



Believe

April 16, 2023

2nd Sunday of Easter



1105 N. Washington Blvd.
Ogden, UT 84404
801.782.2810

Welcome to Worship...

Welcome to all God's guests, including those who call themselves "members" of this church named Ascension Lutheran Church more than 50 years ago.

A special welcome to guests who are here for the first time or who call yourselves "visitors" among the people of this community. It is at God's invitation, through worship, the Holy Spirit calls each of us to come to a place of **community, communion and commitment**. Each of us brings a different lens to worship, and yet, in a worshiping community, these differences become celebrations of diversity.

**Children are always welcome in worship services;
however please know a nursery space is available for
parents who need to tend to their little ones**

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 to Worship

Call to Worship

Please stand in body or spirit.

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

All Amen.

P Let us come into the light,
the revealing and healing light of God.

Silence is kept for reflection

God of grace and glory,

**All you have brought us through the night of sin
into the light of Jesus' resurrection.**

Yet our lives are still shadowed by sin.

Make us alive in Christ, O God.

Make us new as you make all things new.

**Rescue us from evil and the gloom of sin, renew us in grace,
and restore us to living in your holiness,
through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.**

P Rejoice with all creation around God's throne!

The light of the risen Christ puts to flight all evil deeds,
washes away sin, restores innocence to the fallen,
casts out hate, brings peace, and humbles earthly pride.

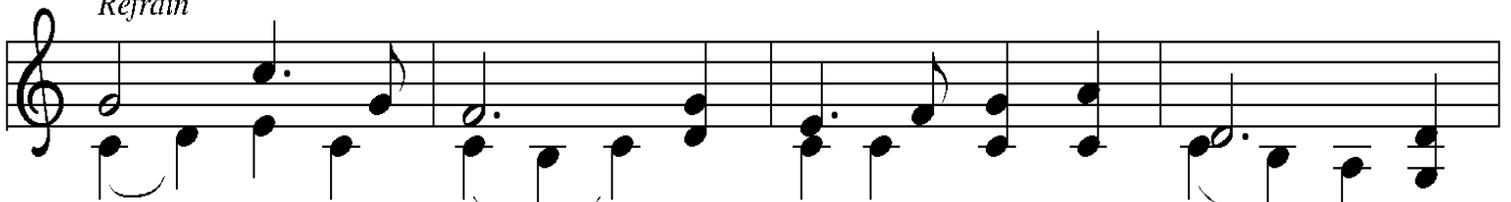
Jesus Christ loves you and ✝ frees you from your sins by his blood.
To him be glory and dominion forever and ever!

All Amen.

Opening Song

Lift High the Cross

Refrain



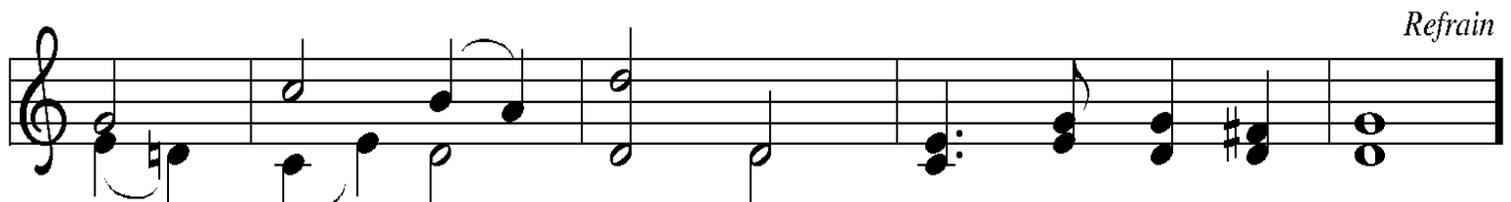
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till



all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.



1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:



Refrain
our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Greeting

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

All And also with you.

P In peace, in peace,

Pastor: *Congregation:*

Let us pray_ to the Lord, have mer - cy,
Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have
mer - cy.

P For the reign of God and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all...(Refrain)

P For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word...(Refrain)

Pastor:

Help, save and de - fend us, O God.
Congregation:
A - - - men.

Refrain



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!



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.



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



God; to make all things new.

Text and music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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Greeting

P The Lord be with you

All And also with you.

Prayer for This Day

P Let us pray:

Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt,

All 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.

You may be Seated

A Reading from Acts the 10th chapter

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.

^{14a} Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd],
²² "You that are 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—²³ 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. ²⁴ But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ²⁵ 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;

²⁶ therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
moreover my flesh will live in hope.

