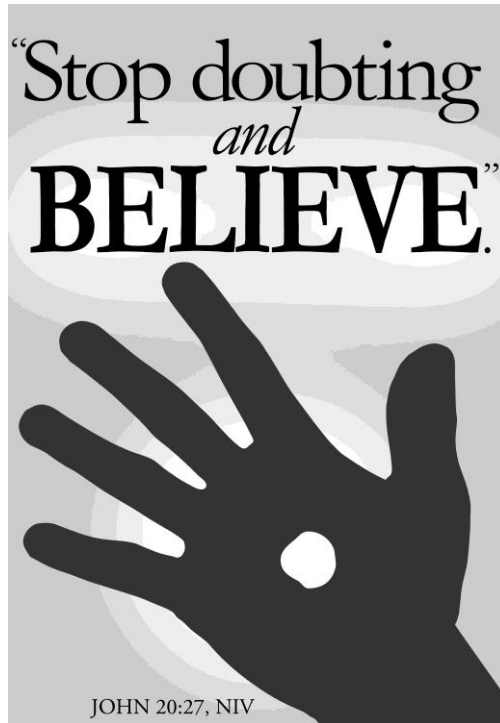


*Welcome to St. Paul's  
The Lord Bless You as You Worship!*



***Second Sunday of Easter  
April 27, 2025***

**St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
135 Hamilton Street, Penn Yan, NY 14527  
315-536-8165  
email: [office@stpaulspennyan.org](mailto:office@stpaulspennyan.org)  
website: [www.stpaulspennyan.org](http://www.stpaulspennyan.org)  
Rev. Lori Nickoloff, Pastor

***Enter to Listen, Exit to Serve***

## WORSHIP NOTES

*Thank you for worshipping with us this morning. We're glad you're here! May you experience God's love through the words you hear and sing, the meal you eat, and the fellowship of God's people.*

**Prayer Requests** If you have a prayer request, please give a note to the ushers or send an email to Pastor Lori.

**Face Masks** Just a friendly reminder...please wear a mask in the building if you have been exposed to someone with COVID-19/experiencing any kind of respiratory or flu-like symptoms. Masks are available on the table in the narthex in case you forget yours at home. Thank you!

**Holy Communion** All are welcome to share in Christ's meal of forgiveness and grace. Children who do not yet commune are welcome to come forward for a blessing. (If you feel your child is ready to receive or have additional questions, please speak with Pastor Lori.) Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. Wine is in the outer rings of the tray. Grape juice is in the center of the tray. Gluten-free bread is available; please indicate your need to the pastor.

**Pew Cushions** Are available on the pew in the back of the sanctuary.

**Hearing Assistance** Individual hearing devices are available at the back of the sanctuary. Please return the device at the end of worship so they can be sanitized.

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## We Worship God

### Welcome

#### Prelude:

*"Easter Alleluia"*

*E L Ashford*

*The prelude is a time for people to become quiet, to meditate and pray, and to prepare their hearts and minds to worship God. You are invited to pray this prayer to help you transition from the cares and activities of daily life to worshipping the Living God:*

**God of grace, you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may celebrate your glory and worship you in spirit and truth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*(Please rise in body or spirit)*

### Call to Worship

P: Blessed are we who have not seen and yet believe.

**All: Blessed are we by the gift of the Holy Spirit.**

P: We gather in the name of the one who lives among us still.

**All: Jesus is present with us. Praise God!**

### Confession and Forgiveness

P: We confess our sins before God and one another.

*Pause for silence and reflection.*

P: God of new life,

**All: We live as though you are still in the grave. We do not rejoice in the good news of liberation for all people without exception. We continue to sin against you and our neighbors by our actions and our failure to act. Shake us out of our complacency, cleanse our hearts of selfishness, and make us joyful participants in the work of bringing about your reign in the world today.**

P: We are an Easter people! Through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God has redeemed all of creation. Know that you are made whole, forgiven of all your sins, and empowered to live out the gospel in joy.

