

AUGUSTANA LUTHERAN CHURCH

5th Sunday of Easter—10 am

April 28, 2024

**Denotes when we stand*

BELLS

***Thanksgiving for Baptism**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

C: Amen.

P: Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P: Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life. Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P: At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

***Entrance Hymn “Now the Green Blade Rises” ELW #379**



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
 2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
 3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
 4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
 think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
 he that for three days in the grave had lain;
 your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
 laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
 raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
 fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

***Greeting**

P: 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

Assistant:




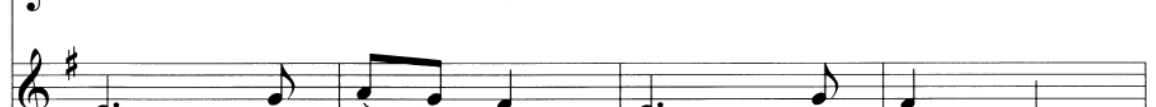
In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation:




Lord, have mer - cy.

3rd time to Coda ⊕

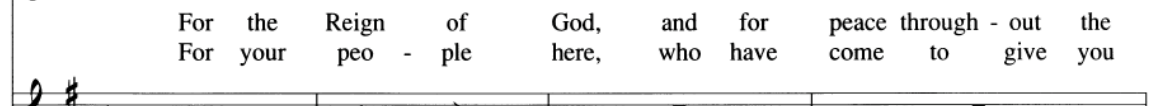



Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer -


Assistant:



For the Reign of God, and for peace through - out the
For your peo - ple here, who have come to give you




cy.

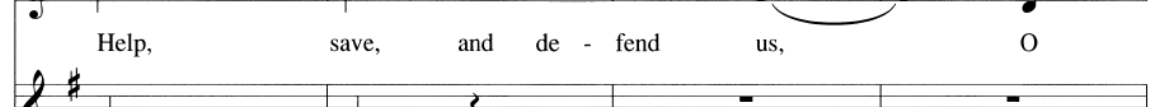


world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the
praise, for the strength to live your Word, let us pray to the

⊕ Coda



Help, save, and de - fend us, O



cy.

* *Ending for Kyrie*



God.



A - men.

*Hymn of Praise – Now the Feast

Refrain

Congregation:

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy
to the God of life and love and
free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -
er - more!

Verse 1

Congregation 1:

Now is the feast of the Lamb once
slain, whose blood has freed and u -
nit - ed us to be one great
peo - ple of God.

To refrain

Verse 2

Congregation or Congregation 2:

Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and
might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ
for ev - er.

Verse 3

Congregation:

3. For God has come to dwell with us,
to make us peo - ple of God; to make
all things new.

***Salutation**

P: The Lord be with You!

C: And also with you!

***Prayer of the Day**

P: O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

First Lesson – Acts 8:26-40

A: A reading from Acts the 8th chapter

²⁶An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this

chariot and join it.”³⁰ So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?”³¹ He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him.³² Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.”

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?”³⁵ Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus.³⁶ As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?”³⁸ He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him.³⁹ When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.⁴⁰ But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

A: Word or God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Appointed Psalm – Psalm 22:25-31

A: Let us read Psalm 22 responsively.

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

²⁶**The poor shall eat and be satisfied, Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!**

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;
all the families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁸**For dominion belongs to the LORD, who rules over the nations.**

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.

³⁰**Their descendants shall serve the LORD,
whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

³¹They shall proclaim God’s deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying to them, “The LORD has acted!”

Second Lesson –1 John 4:7-21

A: A reading from John’s first letter to the church the 4th chapter.

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God’s love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰Those who say, “I love God,” and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

A: Word of God, Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel Acclamation

Congregation:

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we

go? You have the words of e - ter - nal

life. Al - le - lu - ia! *Repeat optional*

*Gospel – John 15:1-8

P: The holy gospel according to John the 15th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: ¹“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Sermon/Sermon

Hymn of the Day – “Where Charity and Love Prevail” #359

1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
 2 With grate-ful joy and ho - ly fear, God’s char - i - ty we learn;
 3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God’s ho - ly Son;
 4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
 5 Let us for - give each oth - er’s faults as we our own con - fess,

brought here to - geth - er by Christ’s love, by love we thus are bound.
 let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.
 as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
 Be God’s the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
 that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

Nicene Creed

A: Let us confess our Christian faith in the words of the Nicene Creed

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God, from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven And is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, And his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge on baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the \dagger life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news. *A brief silence.*

We pray for the church around the world, for all ministers, and for the mission of the gospel. Keep all the newly baptized and confirmed in your care. Cleanse our hearts with your word and help us to abide in you always. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For the well-being of the earth and of all created things: for rivers and lakes, streams and estuaries, melting glaciers and polluted waters. Renew the face of the earth and shower us with your goodness. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For the nations and all those in authority: for local, state, and national leaders, for elected representatives at every level, and for international organizations, that justice and peace may reign. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For all those in need: for any experiencing homelessness or unemployment, for those fleeing from oppression or seeking asylum, and for all who are ill or suffering (*especially*). God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For this congregation: for the caring ministries of this faith community, for all who visit and minister to one another, for all who take communion to homes or care centers, and for all who seek to share your love with the world. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

With thanksgiving for the saints who rest from their labors. Help us, like them, to bear much fruit and to become your disciples, and at the last, bring us to that heavenly banquet where all will feast together at your table. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**

***Sharing God's Peace**

A: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

A: Let us now offer peace to one another as you feel comfortable

Announcements

Offering

A: Let us now return to God, that which God has first given us – our tithes and our offerings.

