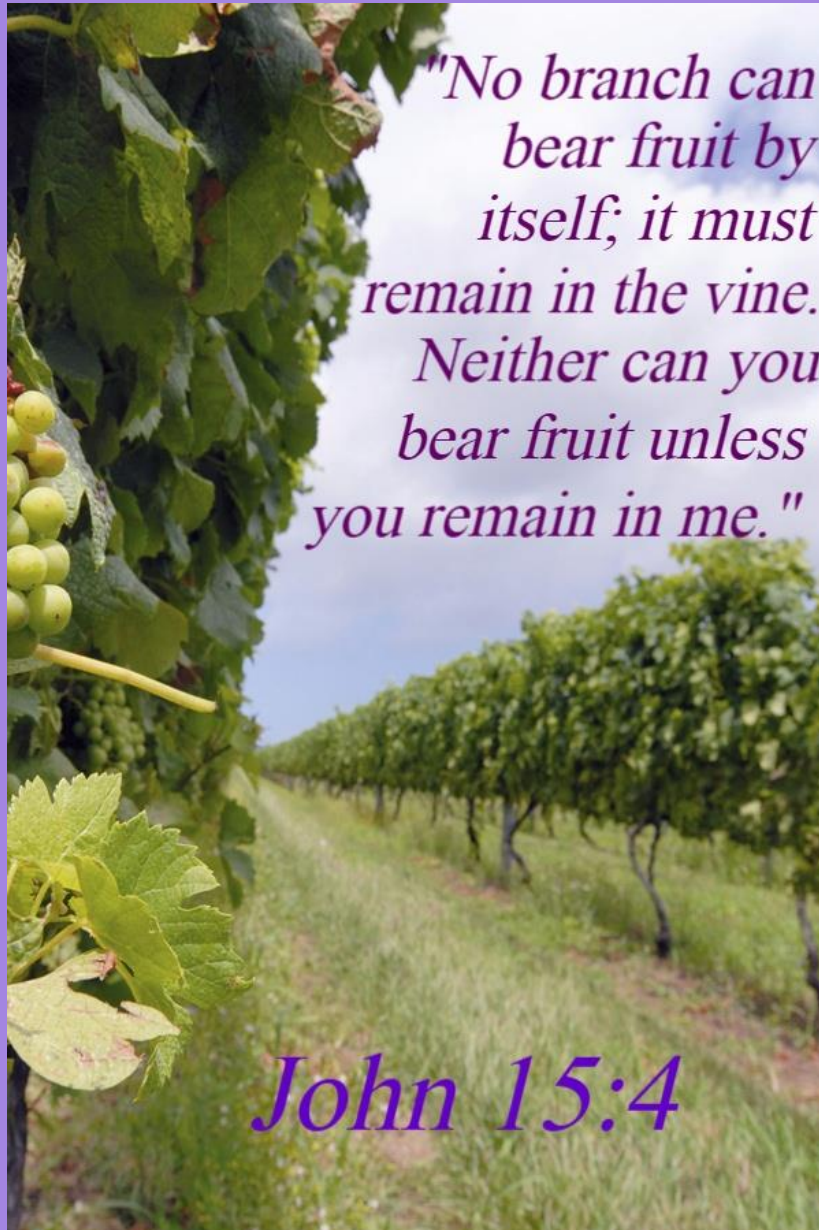


Welcome to:
First Lutheran Church
Tiffin, Ohio



April 28, 2024
5th Sunday of Easter

WELCOME TO FIRST LUTHERAN

This Sunday's image of how the risen Christ shares his life with us is the image of the vine. Christ the vine and we the branches are alive in each other, in the mystery of mutual abiding described in the gospel and the first letter of John. Baptism makes us a part of Christ's living and life-giving self and makes us alive with Christ's life. As the vine brings food to the branches, Christ feeds us at his table. We are sent out to bear fruit for the life of the world.

PRELUDE

BRIDEGROOM

Robert A. Hobby

Six Preludes

VI. Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song

Please stand.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Softly spoken.

P: Christ is Risen!

C: **He is Risen, Indeed!**

In a regular voice.

P: Christ is Risen!

C: **He is Risen, Indeed!**

Lifting our voices toward heaven.

P: Christ is Risen!

C: **He is Risen, Indeed!**

Alleluia!

GATHERING SONG

449

WE KNOW THAT CHRIST IS RAISED



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.
3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.
4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows



Em - braced by death, he broke its fear - ful hold,
Re - born, we share with him an Eas - ter life,
The Spir - it's fis - sion shakes the church of God.
as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.
as liv - ing mem - bers of our Sav - ior Christ.
Bap - tized, we live with God the Three in One.
The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing:



Hal - le - lu - jah!

Text: John B. Geyer, b. 1932

Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852-1924

Text © John B. Geyer.

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.

GATHERING LITANY

P: We gather, a community of faith to celebrate.

C: God is among us.

P: We gather to celebrate:

C: That no darkness can extinguish the light.

P: We gather to celebrate:

C: That love is more powerful than death.

P: We gather to celebrate:

C: That peace is stronger than violence.

L: Together we celebrate that, we are called:

C: To go out!

L: We are called:

C: To care for all!

L: We are called:

C: To share the Gospel!

L: We are called:

C: To forgive and reconcile!

L: We are called:

C: To trust God for all that we need!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: As a community of faith, celebrating the light, love, and peace of the Risen Christ, Let us pray:

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.

Please be seated.

BELLS OF PRAISE

CHEREPONI

Kevin McChesney

Jesu, Jesu Fill Us with Your Love

A READING FROM ACTS

8:26-40

R: 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." ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit

beside him. ³²Now 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." The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As 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?" ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When 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. ⁴⁰But 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.

R: Word of God! Word of Life!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

A READING FROM 1ST JOHN

4:7-21

R: A reading from 1st John 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.

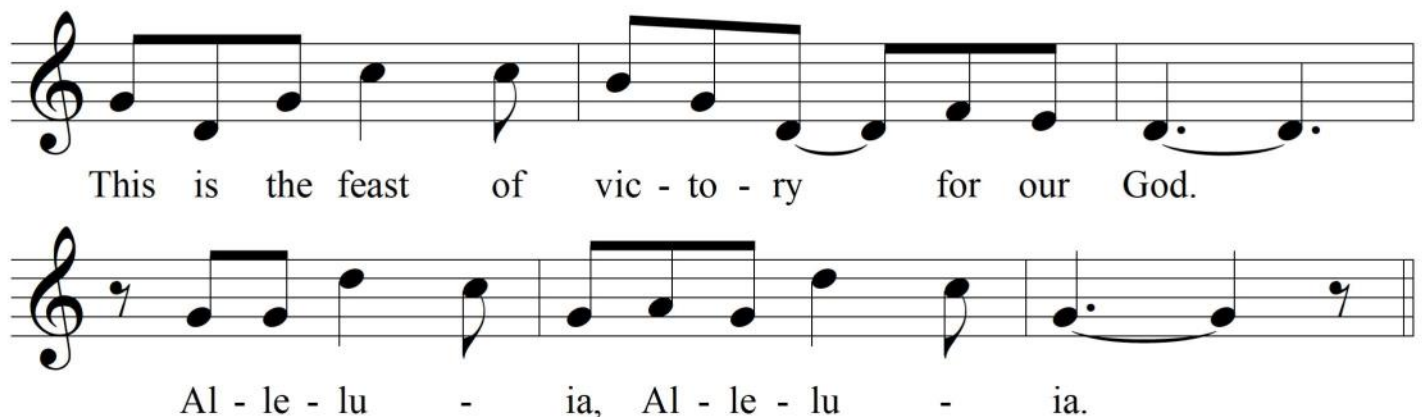
¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So we have known and believe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

R: Word of God! Word of Life!

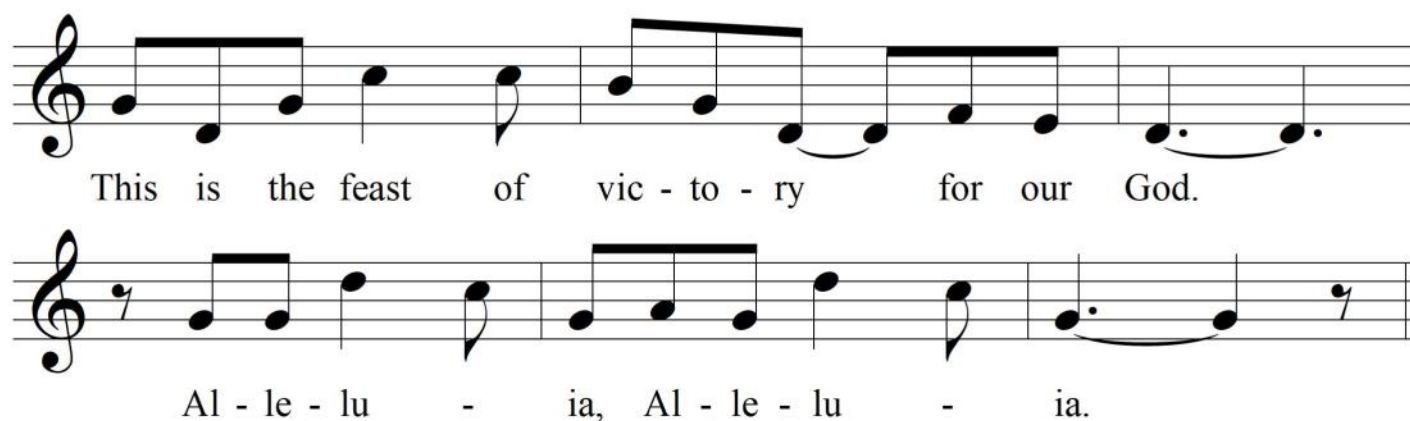
C: **Thanks be to God!**

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



After cantor sings the verse, we respond:



A READING FROM ST. JOHN

15:1-8

P: This is the Holy Gospel according to St. John the 15th chapter:



P: [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 our Lord!



Praise _____ to you, _____ O Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



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

Our Cantor will sing the verse. Then we respond:



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,



for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign.



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

Please be seated.

TODAY'S REFLECTION

Pastor C.J. Bailey



Please stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

403

LIKE THE MURMUR OF THE DOVE'S SONG



1 Like the mur - mur of the dove's song, like the chal - lenge of her
2 To the mem - bers of Christ's bod - y, to the branch-es of the
3 With the heal - ing of di - vi - sion, with the cease - less voice of



flight, like the vig - or of the wind's rush, like the
vine, to the church in faith as - sem - bled, to our
prayer, with the pow'r to love and wit - ness, with the



new flame's ea - ger might: come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.
midst as gift and sign: come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.
peace be - yond com - pare: come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.

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

Music: BRIDEGROOM, Peter Cutts, b. 1937

Text © 1982 Hope Publishing Company.

Music © 1969 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

A LITANY FOR EASTER

P: O God, who made the world and everything in it,
we pray with one voice, proclaiming your presence to all the earth.

L: For skeptics and believers, for clergy high and low;
For those who seek God at home, at work, in the streets, and in
the pews, For all who search for life, come and listen:

C: And we will tell you what our God has done for us.

P: We are alive in the spirit.
We are saved through water.
Because Christ lives, we also live.

C: For we too are God's offspring.

L: For presidents and prime ministers, for bosses and wardens;
For those who set the course at home, at work, in the streets, and
in the pews, For all who wield power, come and listen:

C: And we will tell you what our God has done for us.

P: We do not fear what others fear.
We proclaim the hope that is in us.
Because Christ lives, we also live.

C: For we too are God's offspring.

L: For friends and lovers, for neighbors and strangers,
For those who eat bread at home, at work, in the streets,
and in the pews, For all who live in the world, come and listen:

C: And we will tell you what our God has done for us.

P: In God, we live and move and have our being.
From God, we have life and breath and all things.
Because Christ lives, we also live.

C: For we too are God's offspring.

L: For the sick and troubled, for the fearful and alone,
For those in pain at home, at work, in the streets, and in the pews,
For all who suffer, come and listen:

C: And we will tell you what our God has done for us.

P: Our prayers are not rejected.
Our souls are held in life.
In truth, our God has heard us,
and love is not withheld.
Because Christ lives, we also live.

C: For we too are God's offspring.

L: For those kept in memory, for those long forgotten,
For all who ever took the breath of life at home, at work, in the
streets, and in the pews, For the dead and those who mourn them,
come and listen:

C: And we will tell you what our God has done for us.

P: We are blessed by your presence.
We are filled with the Spirit.
Because Christ lives, we also live.

C: For we too are God's offspring.

L: God of heaven and earth, Companion in life, Spirit of truth,
to you alone we turn our eyes and lift our hearts.

C: Thanks be to God!

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

You are encouraged to share the Peace of Christ with those around you as you feel comfortable.

OFFERING & ORGAN MEDITATION

NOEL NOUVELET

Michael Burkhardt

Now the Green Blade Rises

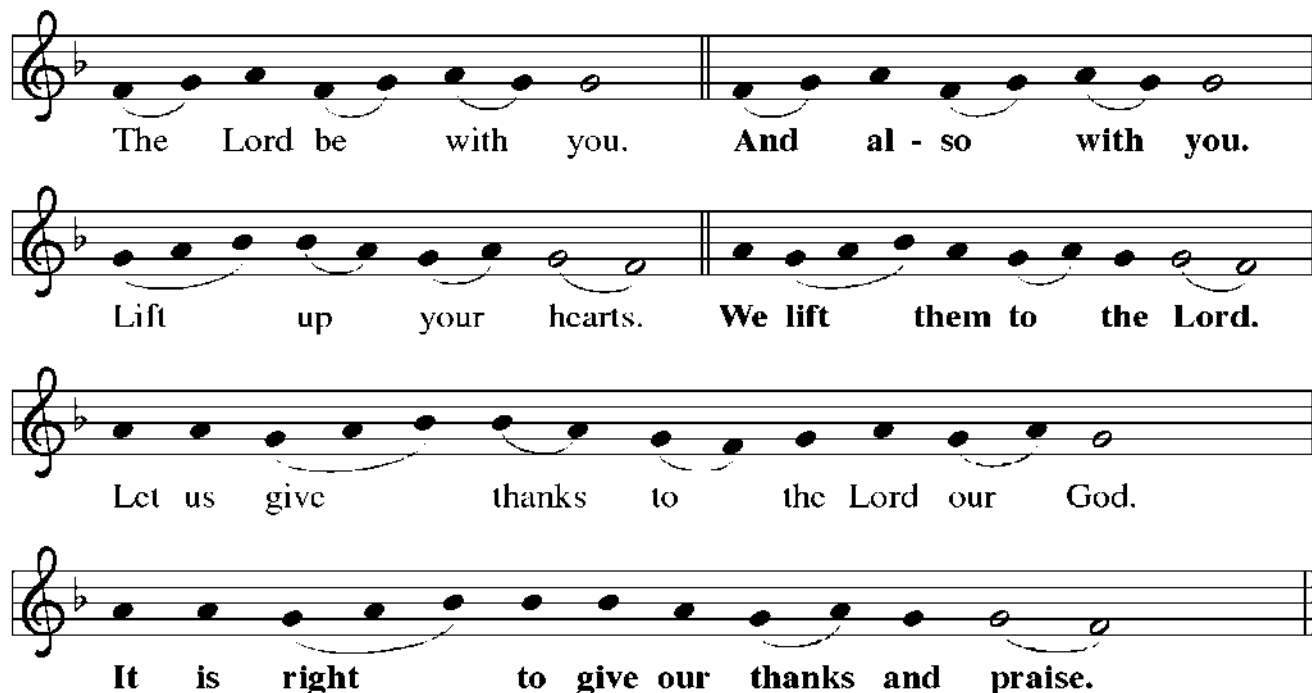
Please stand.

THE PRAYER BEFORE COMMUNION

L: Let us pray. 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. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



The musical notation for 'The Great Thanksgiving' consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are quarter notes, mostly beamed in pairs or groups of four. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words spanning across bar lines. The first staff has a double bar line after the first measure. The second staff also has a double bar line after the first measure. The third and fourth staves end with double bar lines.