**All: Amen.**

# Gathering Hymn:

## 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

## Greeting

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

**All:** And also with you.

## Hymn of Praise:

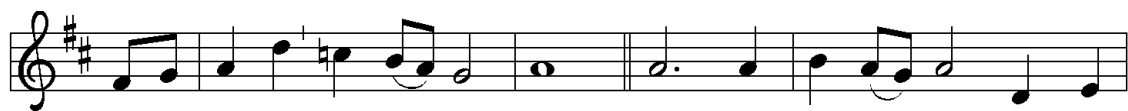
*This is the Feast*

*Refrain*

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

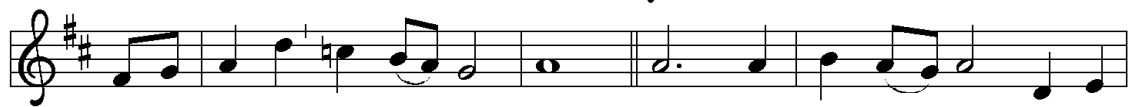


strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*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,

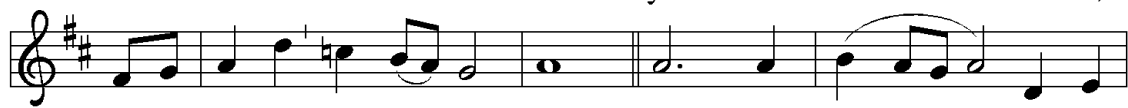


glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*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

P: Resurrected Lord,

**All: you visit us again with the blessing of your peace. Endow us with your spirit and fortify us to go out in good cheer as your faithful witnesses. In your holy name we pray. Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

## We Hear God's Word

### Prayer for Illumination

A: Almighty God,

**All: through your only Son you overcame death and opened to us the light of eternity. Enlighten our minds and kindle our hearts with the presence of your Spirit, that we may hear your words of comfort and challenge in the reading of the scriptures, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

~ from a collection of prayers posted on the **Worship@North** website. <https://northchurchindy.wordpress.com/>

### Psalm 118:14-29

A: The Lord is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.

**All: There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous: 'The right hand of the Lord does valiantly; the right hand of the Lord is exalted; the right hand of the Lord does valiantly.'**

A: I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord.  
**All: The Lord has punished me severely, but he did not give me over to death.**  
A: Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.  
**All: This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.**  
A: I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.  
**All: The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.**  
A: This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.  
**All: This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.**  
A: Save us, we beseech you, O Lord!  
**All: O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!**  
A: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
**All: We bless you from the house of the Lord.**  
A: The Lord is God, and he has given us light.  
**All: Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.**  
A: You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you.  
**All: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.**

### **Revelation 1:4-8**

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.

A: Word of God, Word of life.  
**All: Thanks be to God!**

*(Please rise in body or spirit)*



## Gospel Acclamation

#175

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.*

Music: "Alleluia 7," Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994, and the Taizé Community

Music © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. [www.giamusic.com](http://www.giamusic.com). 800.442.3358.

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## The Gospel

**P:** The Gospel according to John.

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

### John 20:19-31

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.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

*(Please be seated)*

## Sermon

Rev. Lori Nickoloff

*Following the sermon, there is a time of silence for reflection and quiet meditation. Our liturgy is made up not only of words, gestures, and music, but also moments of silence.*

*As the hymn begins, the assembly stands to sing.*

## Hymn of the Day:

*Touch that Soothes and Heals*

ACS#939



1	Touch that	soothes	-	and	heals the	hurt - ing,	hands that
2	Feed the	hun -	-	gry, clothe the	na - ked,	vis - it	
3	Love and	serve	-	with - out dis -	tinc - tion	all earth's	
4	Hands that	beck -	-	on lit - tle	chil - dren,	bind a	



break a loaf of bread; steps that walk be - side the  
ones in need of care, give the home - less warmth and  
peo - ple, first and least. Know with - in each act of  
wound, pre - pare a meal, feet that rush to share good



wea - ry, bear - ing bur - dens in their stead:  
shel - ter: Christ will find a wel - come there.  
kind - ness hope and whole - ness are in - creased.  
tid - ings, Christ a - ris - en, still re - veal.

*Refrain*



“See my hands and feet,” said Je - sus, love a - ris - en from the



grave. “Be my hands and feet,” said Je - sus, “live as



ones I died to save.”

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: CIVILITY, Gregg DeMey, b. 1972

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## Nicene Creed

A: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

All: **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 one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### Prayers of Intercession

A: With humility we come before you to offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

A: God, in a world where proof is everything and faith often seems foolish, give us courage to proclaim what the Spirit has revealed to us, not through our eyes but through our hearts and lives. God of grace and mercy,

**All: receive our prayer.**

A: From seas to mountains to great plains to deserts, all of creation is the work of your hand. Teach us to tend to it with great love and care. God of grace and mercy,

**All: receive our prayer.**

A: We lift up leaders in the church, including pastors, deacons, and bishops. Guide them with your truth and help them to lead with compassion and understanding. God of grace and mercy,

**All: receive our prayer.**

A: Be with doctors, nurses, and all medical staff. Guide their work with wisdom and understanding and skill. Draw near to those who are in need of your healing (*especially...*) God of grace and mercy,

**All: receive our prayer.**

A: Be with those who mourn this day. May they cherish memories of their loved ones, and may you bring them peace. God of grace and mercy,

**All: receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

A: We remember with joy all the saints, like Stephen, who lived and died in the faith. May we follow their example and live our lives to you. God of grace and mercy,

**All: receive our prayer.**

P: These and the prayers of all creation we lift to you in Jesus' name.

**All: Amen.**

### **Sharing of Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**All: And also to you.**

*Please turn to the people near you to offer a gesture of peace and the greeting, "God's peace be with you!" You are also encouraged to turn to the back of the sanctuary and greet the worshippers on Zoom with a wave or gesture of peace.*

*(Please be seated)*

### **Offering**

*This month our Local Hunger Offering will be given to **The Literacy Volunteers of Yates/Ontario Counties.***

**Offertory Music**

*"Hymn of Glory"*

*Edward Broughton*

*(Please rise in body or spirit)*

**Offertory Hymn:** *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending* *ELW 678 (verse one)*

***God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store:  
nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door,  
gifted by you, we turn to you, off'ring up ourselves in praise;  
thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.***

### **Offertory Prayer**

A: We ask no greater gift, O God, than the gift of your presence.

**All:** In joyful thanksgiving, we lay these offerings before you as a witness to the power of your life in us. Use them, we pray, for your holy purposes. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## We Share God's Meal

### The Great Thanksgiving

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**All:** **And also with you.**

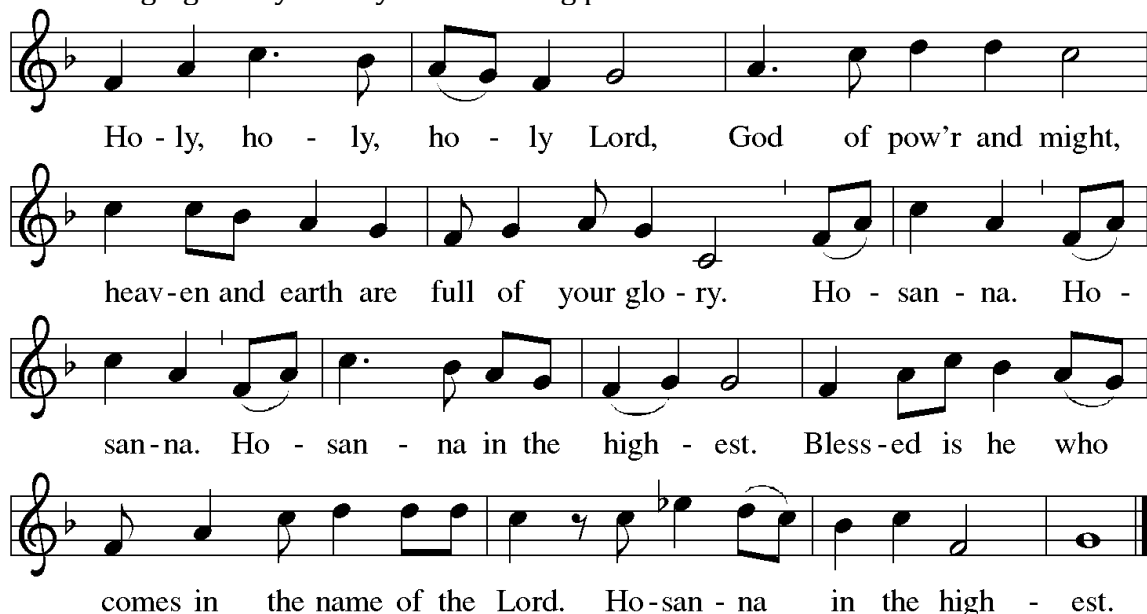
**P:** Lift up your hearts.