Musical Offering

***Offering Canticle – “As the Grains of Wheat”**

Refrain Congregation:

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.

The musical notation is written on a single treble clef staff with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of four lines of music. The first line is the refrain, and the second line is the congregation's part. The third and fourth lines are the refrain again. The lyrics are placed below the notes.

Verses



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



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

***Offering Prayer**

A: Let us pray together. **Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit.**

May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

Amen.

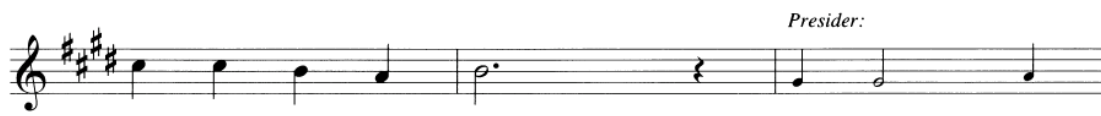
***Great Thanksgiving**



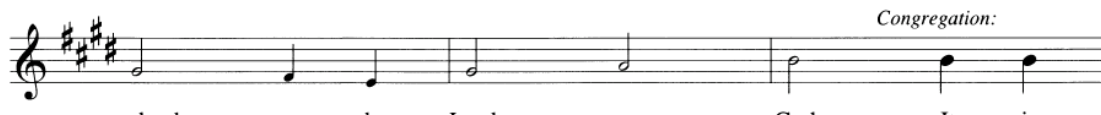
The Lord be with you. And also with



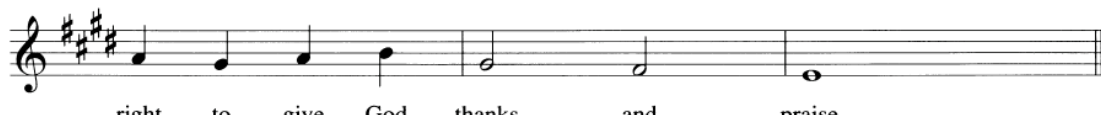
you. Lift up your hearts. We



lift them to the Lord. Let us give



thanks to the Lord our God. It is



right to give God thanks and praise.

*Proper Preface

P: It is our duty and delight that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to you, O God, through Jesus Christ

Who by his death on the cross and glorious resurrection broke the bonds of sin and death and gave life to all creation.

And so with the church on earth, all creation and the host of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn!

*Sanctus

Congregation:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the
One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

*Eucharistic Prayer

P: You are indeed holy, gracious, and merciful God; everything is filled with your glory. We give you thanks for your promise and presence which have sustained the faithful in this and every generation. Above all, we give you thanks for Jesus, born of Mary, who in word and deed announced your gentle rule of justice, reconciliation, and peace.

*Words of Institution


P: On the night of his betrayal, our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks; broke it and gave it to his disciples saying: "Take and eat; this is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink saying: “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

Remembering his command to love one another, his life and death, his resurrection, and his ascension, we pray for his coming again, even as we cry:


***Eucharistic Acclamation**

Presider:




A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus. A -

Congregation:



men. Come, Lord Je - sus. A - men. Come, Lord




Je - sus. A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus.

***Epiclisis**


P: Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that all of your promises may come to us and your whole creations.

Presider:




A - men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it. A -

Congregation:



men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it. A - men. Come, Ho - ly



Spir - it. A - men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it.

P: Gather our prayers with those of the apostles, prophets, martyrs, and all the faithful who have gone before us, and unite them with the unceasing prayer of the One who lives in us, and in whom we live, Jesus Christ.

Communion Hymns

“We Come to the Hungry Feast” ELW 479

“Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds” ELW 367

*Post Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you, and forever †
keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

*Post Communion Canticle– “Thanks Be To You”

Congregation:

1. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy:
2. From of old you loved and sought us:

Thanks be to you for ev - er! Rais - ing high the
Thanks be to you for ev - er! Truth and jus - tice

weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for - ev - er!
you have taught us: Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

Strong is your faith - ful - ness, strong is your love, re -
mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of life with us.

3. Praise to you O God of mer - cy: Thanks be to you for
ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:
Thanks be to you for ev - er. Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

***Post Communion Prayer**

A: Let us pray together, **Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. Amen.**

***Benediction**

P: The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope ✠ bless you now and always. **C: Amen.**

***Sending Hymn – “Let All Things Now Living” ELW #881**

1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to
2 God rules all the forc - es: the stars in their cours-es and

God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,
sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;

who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who
the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the

still guides us on to the end of our days.
deeps of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.

God's ban - ners are o'er us, God's light goes be -
We too should be voic - ing our love and re -

fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,
joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise

till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing: “To

for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.
God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!”

***Sending**

P: God's Work!

C: Our Hands!

***Sending Prayer**

P: Let us pray together, the prayer of St. Hippolytus

P: Christ is Risen: The world below lies desolate

C: Christ is Risen: The spirits of evil are fallen

P: Christ is Risen: The angels of God are rejoicing

C: Christ is Risen: The tombs of the dead are empty

P: Christ is Risen indeed from the dead, the first of the sleepers,

C: Glory and power are his forever and ever.

***Dismissal**

A: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude