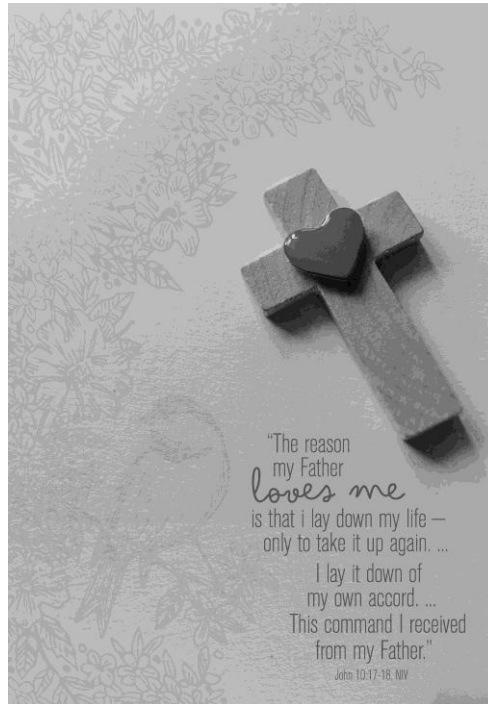


*Welcome to St. Paul's
The Lord Bless You as You Worship!*



***Third Sunday of Easter
April 19, 2026***

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
135 Hamilton Street, Penn Yan, NY 14527
315-536-8165

email: office@stpaulspennyan.org

website: 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:

"Lord Jesu Christ, be Present Now"

Paul Manz

*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: Our risen savior joins us on the road.

All: **We had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel.**

P: Jesus who was hidden is revealed in the breaking of bread.

All: **Our eyes are opened and our hearts burn within us! Alleluia!**

Confession and Forgiveness

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

Pause for silence and reflection.

P: Merciful God,

All: **give us the willingness to be honest with ourselves, with one another, and with you about the ways in which we have caused harm in this world. Give us the openness to see where our actions or failures to act have led to pain in those closest to us and in those far away. Do not let us sink further into self-harm through self-blame and hatred, but give us the courage to set right our wrongs, and to return to you again and again for forgiveness.**

P: The risen God has raised you to newness of life in Jesus' name. You are in Christ a new creation, and God forgives you every wrong. Celebrate with all of creation a world redeemed, and lavish the love you have received on all that is.

All: **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn:

As We Gather at Your Table

#522

1 As we gath-er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,
2 Turn our wor-ship in - to wit-ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;
3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast

help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.
where tri - um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.

Nour-ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;
Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for - give as you for - gave;
There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,

teach us through this ho - ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.
may we still be - hold your im-age in the world you died to save.
as we join with saints and an-gels to re - peat the sound-ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855–1932

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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 - 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



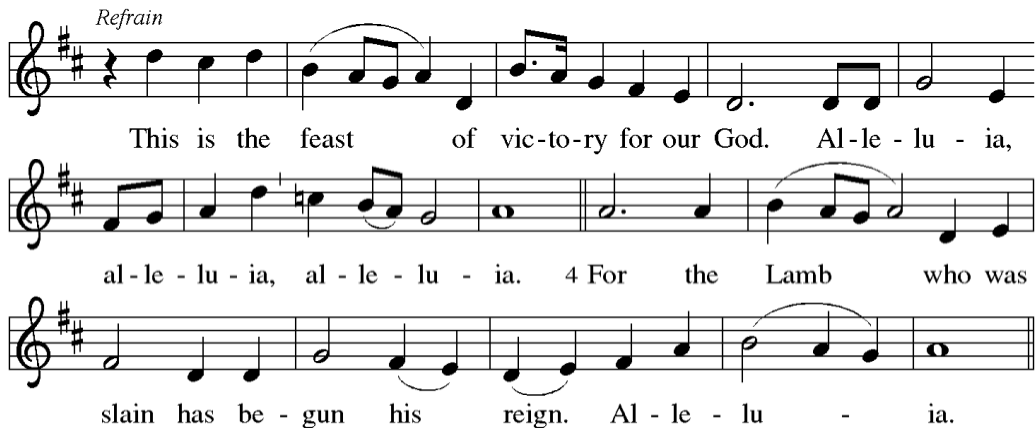
strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

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

P: Gracious God,

All: we are often lost and confused as we contemplate the pains of the world around us. Open our eyes to recognize your presence in our midst, and fill us with joy in the knowledge that you share our place no matter what we are experiencing. 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/>

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified." Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Psalm 116:1-4

A: I love the Lord, because he has heard my voice and my supplications.

All: **Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.**

A: The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish.

All: **Then I called on the name of the Lord: "O Lord, I pray, save my life!"**

1 Peter 1:17-23

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God. Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

A: Word of God, Word of life.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

Please rise in body or spirit

Gospel Acclamation

Be Not Afraid

#388

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

The image shows a musical score for a Gospel Acclamation. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the treble clef staff. The music is in a simple, homophonic style, suitable for a church service.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

Text: Matthew 28:5; Taizé Community

Music: BE NOT AFRAID, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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The Gospel

P: The Gospel according to Luke.

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

Luke 24:13-35

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?” He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.” Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not

necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

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:

Abide, O Dearest Jesus

#539

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Abide, O Dearest Jesus'. It consists of four systems of music. The first system has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style. Below the first system are five lines of lyrics. The second system has a bass clef and the same key signature. The bass line is written in a simple, accompanimental style. The third system has a treble clef and the same key signature. The melody continues. Below the third system are five lines of lyrics. The fourth system has a bass clef and the same key signature. The bass line continues.

1 A - bide, O dear - est Je - sus, a - mong us with your grace,
2 A - bide, O dear Re - deem - er, a - mong us with your word
3 A - bide with heav'n-ly bright - ness a - mong us, pre - cious Light;
4 A - bide with rich - est bless - ings a - mong us, boun-teous Lord;
5 A - bide, O faith - ful Sav - ior, a - mong us with your love;

that e - vil may not harm us nor we to sin give place.
and thus now and here - af - ter true peace and joy af - ford.
your truth di - rect and keep us from er - ror's gloom - y night.
let us in grace and wis - dom grow dai - ly through your word.
grant stead-fast-ness and help us to reach our home a - bove.

Text: Josua Stegmann, 1588–1632; tr. August Crull, 1846–1923
Music: CHRISTUS, DER IST MEIN LEBEN, Melchior Vulpius, 1570–1615

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: We pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

A: You are made known to us in the breaking of bread and in many other seemingly simple moments. Help us to recognize all the ways you show up in our lives. Holy and wonderful God,

All: receive our prayer.

A: You reveal yourself to us in the beauty and wonder of your creation. Make us to care for habitats and animals, ecosystems and the climate as you care for us. May we rejoice in your presence in nature for generations to come. Holy and wonderful God,

All: receive our prayer.

A: Open the hearts of all who lead, that they might recognize your call to love and serve all those in their trust. Inspire us to hold leaders accountable, and to work with them to bring about the good of all people. Holy and wonderful God,

All: receive our prayer.

A: You walk alongside all who face uncertainty and pain in their lives, due to health issues, family strife, addiction, injury, or trauma. Comfort them with your presence, and guide all who care for them that they might experience healing (*especially...*) and those we name silently in our hearts. Holy and wonderful God,

All: receive our prayer.

A: Be with all who face discrimination based on race, religion, gender, age, sexual orientation, ethnicity, immigrant status, and every other designation used to deny people human rights. Make us relentless in our work to create inclusive and safe communities. Holy and wonderful God,

All: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: Grant us wisdom and discernment in all that we do, following the example of the saints of times past. Holy and wonderful God,

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

Choir

Please rise in body or spirit

Offertory Hymn:

verse 4 of The Day of Resurrection ELW 361

***All praise to God the Father, all praise to Christ the Son,
all praise to God the Spirit, eternal Three in One!
Let all the ransomed number fall down before the throne,
and honor, pow'r, and glory ascribe to God alone!***

Offertory Prayer

A: God of the journey,

All: we offer with grateful hearts only what you have first provided to us out of your generous abundance—our financial resources, our time and energy, and our own hearts. Accept and use them in love and service to all in need. 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: Blessing God, you walk with us from the Jerusalem of our failure to the Emmaus of your glorious revelation... .. 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: Breaking God, when your Son sat at table with his crestfallen disciples, he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread... .. Great is the mystery of faith.

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

P: Sharing God, in the power of your Holy Spirit repeat among us your Son's actions of taking, blessing, breaking, and sharing, that you may take, bless, break, and share us, and that the world may recognize you in the way you act on our lives. Breathe your Spirit on your church, that we might feel our hearts on fire as you talk with us and explain the scriptures to us. Inspire all who stand still, looking sad. Open the eyes of all who are kept from perceiving you. Bring your bread of life to feed all who hunger in body, mind, or spirit, until the day when we live your life abundant with the communion of saints, in the presence and companionship of your Holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, ever one God.

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: Jesus, who reveals himself in the breaking of the bread, invites you now to this meal in which he is fully present. Come and dine with him and your siblings in his holy name, and be fed and nourished for life's journey.

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:

Bread of Life from Heaven

#474

By Your Hand You Feed Your People

#469

At the Lamb's Hight Feast We Sing

#362

Bread of Life from Heaven

Refrain

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

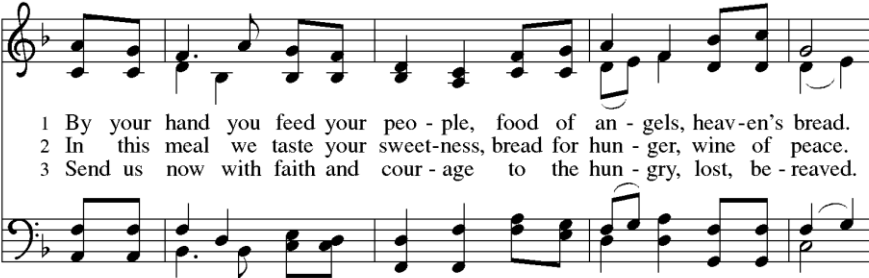
thanks, hun - gry ones, gath - er round. Eat, all of you, and be
 hearts on the food that en - dures. Come, learn the true and the
 self for the life of the world. Come to the one who is
 home in the life - giv - ing Word. Know on - ly Christ, Ho - ly
 bread and be - lieve Eas - ter morn; trust his re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

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.

Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952
 Music: ARGENTINE SANTO | BREAK NOW THE BREAD, Argentine traditional, refrain; Marty Haugen, b. 1950, stanzas
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By Your Hand You Feed Your People

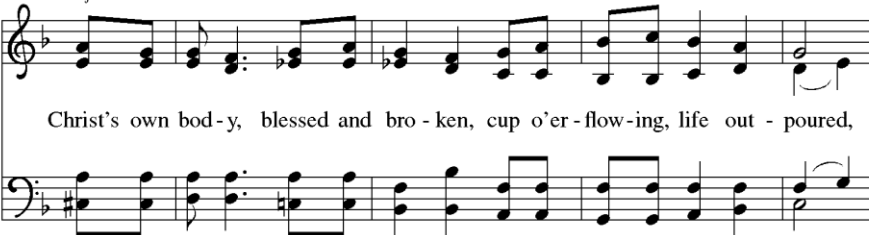


1 By your hand you feed your peo - ple, food of an - gels, heav-en's bread.
2 In this meal we taste your sweet-ness, bread for hun - ger, wine of peace.
3 Send us now with faith and cour - age to the hun - gry, lost, be - reaved.