**All:** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All:** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**P:** It is our duty and our joy to give you thanks and praise, Lord God of heaven and earth, because you are continually renewing your work of creation and transforming it to show your glory through resurrection... .. And so we gladly thank you, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending praise.



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.

P: Forgiving God, your Son's disciples cowered behind locked doors; and yet in him you visited them on the evening of resurrection and breathed on them the Spirit of peace ... ..Great is the mystery of faith.

**All: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

P: Lord and God, intimate savior of our lives and cosmic ruler of the universe, in Jesus you are the substance of things hoped for and the knowledge of things unseen. Visit any who struggle under the shadow of doubt; minister among all who suffer beneath the claims of oppressive rule; resurrect your children, your church, and your earth. Bless those who have not seen and yet believe, and shape your wounded body the church to let the world see you through its scars. Lift every voice to sing your Easter glory, until the day when all stand before your throne, in eternal communion with one another and with you, ever one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

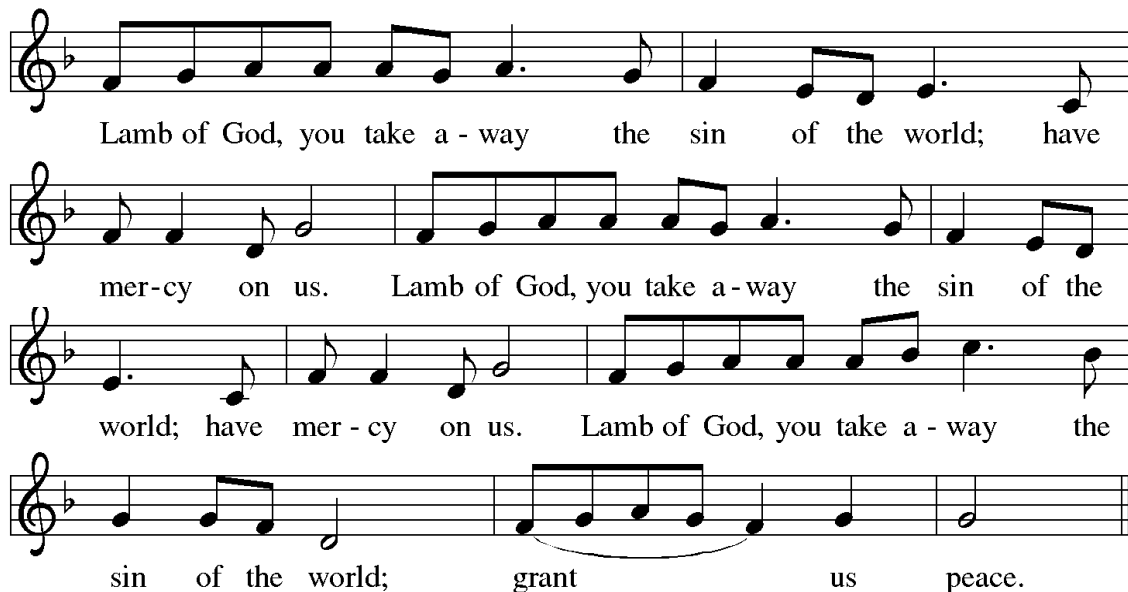
### **Eucharistic Invitation**

P: Come to the table of the risen Lord. Doubters and deniers—there is room for you here. The fearful and the fretful—there is room for you here. The timid and the tired—there is room for you here. All are welcome. All are forgiven. All are fed at this table.

