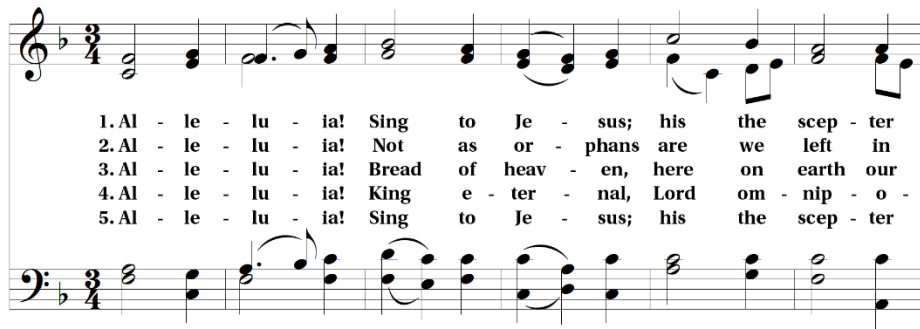
Ushers: Todd Gould  
Holly Keenan

Reader: Sally Campbell

Communion Assistants: Sally Campbell  
Vicki Shiveley

Organist/Pianist: Jeffrey Hartmann

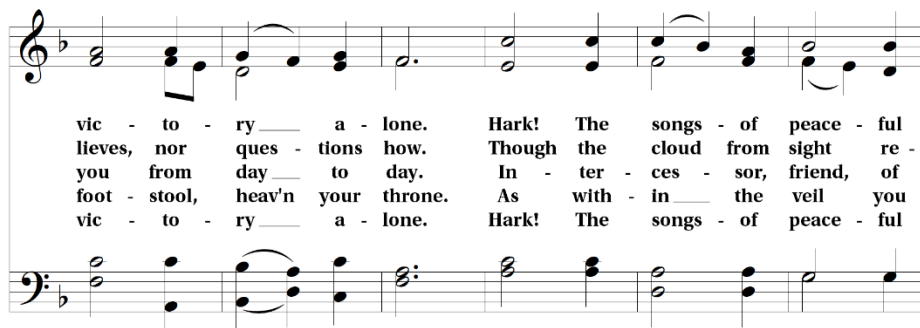
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1. Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter  
 2. Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we left in  
 3. Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, here on earth our  
 4. Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Lord om - nip - o -  
 5. Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter




his - the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the  
 sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is near us; faith be -  
 food, we stay; Al - le - lu - ia! here the sin - ful flee to  
 tent we own; Al - le - lu - ia! born of Mar - y, earth your  
 his - the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the



vic - to - ry — a - lone. Hark! The songs - of peace - ful  
 lies, nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re -  
 you from day — to day. In - ter - ces - sor, friend, of  
 foot - stool, heav'n your throne. As with - in — the veil, you  
 vic - to - ry — a - lone. Hark! The songs - of peace - ful



Zi - on thun - der like — a might - y flood: "Je - sus  
 ceived him when the for - ty days were o're, shall our  
 sin - ners, earth's re - deem - er, hear our plea where the  
 en - tered, robed in flesh, our great high priest, here — on  
 Zi - on thun - der like — a might - y flood: "Je - sus



out — of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."  
 hearts for - get — his prom - ise: "I am with — you ev - er - more?"  
 songs of all — the sin - less sweep a - cross — the crys - tal sea.  
 earth both priest and vic - tim in the eu - char - is - tic feast.  
 out — of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."