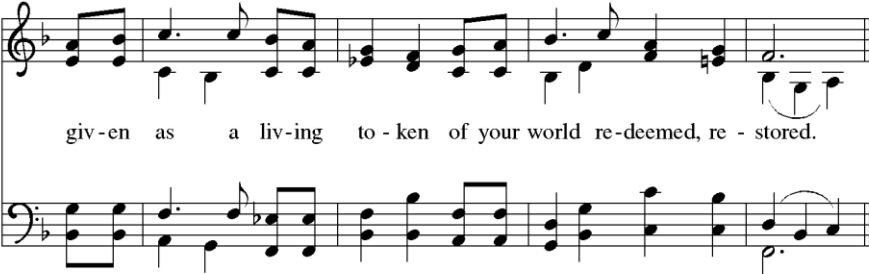


For these gifts we did not la - bor, by your grace have we been fed:
Ho - ly word and ho - ly wis - dom sat - is - fy our deep - est needs.
In our liv - ing and our dy - ing, we be - come what we re - ceive:

Refrain



Christ's own bod - y, blessed and bro - ken, cup o'er - flow - ing, life out - poured,



giv - en as a liv - ing to - ken of your world re - deemed, re - stored.

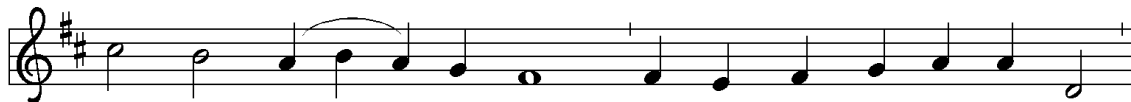
Text: Susan R. Briel, b. 1952
Music: CAMROSE, Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to
 2 Praise we Christ, whose love di - vine gives his
 3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured death's dread
 4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, pas - chal



our vic - to - rious king, who has washed us in the tide
 sa - cred blood for wine, gives his bod - y for the feast—
 an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go
 vic - tim, pas - chal bread; with sin - cer - i - ty and love



flow - ing from his wound - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
 through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
 eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty victim from the sky,
 hell's fierce pow'rs beneath you lie;
 you have conquered in the fight,
 you have brought us life and light.
 Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
 This alone can sin destroy;
 from sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
 newborn souls in you to be.
 Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,
 now no more the grave enthrall;
 you have opened paradise,
 and your saints in you shall rise.
 Alleluia!

8 Father, who the crown shall give,
 Savior, by whose death we live,
 Spirit, guide through all our days:
 Three in One, your name we praise.
 Alleluia!

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: Life is a journey.

All: **We don't always know quite where we're going,**

L: but our God walks beside us.

All: **When our eyes are open, we see God at work all around us.**

L: Help us to stop and really look, O God.

All: **Fill us with the gratitude of knowing you are with us in all things.**

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

Sending Hymn:

Alleluia! Jesus is Risen

#377



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!
 2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter
 3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;
 4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent:
 5 Cit - v of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er.



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!
 tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;
 life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;
 death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.
 gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!
 break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:
 heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,
 Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!
 riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
 Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
 gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
 Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.
 sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!



Refrain
 Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926
Music: David N. Johnson, 1922–1987
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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 ELW 539 “Abide, O Dearest Jesus”

Josua Stegmann (1588-1632) received an MA in 1611 and DD in 1617 from the University of Leipzig where he taught philosophy. Later as Pastor and professor at Stadhagen Gymnasium. When the Gymnasium became a university and moved to Rinteln, he went along as professor of Theology. The Thirty Years War found him on the wrong side, and he was forced out in 1623. With the Edict of Restitution in 1629 his salary was taken and he was generally harassed until his death in 1632.

Stegmann’s text is built on the aspects of the disciples’ requests that Jesus stay with them after meeting on the Emmaus Road. Having not yet received the Holy Spirit, their understanding of Him is still based on His physical presence and Word being necessary to receive His blessings.

Melchior Vulpus (1570-1615) was from a poor craftsman’s family and even with limited education became a well-regarded composer of mostly sacred music. ELW has four of his tunes with 385, “Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing” being most familiar.

CHRISTUS, DER IST MEIN LEBEN (Christ, you are my life) is a simple and straightforward tune; functional and unpretentious, it works at any speed and should be paced according to its associated text. However, standing on its own, it is rather jaunty and at a quick tempo, with its strong upbeats and one dotted rhythm, could be a folk-like whistle tune. For our text it is best when it moves with a somewhat yearning feeling matching the disciples’ sentiment.