**All: Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

## 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.

## Hymns During Communion:

*The Strife is O're, the Battle Done*

*Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven*

*Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive*

**#366 (Requested Hymn)**

**#864**

**#605**

## Table Blessing

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

**All: Amen**

## Prayer After Communion:

**A:** Living God,

**All:** as the disciples ate and drank with their risen Lord, we have been nourished with the very presence of Christ. Through this meal may we be strengthened to keep your word and to proclaim the power of your love in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.



## We Leave to Serve

### Announcements

### Benediction

P: Go out into the world as the people of God in this place, and may the God who raised Jesus from the dead grant you grace, the Son who gave his life for you give you peace, and the Spirit who is with you day by day, inspire you to greater service both now and forever more.

**All: Amen**

~ written by Rev Margaret Whyte, and posted on the Church of Scotland's **Starters for Sunday** website. <http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/>

### Litany

L: Eyewitnesses evidence is the weakest evidence.

**All: We all see and remember things differently.**

L: Thomas did not believe the witness of his friends.

**All: He insisted on seeing for himself.**

L: Jesus appeared again, and Thomas believed.

**All: Then Jesus sent these eyewitnesses into the world to tell what they had seen and knew to be true.**

L: And probably every one of them told the story differently, because that's human nature.

**All: But everyone agrees on one truth: Jesus is risen.**

L: While we may, like our friend Thomas, continue to doubt, let us not worry about our questions.

**All: Let us listen for the still, small voice saying:**

L: Yes. It is real. He is real.

**All: Let us be, not eyewitnesses, but heart-witnesses, to the risen Christ.**

*(Please stand to sing the hymn and turn to face the flame as it exits the church)*

# Sending Hymn:

# We Walk by Faith

#635



1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with  
 2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor  
 3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and  
 4 For you, O res - ur - rec - ted Lord, are  
 5 And when our life of faith is done, in



gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as  
 fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise  
 may our faith a - bound to call on you when  
 found in means di - vine: be - neath the wa - ter  
 realms of clear - er light may we be - hold you



none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."  
 we re - joice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"  
 you are near and seek where you are found:  
 and the word, be - neath the bread and wine.  
 as you are, with full and end - less sight.

Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt.

Music: SHANTI, Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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## Sending

A: Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

All: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## Postlude

*"Thine is the Glory"*

*Gordon Young*

### **Hymn Notes “Touch That Soothes and Heals” ACS 939**

Mary Louise Bringle (1953-) Is Professor of Philosophy and Religious Studies and Chair of the Humanities Division at Brevard College (Brevard NC). She has written hymns since 1999 and published two collections of her work: “Joy and wonder, love and longing” (2002) and “In wind and wonder” (2007). Her hymns and anthem texts are numerous and well represented in many denominations. We have sung her hymn “As the winter days grow longer” during Lent.

This text is filled with the images of caring through the works of Jesus as we are commanded to love one another through our works of faith. As the resurrected Christ,

Jesus showed his hands and feet to Thomas and the others; Jesus’ sacrificial use of his earthly body was the ultimate gift of Love. As a redeemed people we are called to offer our selves, souls, and bodies to truly “live as ones I died to save.”

Greg DeMey (1972) has a BA in Music Theory and Composition from Calvin College and graduated from Calvin Theological Seminary (M Div. 2006) He is currently the Teaching Pastor at Elmhurst Reformed Church in Elmhurst IL.

The tune “CIVILITY” is an alternate tune for “There’s a wideness in God’s mercy.” It has a gently flowing character with a comfortable melodic range. The texture is simple with warm light and dark harmonies.

The lowest note in the stanzas sets the words “loaf of bread, need of care, first and least, prepare a meal” and melodically joins them with Jesus’ sacrifice in the closing phrase of the refrain “live as ones I died to save.” There is a gentle harmonic finish with the IV-I cadence instead of the usual V-I and we hear this as the familiar chords of a sung Amen.