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

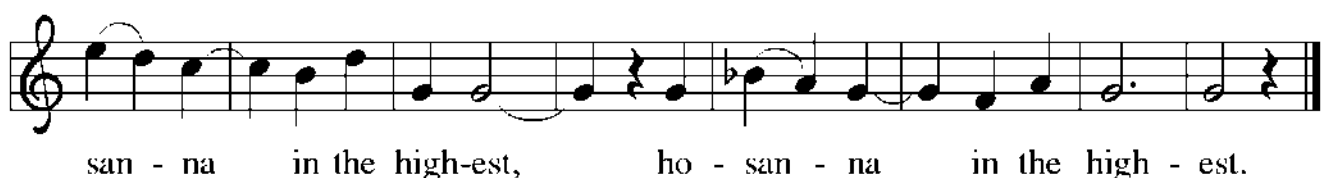
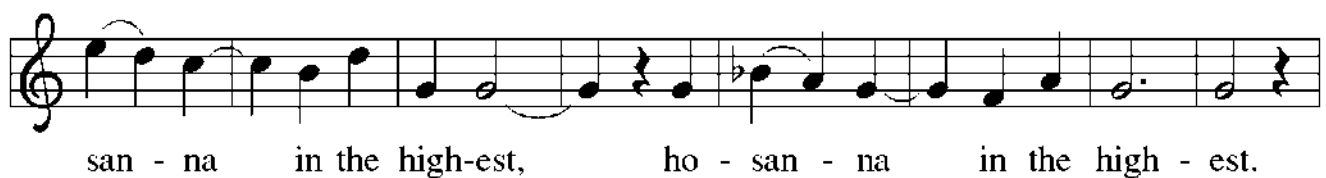
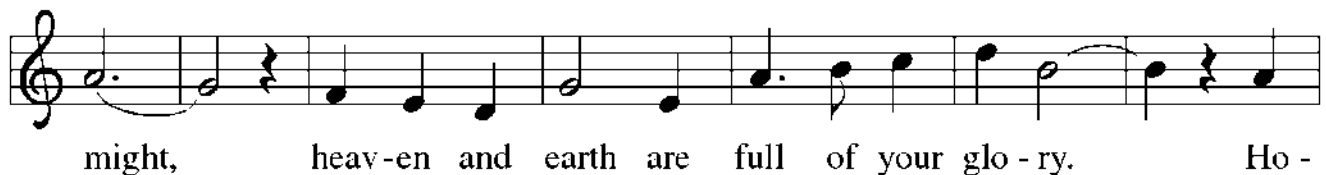
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

BLESSING OF THE MEAL

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to
the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus,
your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed, 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.

Again, 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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: 
Christ has died. Christ is ris-en. Christ will come a - gain.

P: Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; We ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



LORD'S PRAYER

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

C: **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.**

Please be seated.

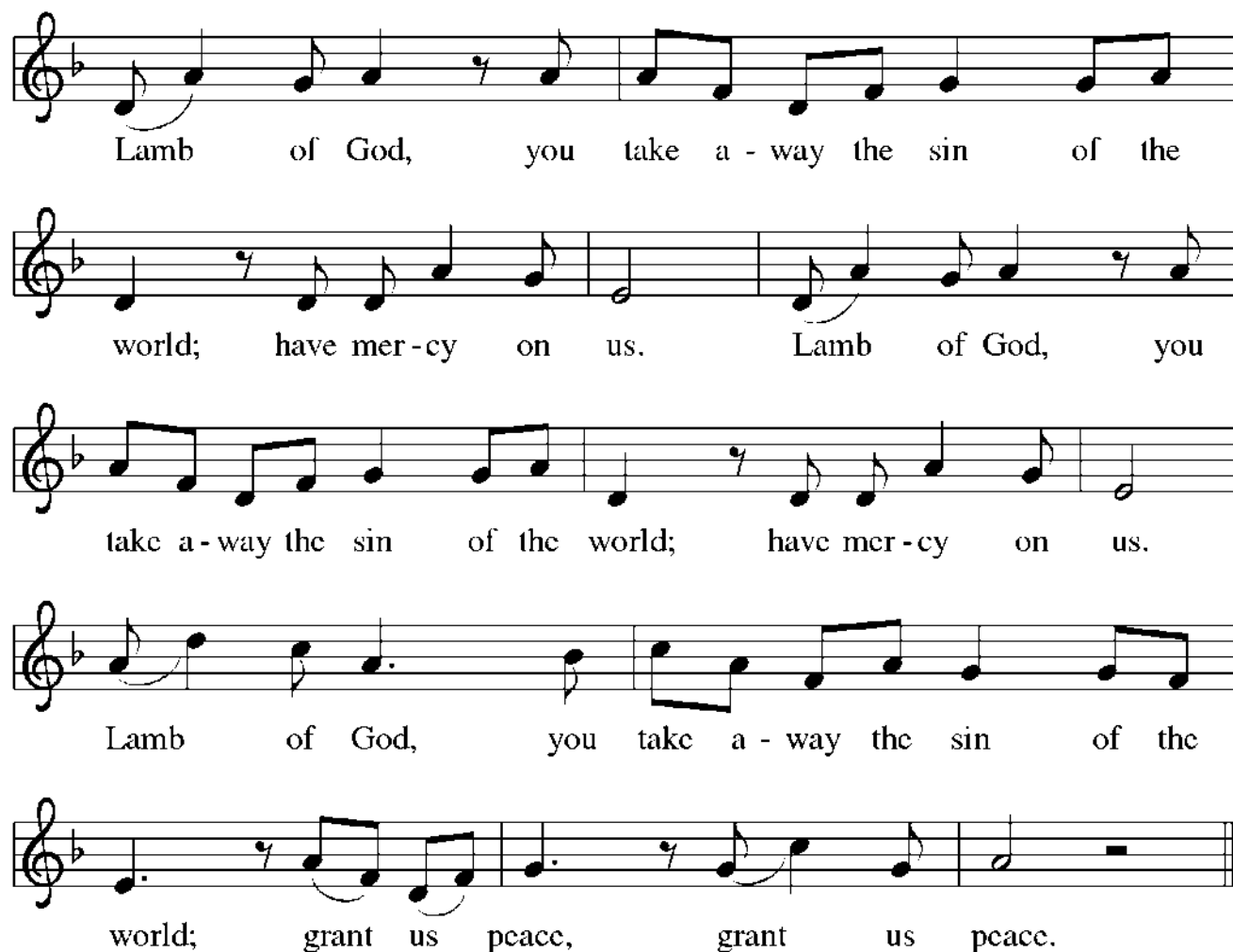
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: The Risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.
Come and eat at God's table!

