

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
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Facebook Live: <https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsChurchOnTheHill>

Second Sunday of Easter

April 27, 2025

NOTE: Hearing assist devices are available in the narthex for worship services.
Please see an Usher or Greeter if needed.

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

***Gathering Song:**

The Day of Resurrection!

361



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: ELLACOMBE, German melody, 18th cent.; adapt. X. L. Hartig, *Melodien zum Mainzer Gesangbuche*, 1833

Remembering that Jesus the Christ died on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins, and was raised on the third day giving us eternal life. We continue with confession and forgiveness.

***Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sins before God and one another, trusting in God's endless mercy and love.

Silence for Reflection

P: Holy One,

C: you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life.

Amen.

P: Beloved in Christ, the Word draws near to you, and all who call out to God shall be saved. God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

***Sharing the Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

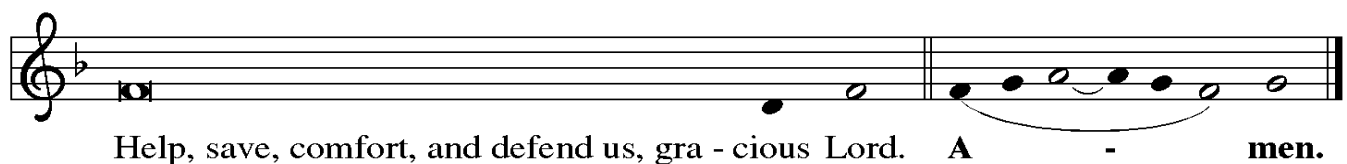
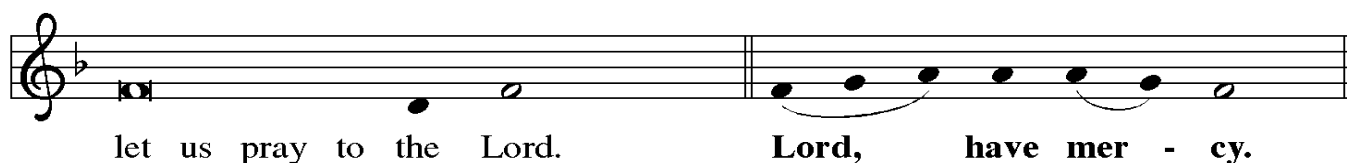
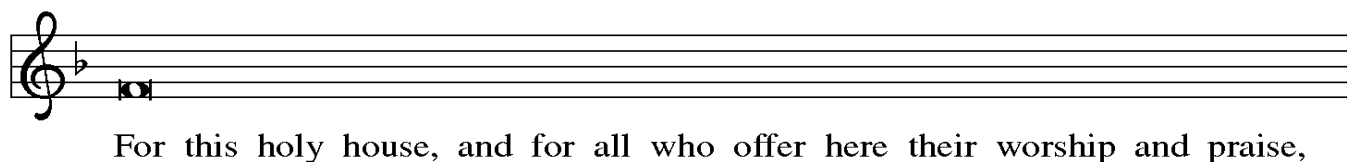
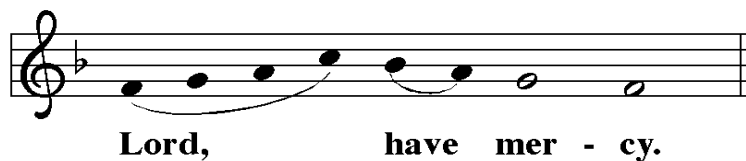
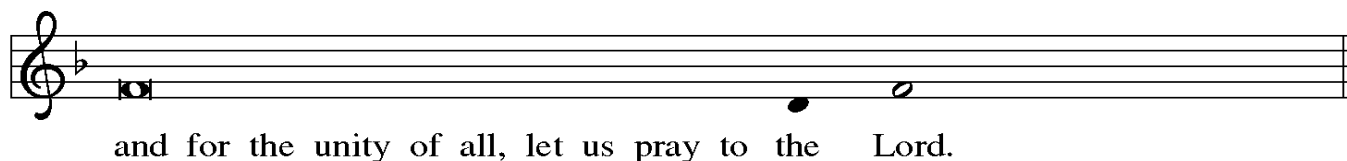
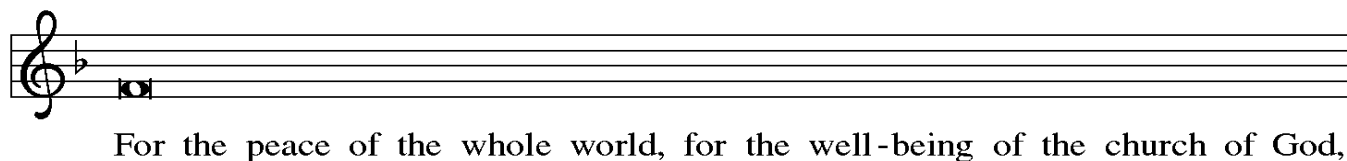
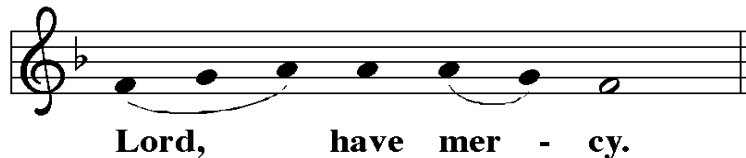
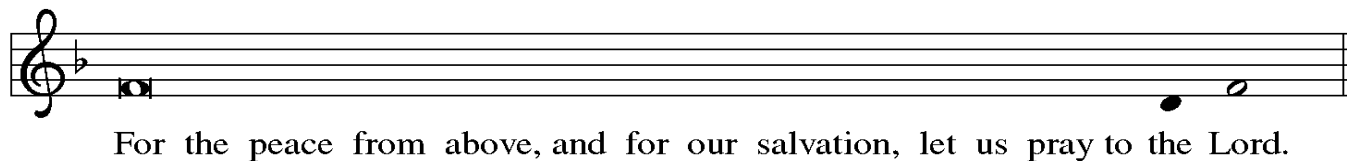
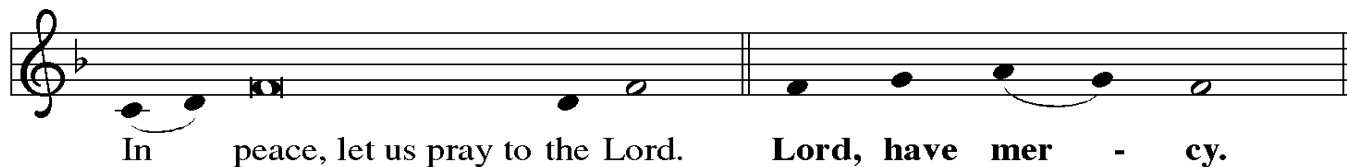
C: And also with you.