²⁷ For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,

or let your Holy One experience corruption.

²⁸You have made known to me the ways of life;

you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

²⁹"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. ³⁰Since 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. ³¹Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

'He was not abandoned to Hades,

nor did his flesh experience corruption.'

³²This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

L Word of God, Word of Hope!

All Thanks be to God!

A Responsive Reading from Psalm 118

Please join in a responsive reading of the Psalm. Leader will read the light print while the congregation responds with the bold.

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good; God's mercy endures forever.

²**Let Israel now declare, "God's mercy endures forever."**

¹⁴The LORD is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation.

¹⁵**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:**

"The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!

¹⁶The right hand of the LORD¹ is exalted!

The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"

¹⁷**I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.**

¹⁸The LORD indeed punished me sorely, but did not hand me over to death.

¹⁹**Open for me the gates of righteousness;**

I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.

²⁰"This is the gate of the LORD; here the righteous may enter."

²¹**I give thanks to you, for you have answered me**

and you have become my salvation.

²²The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

²³**By the LORD has this been done; it is marvelous in our eyes.**

²⁴This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

Gospel Acclamation

Please stand in body or spirit.

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!

Gospel Reading

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

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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.

¹⁹When 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." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So 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.”

²⁶A 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.” ²⁷Then 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.” ²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But 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.

John 20:19-31

P The Gospel of our Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

[You may be Seated](#)

Sermon

Pr. Debra Jimenez

Hymn of the Day

[Please stand in body or spirit.](#)

I Danced in the Morning



1. I danced in the morn-ing when the
2. I danced for the scribe and the
3. I danced on the Sab-bath and I
4. I danced on a Fri-day when the
5. They cut me down and I



world was be - gun, And I danced in the moon and the
 phar - i - see, But they would - n't dance, and they
 cured the lame: The ho - ly peo - ple said it
 sky turned black; It's hard to dance with the
 leap up high; } I am the life that - 'll



stars and the sun, And I came down from heav - en and I
 would - n't fol - low me; I danced for the fish - er - men, for
 was a shame. They whipped and they stripped and they
 dev - il on your back. They bur - ied my bod - y and they
 nev - er, nev - er die; I'll live in you if you'll



danced on the earth; At Beth - le - hem I had my birth. *(to vs 2)*
 James and John; They came with me and the dance went on. *(to refrain)*
 hung me high, And left me there on a cross to die. *(to vs 4)*
 thought I'd gone; But I am the dance and I still go on. *(to refrain)*
 live in me: } I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. *(to refrain)*



Dance then wher - ev - er you may be; I am the Lord of the



dance, said he, And I'll lead you all, wher - ev - er you may be, And I'll



lead you all in the dance, said he. dance, said he.

The Apostles' Creed

P Let us join together with the saints across the ages confessing our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed.

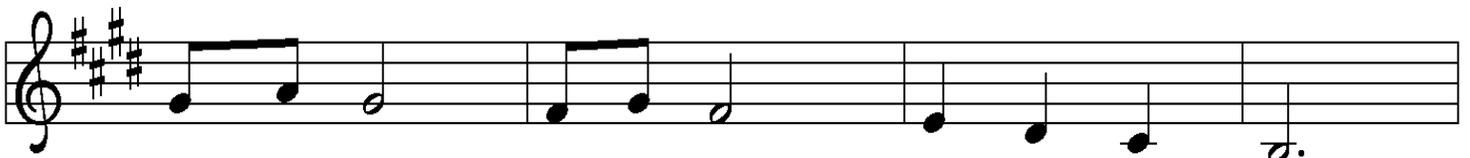
**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**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.**

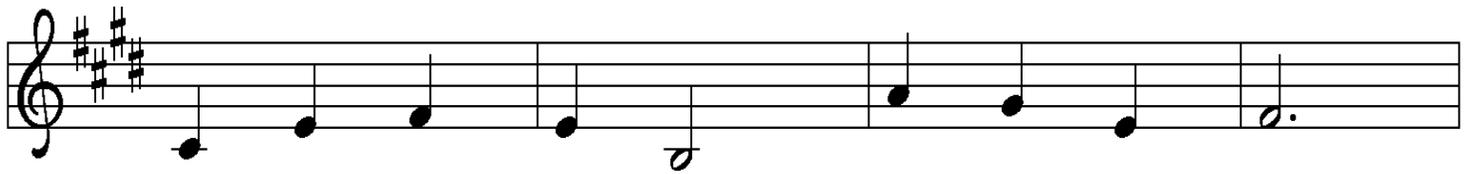
**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of The People

L United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.



Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole:



peace to all peo - ple, hope for each soul.



God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.

(each prayer petition ends with)

L: Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

Passing of the Peace

P Christ become peace with you.

All And also with you.

Offertory

Please stand in body or spirit.



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.

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.

Presider: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come, come again.

Congregation repeats:

Christ ___ has died. Christ ___ is
ris - en. Christ_ will come, come_ a - gain.

P 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:

Presider: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

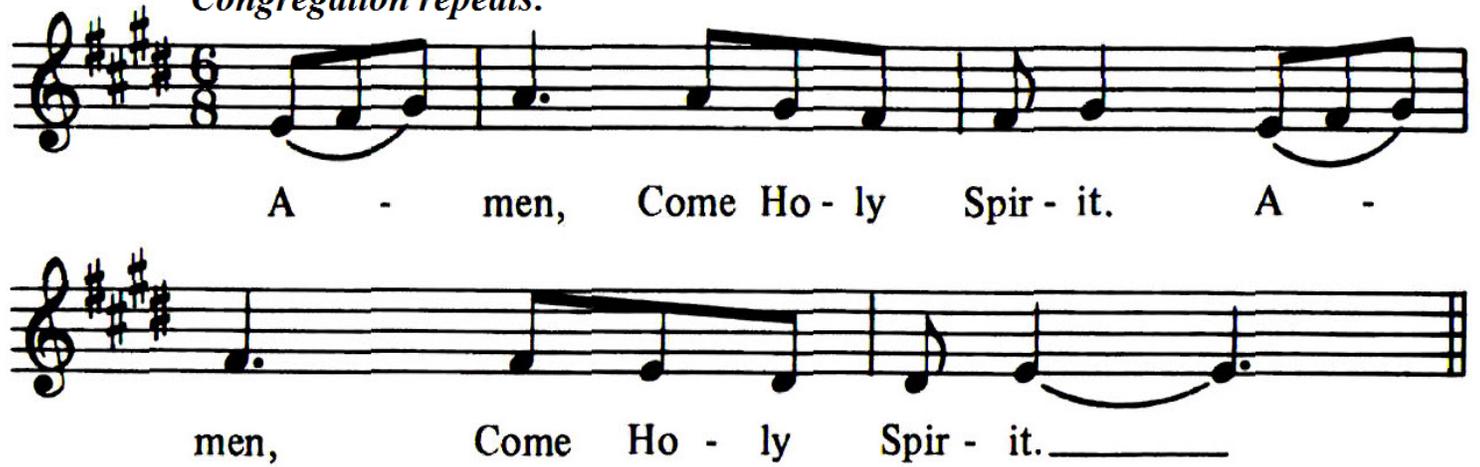
Congregation repeats:

A - men, Come_ Lord Je - sus; A -
men, Come ___ Lord Je - sus. _____

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

Presider: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit. Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