Communion is distributed in two manners at First Lutheran.

- You may commune in your pews. Individual communion kits are available at the Narthex Doors. Pastor will share a blessing and all communing in place will commune together.*
- You may come forward, where you will receive the bread from pastor and a small cup of wine from the worship assistant. Cups can be disposed of in a basket located by our projector.*

AGNUS DEI



The musical notation for the Agnus Dei is presented in five staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words spanning across bar lines. The notation includes various note values (quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes), rests, and slurs. The final staff ends with a double bar line.

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, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

379

NOW THE GREEN BLADE RISES



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.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

Text from *Oxford Book of Carols*. © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved.

Please stand.

THE TABLE BLESSING

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

C: **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

L: Let us pray. 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.

C: **Amen.**

THE BENEDICTION

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P: May the God of the resurrection, the Christ of unending joy, the
Spirit of Easter hope. Bless you now and always.

Al - le - lu - ia, A - men.

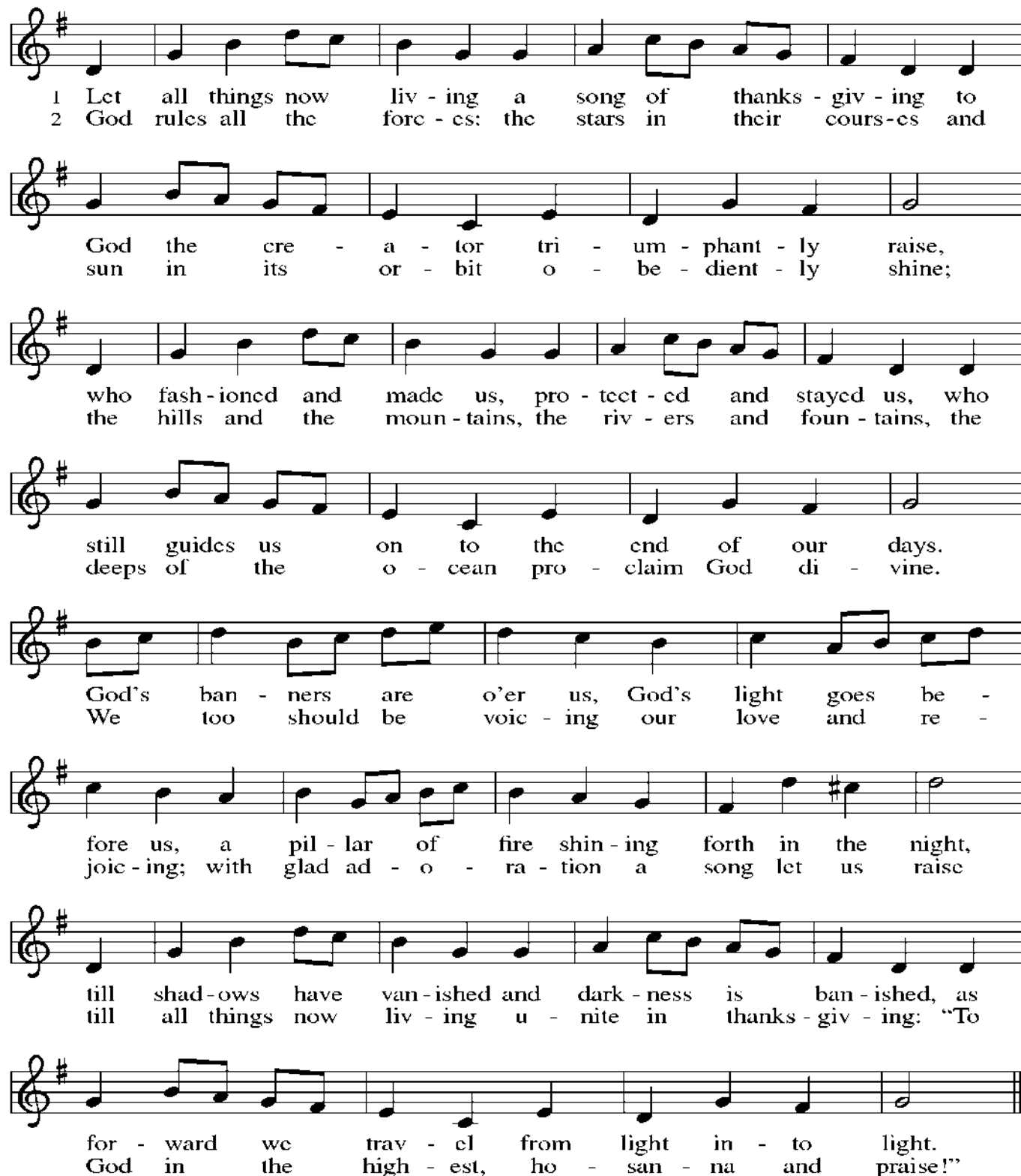
Al - le - lu - ia, A - men!

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a whole rest, followed by a half note G, a quarter note A, a quarter note B, a half note C, a quarter note D, a quarter note E, and a quarter note F. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, A - men.' are written below the notes. The second staff begins with a quarter rest, followed by a half note G, a quarter note A, a quarter note B, a half note C, a quarter note D, a quarter note E, and a quarter note F. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, A - men!' are written below the notes. Both staves end with a double bar line.