GREETING

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

C: And also with you.

Kyrie:



Hymn of Praise: This is the Feast

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.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was
slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day: O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Choir: "O How I love Jesus"

Children's Sermon

WORD

The 1st lesson is a reading from Acts, the fifth chapter.

When they had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, 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." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. 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 the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 118: (Read Responsively)

The Lord is my strength and my song and has become my salvation.

Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous: "The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!

The right hand of the Lord is exalted! The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!"

I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord.

The Lord indeed punished me sorely, but did not hand me over to death.

Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them and give thanks to the Lord.

"This is the gate of the Lord; here the righteous may enter."

I give thanks to you, for you have answered me and you have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

By the Lord has this been done; it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Hosanna! O Lord, save us! We pray to you, Lord, prosper our days!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name | of the Lord; we bless you from the house of the Lord.

The Lord is God and has given us light. Form a procession with branches up to the corners of the altar.

You are my God, and I will thank you; you are my God, and I will exalt you.

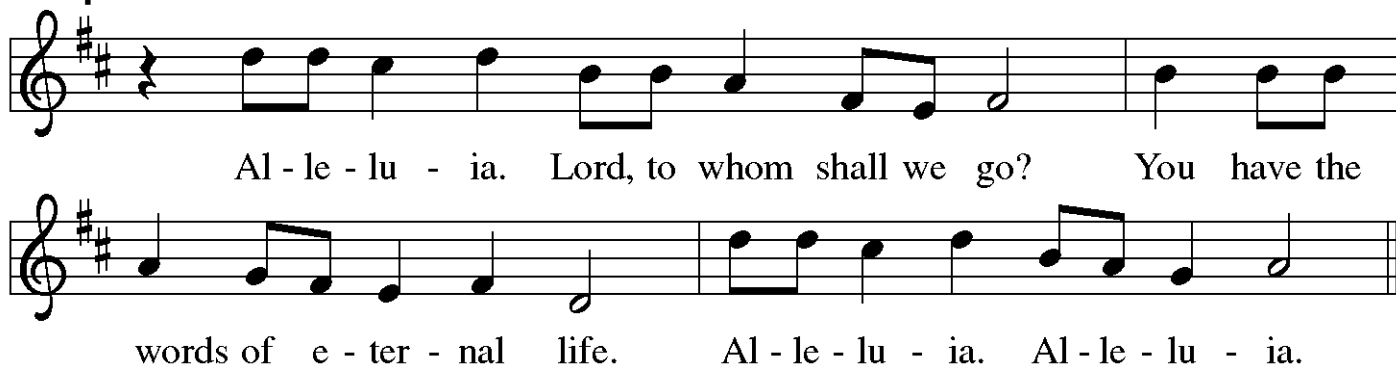
Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good; God's mercy endures forever.

The 2nd lesson is a reading from Revelation, 1st chapter.

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation:**



***The Holy Gospel according to John, the 20th chapter.**

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

When 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 Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the

Father has sent me, so I send you.” When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 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.” 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.” 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.” Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” 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.” Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But 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.

The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

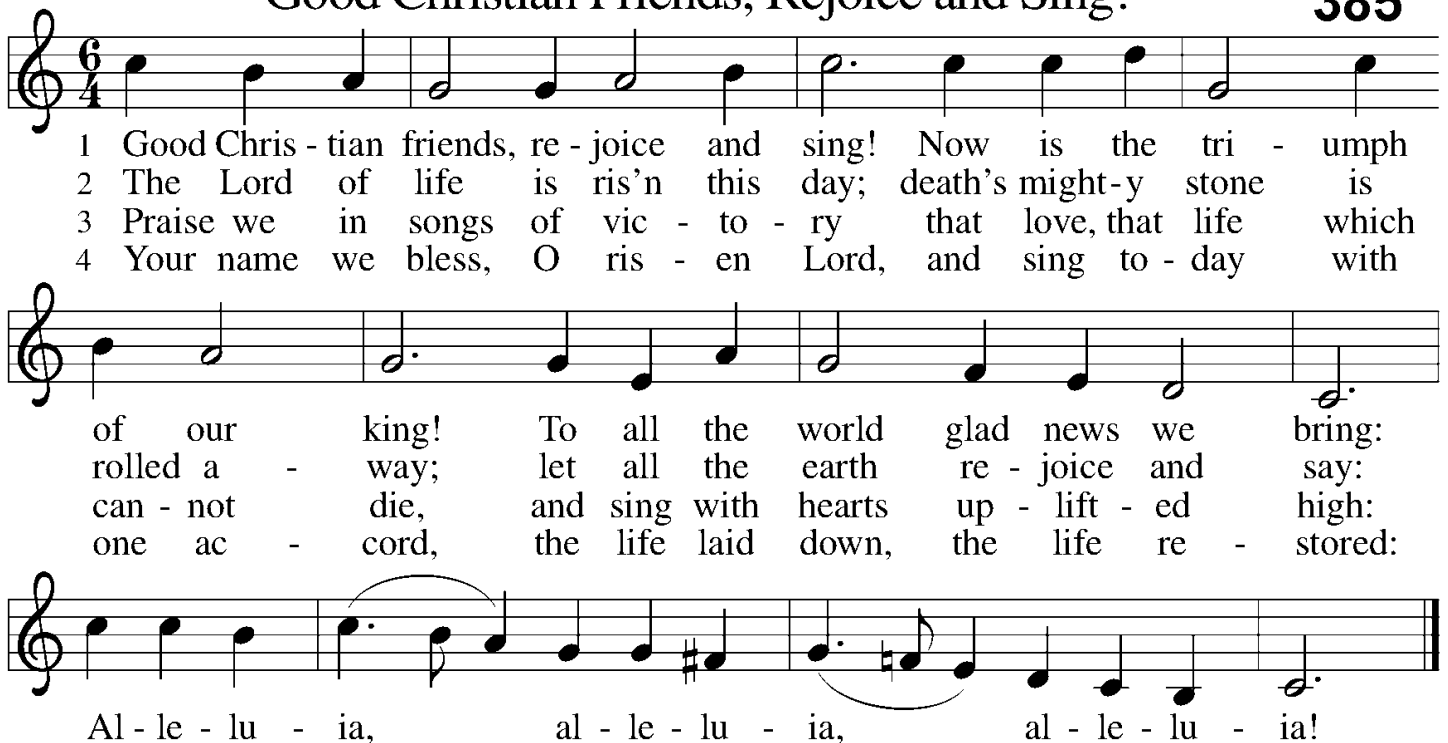
Sermon: “Doubt to Freedom”