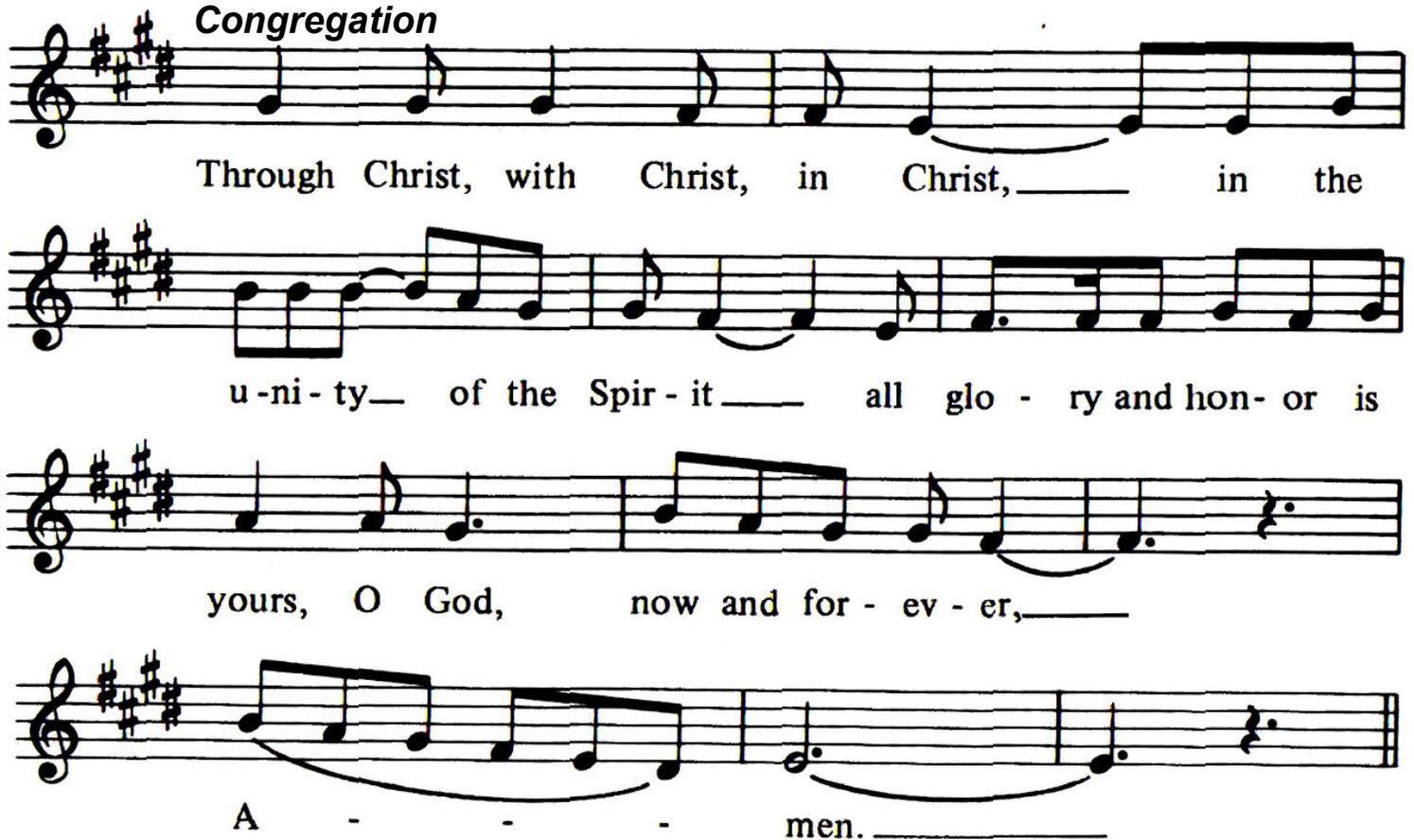
Congregation repeats:



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

P This we pray through Jesus Christ, our Savior and our friend.

Congregation



Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, _____ in the
u-ni-ty _____ of the Spir-it _____ all glo-ry and hon-or is
yours, O God, now and for-ev-er, _____
A - - - men. _____

The Lord's Prayer

P Make us bold, O merciful God, to address you as our Abba as we pray:

All **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.**

The Invitation

P Jesus Christ, risen from the dead,
offers everyone a place of welcome at His table of grace.
Come to the feast.

Note: the communion cups on the periphery of the tray contain red wine while the cups in the center contain white grape juice.

Gluten Free wafers available –ask the communion attendant

shed for you and
for all people
for the forgiveness of sin



All are Welcome!

Communion Songs



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,



mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world: grant us peace,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

Additional invocations:

you broke the bond of sin and of death:

Refrain

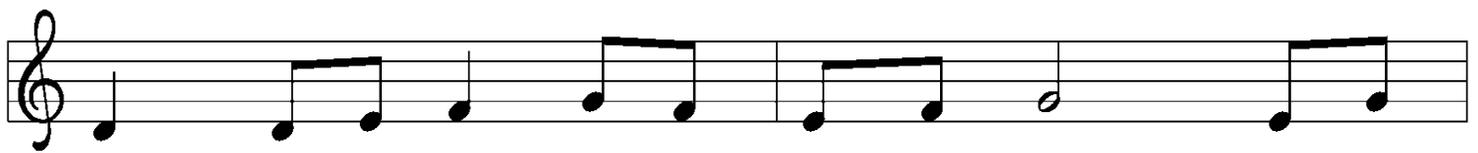
Bread of Life from Heaven



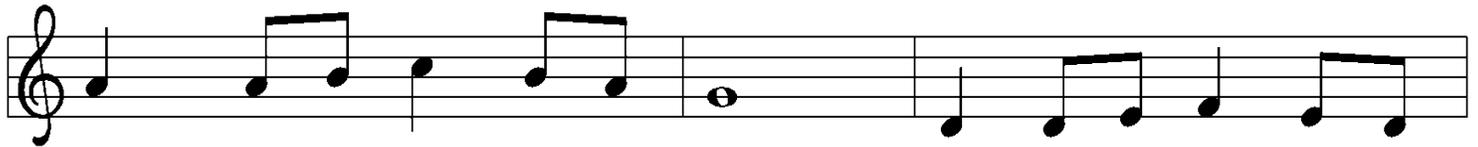
Bread of life from heav-en, your blood and bod - y giv - en, we



eat this bread and drink this cup un - til you come a - gain.