SENDING SONG

881

LET ALL THINGS NOW LIVING



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!"

THE SENDING

L: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

C: **Christ is Risen indeed, Alleluia!**

P: Go in peace!

L: Rejoice and be glad!

C: **Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

Gilbert M. Martin

Laudation

Today's Worship Leaders

Cantor: Jayce Porter

Facebook Camera: Wendy Bailey

Host: Judy Kimmel

Reader: Linda Ellinger

Slide Show Operator: Andrew Bailey

Worship Assistant: Linda Ellinger

Contact Us

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cking6876@gmail.com

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daycarejane@gmail.com



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

This Week's Calendar

Sunday April 28
10:00 am Worship on the 5th
Sunday of Easter

Tuesday April 30
10:30 am Morning Bible Study at
the Willows

Wednesday May 1
6:30 pm Healing Service

Thursday May 2
7:00 pm Women's Bible Study.

Next Sunday May 5
10:00 pm Worship on the 6th
Sunday of Easter
11:15 am Confirmation Class at
First Lutheran
7:00 pm Heidelberg Community
Chorus

Church Directory

We will be sending out forms to fill out in our May Newsletter. We will be updating our church directory. Please fill out and return to the church office. Extra forms will be located in both entrances.

2024 Graduates

We will be honoring our 2024 graduates on Sunday, June 2, 2024. Please let Diane Greene know if you have a special someone graduating this year you would like to honor.



Healing Service

Wednesday Healing Service

The monthly Healing Service returns as we gather for worship on Wednesday, May 1st. Please note the change of date. Together we look forward to sharing the hope of healing found in Christ. Worship will be on Wednesday, May 1st at 6:30 p.m.