Pastor David Viles

Hymn of the Day:

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!

385



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice and sing! Now is the tri - umph
 2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; death's might-y stone is
 3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that life which
 4 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to - day with
 of our king! To all the world glad news we bring:
 rolled a - way; let all the earth re - joice and say:
 can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
 one ac - cord, the life laid down, the life re - stored:
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872–1955, alt.

Music: GELOBT SEI GOTT, Melchior Vulpius, 1570–1615

Text © 1958, ren. 1986 *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

***Apostle's Creed – Please stand.**

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.

*** The Prayers of Intercession:** The congregation's response to "Hear us, O God" is "**Your mercy is great.**"

MEAL

Offering: We worship God by giving back a little of what he has first given us. God calls us by the Holy Spirit to care for all of God's people and creation through these gifts.

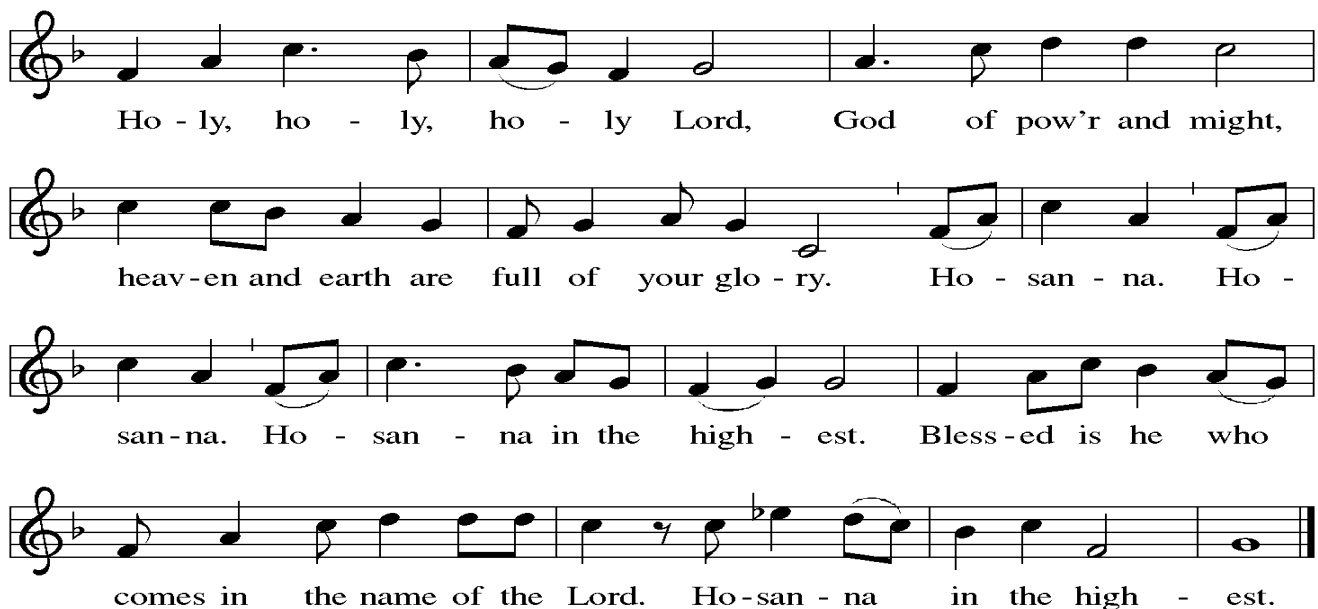
***(Please Stand) Offertory: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

***Offertory Prayer:** 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.

C: Amen.

***Great Thanksgiving**

***Holy, Holy, Holy**



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

* Words of Institution – Eucharist Prayer

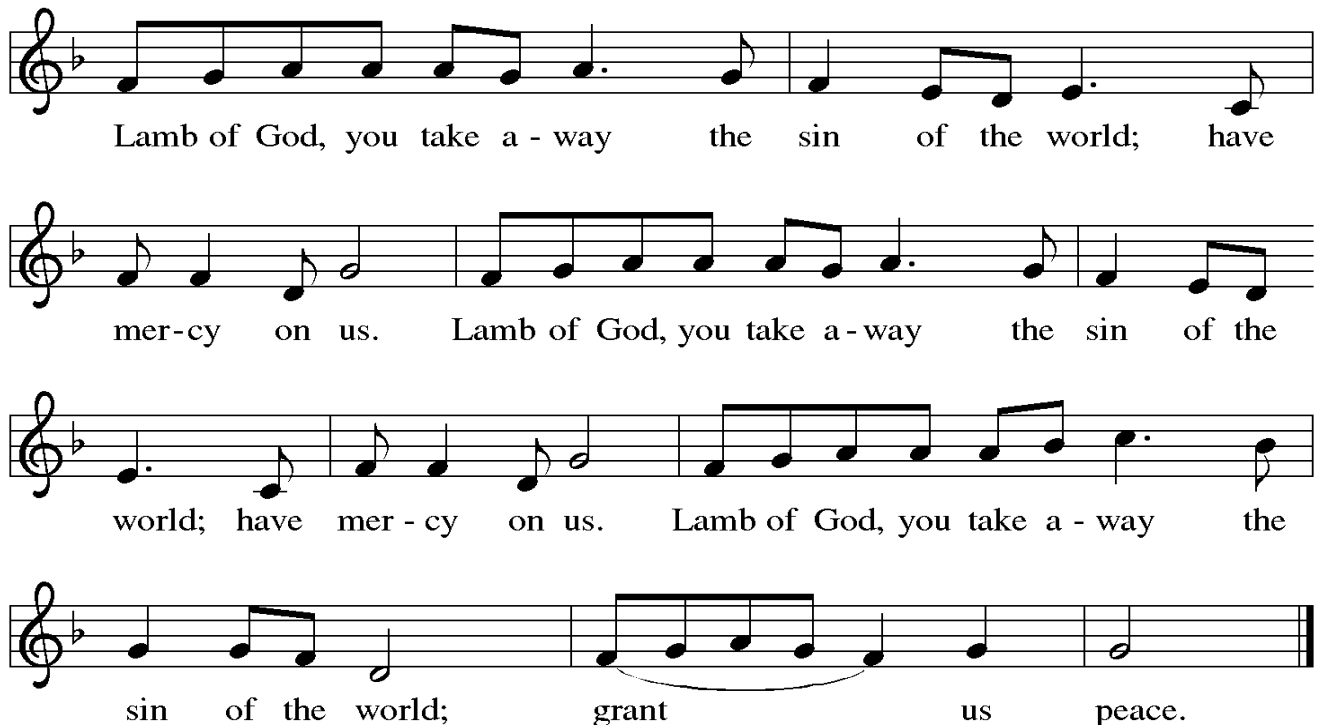
*The Lord's Prayer:

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.

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.

Distribution of the Elements

*Blessing after the Meal

Pastor David Viles

***(544 verse 1) Praise the Lord, rise up rejoicing, worship, thanks, devotion voicing; glory be to God on high! Christ, your cross and passion sharing, by this Eucharist declaring yours the final victory.**

*Prayer after Communion:

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.

C: Amen.

SENDING

***Blessing:** (Please Stand)

Pastor David

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.

C: Amen.