1 Break now the bread of Christ's sac - ri - fice; giv - ing
 2 Seek not the food that will pass a - way; set your
 3 Love as the one who, in love for you, gave him -
 4 Dwell in the one who now dwells in you; make your
 5 Drink of this cup and de - clare his death; eat this



thanks, hun - gry ones, gath - er round. Eat, all of you, and be
 hearts on the food that en - dures. Come, learn the true and the
 self for the life of the world. Come to the one who is
 home in the life - giv - ing Word. Know on - ly Christ, Ho - ly
 bread and be - lieve Eas - ter morn; trust his re - turn and, with

Refrain



sat - is - fied; in Christ's pres - ence the loaves will a - bound.
 liv - ing way, that the full - ness of life may be yours.
 food for you, that your hun - ger and thirst be no more.
 One of God, and be - lieve in the truth you have heard.
 ev - 'ry breath, praise the one in whom you are re - born.

I Love You Lord Words and Music by Laurie Klein



I love You, Lord, _____ and I lift my voice _____ to



wor - ship You, O my soul, re - joice! Take



joy, my King, _____ in _____ what You hear: _____ May it be a



sweet, sweet _____ sound in _____ Your ear. _____

Post Communion Blessing and Prayer

Please stand in body or spirit.

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

All Amen

THANKS BE TO YOU

Congregation:



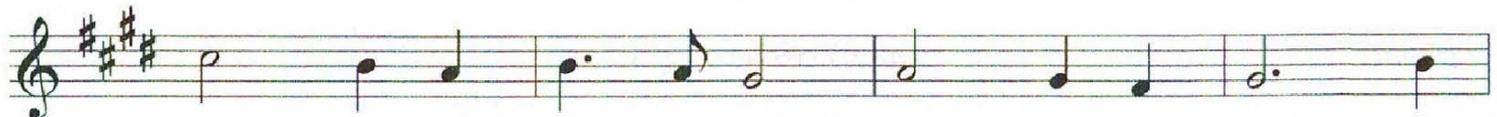
1. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy:
2. From of old you loved and sought us:



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!

Please be seated for
Stewardship of Life & Ministry Announcements

Farewell and Godspeed
Connie Larson

Benediction

[Please stand in body or spirit.](#)

(Leaders sing each line, the congregation repeats.)

May the Lord bless you and keep you.
May the Lord make His face to shine on you.
And be gracious to you.

May the Lord lift His countenance on you.
May the Lord lift His countenance on you.
May He keep you in perfect peace.

Dismissal

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

With the joy of new life in Christ Jesus,

“Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another,
as God in Christ has forgiven you.” *Ephesians 4:23*

Go in peace. Live in love, as Christ loved us.

Thanks be to God.

Front Cover:

THE EASTER SEASON

Speak It Plain

*Fifty days for impossible,
unlikely encounters,
signs of new life,
creative resilience,
and speechless joy.*

*Fifty days for scars shown,
real human bodies alive,
telling stories about what has hurt
and been made whole.*

*Fifty days for peace enfleshed,
moving through locked doors,
down dirt roads,
and on the beach smoking fish to eat for breakfast.*

*Fifty days for Spirit breathed,
forgiveness unleashed,
presence that's pure,
courage that finds us together for good.*

*Fifty days for jubilee,
debts fully repaid,
broken life restored,
people rejoicing and raised from the dead!*

"THIS MAN...YOU
CRUCIFIED AND
KILLED!?"
PETER ISN'T
PULLING ANY
PUNCHES!



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IT'S TRUE, WHEN
HE START'S
PREACHING, HE
GETS RIGHT TO IT.



BUT WHAT'S *MIRACULOUS* IS
THAT, AFTER BETRAYING
JESUS HIMSELF, HE CAN
SPEAK AT ALL!



MAYBE HE WAS
MAKING UP FOR
LOST WORDS!



ACTS 2:14A, 22-32

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Readings for next Sunday,
April 23rd

First Reading:

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Psalm:

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

Second Reading:

1 Peter 1:17-23

Gospel:

Luke 24:13-35

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