Bible Study

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

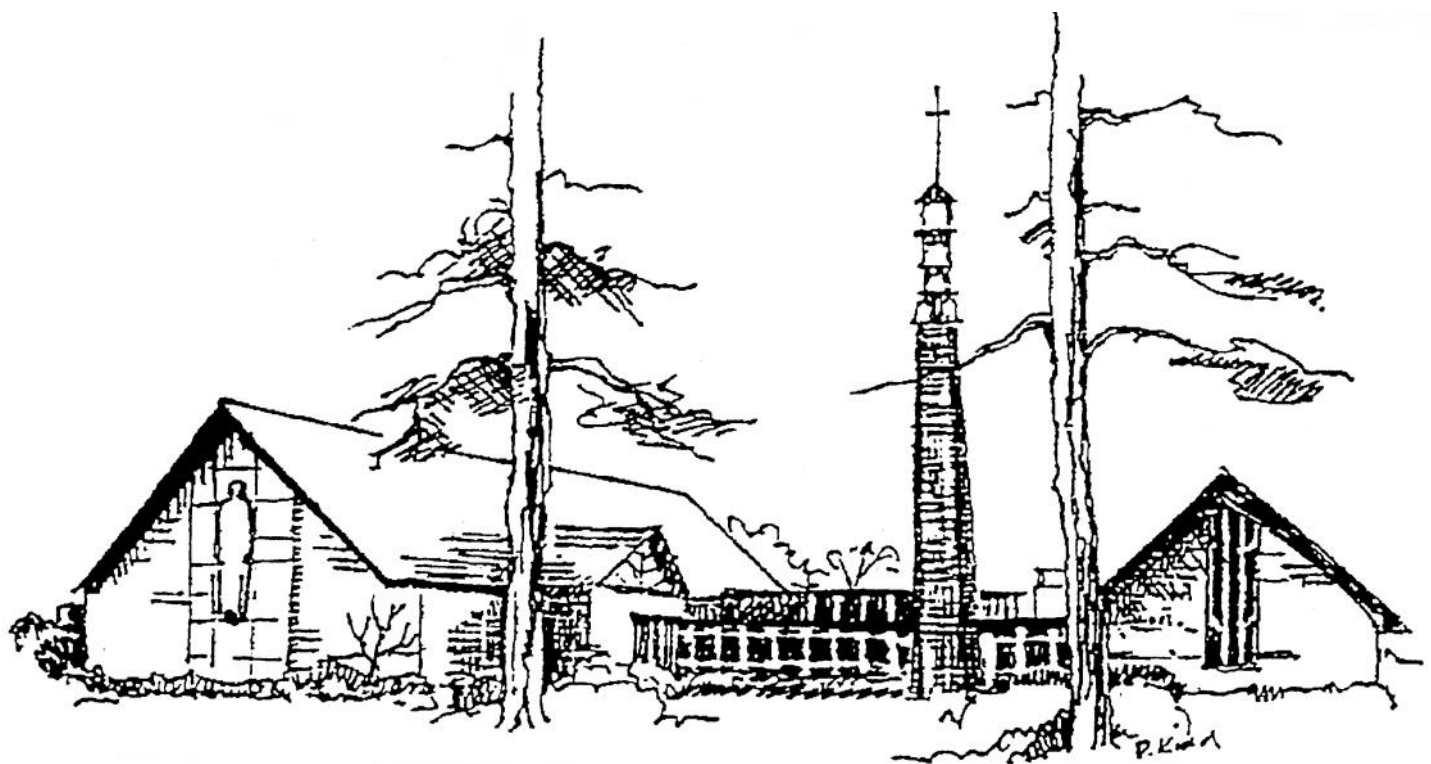
Our Tuesday Morning Bible Study reflection on Rest. This five week study will finish out our spring reflections before we break for the summer.

The Tuesday Bible Study gathers at the Willows and begins around 10:30 a.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Altar Flowers

Today's Altar flowers are given by Rodney & Char Reis in memory of their great-granddaughter Wrenley Lynn Oney, daughter of John & Kayla Oney.





Our Mission Statement

“God is among us!”
**“We are called to go out, care for all, share the gospel,
forgive, reconcile and trust God for all that we need.”**

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*The “Gathering Litany” was Cheryl Lawrie and amended to
incorporate our mission statement by Rev. Clayton J. Bailey.*

*The “Litany for Easter” was written by Margaret D. McGee and
posted on “In the Courtyard.” www.inthecourtyard.com*

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