***Sending Song:**

Savior, Again to Your Dear Name

534

The musical score is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, with a final whole note. The lyrics are arranged in four systems, each corresponding to a line of the melody. The first system includes a four-part vocal entry with numbered parts 1 through 4. The lyrics are: 'Sav - ior, a - gain to your dear name we raise' (part 1), 'Grant us your peace up - on our home - ward way;' (part 2), 'Grant us your peace, Lord, through the com - ing night;' (part 3), and 'Grant us your peace through - out our earth - ly life,' (part 4). The second system continues the melody with lyrics: 'with one ac - cord our part - ing hymn of praise;' 'with you be - gan, with you shall end the day;' 'for us trans - form its dark - ness in - to light.' 'our balm in sor - row, and our stay in strife;'. The third system has lyrics: 'once more we bless you ere our wor - ship cease,' 'guard all the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,' 'Keep us from harm and dan - ger till the dawn;' 'then, when your voice shall bid our con - flict cease,'. The fourth system concludes with lyrics: 'then, low - ly bend - ing, wait your word of peace.' 'that in this house have called up - on your name.' 'your eve - ning pres - ence prom - ise to your own.' 'call us, O Lord, to your e - ter - nal peace.'

1 Sav - ior, a - gain to your dear name we raise
2 Grant us your peace up - on our home - ward way;
3 Grant us your peace, Lord, through the com - ing night;
4 Grant us your peace through - out our earth - ly life,
with one ac - cord our part - ing hymn of praise;
with you be - gan, with you shall end the day;
for us trans - form its dark - ness in - to light.
our balm in sor - row, and our stay in strife;
once more we bless you ere our wor - ship cease,
guard all the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
Keep us from harm and dan - ger till the dawn;
then, when your voice shall bid our con - flict cease,
then, low - ly bend - ing, wait your word of peace.
that in this house have called up - on your name.
your eve - ning pres - ence prom - ise to your own.
call us, O Lord, to your e - ter - nal peace.

Text: John Ellerton, 1826–1893, alt.

Music: ELLERS, Edward J. Hopkins, 1818–1901

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

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

Presiding Minister	Pastor David Viles
Organist / Keyboard	Zola Finch
Song Leader	Kathy Meller
Acolyte	Madeline Stubinger
Audio / Video Technician	Dan Tschirgi
Reader	Frank Pascoe
Communion Assistants	Jacklyn Wood
Communion ware	Audrey Bunch & Rosemary Heidbreder
Council Member	Debi Berry
Greeters	Audrey Bunch & Jerry Koestner
Altar Flowers	Kathryn Linsenbardt

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday School kids/students are invited to a social gathering on May 4th! Friends from Trinity Lutheran and St. John's will be joining us to learn, eat, and play! About 11:00 am.
More details to follow - see AJ if interested in joining!

Annual Fish Fry – next Sunday, May 4th at the Lohman, Community Center from 4pm to 6pm: \$13 Adults, \$7 children 6 – 12, 5 and under FREE. Come out, support your community, and enjoy a great meal.

Plastic eggs: It would be appreciated if you could bring back the plastic Easter eggs from this year's egg hunt so they can be used again for next year's hunt. Thank you.

Hymn History – Our gathering song "The Day of Resurrection" was written by John of Damascus. Born in 675 in Damascus, John was raised and instructed by his Christian father who was an official at the court of the Muslim Caliph in Damascus. John's grandfather was retained as a Christian civil servant when the Muslims took control, and his father is reported to have played a role in the capitulation of Damascus to Muslim troops in 635 after securing favorable conditions of surrender. John himself is written to have a knowledge of the Quran which he criticized harshly. Around the age of forty after assuming his father's position of great means and power, John became dissatisfied with his life, ridded himself of possessions, freed his slaves, and became a Monk near Jerusalem. He became especially well known for defending the church's use of icons, codifying the Byzantine chant, and writing about science, philosophy, and theology. Reportedly forged documents implicated John in a plot to attack Damascus. The caliph ordered John's right hand be cut off and hung in public view. Our hymn's text today comes from John's first ode of the "Golden Canon", considered to be his finest work. It was interpreted by the prolific hymn writer John Neale.

Schedule for Online Services:

Services are at 9:00 a.m. Sunday mornings on FaceBook Live:

<https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsChurchOnTheHill>

All services can be viewed at any time on our St. Paul's website: <http://www.stpaulslutheranlohman.org> just scroll down to the middle section and click on the service of your choice under "In Case You Missed It." Below that is another section for current and Past bulletin.

Pastor David Viles