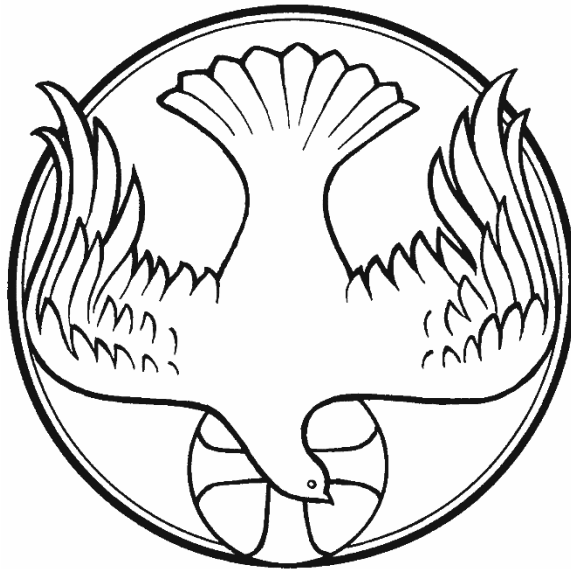


THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 17th, 2020



St. Peter's Lutheran Church

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A NOTE TO OUR VISITORS

We're glad you're here! If you've never been to a liturgical Lutheran service it may look and sound different, but please bear with us! We worship the way we do for a reason. We gather together to receive the gifts of salvation that our Triune God eagerly comes to give to us through His Word and Sacrament. In these gifts we receive faith, forgiveness, and life everlasting. Our worship is the unwrapping of these gifts. The liturgy, hymns, and preaching proclaim His Word to us, remind us of the promise of our baptism, and prepare us to receive the Lord's Supper. Through these means of grace God comes to serve us, and so our worship is organized and centered around receiving these gifts.

A STATEMENT ABOUT CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

And they were bringing even infants children to him that he might touch them, and when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them.

Luke 18:15-17; Matthew 19:13-15; Mark 10:13-16

As our Lord commands His disciples, we eagerly bring our children before the Lord. We acknowledge we are all conceived in sin, and so every person needs the forgiveness of sins and the Word of God, no matter what age. As worship is about God coming to us to bestow His gifts of mercy and grace, we ask that you remain with your children in worship, unless it becomes absolutely necessary to remove them for a time. There is also no better way for them to learn how to "behave" in worship than by watching and absorbing. As our children learn about God and what all He has done for us, may we learn from them simple faith so that we may ourselves receive the kingdom of God as little children.

****Early service responses are spoken. Late service responses are sung.****

OPENING HYMN

578 Thy Strong Word



1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; At Thy
 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, Dark as
 3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; Bright with
 4 From the cross Thy wis - dom shin - ing Break - eth



speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed
 night and deep as death, Broke the light of
 Thine own ho - li - ness, Glo - rious now, we
 forth in con - qu'ring might; From the cross for -



light we thank Thee, While Thine or - dered sea - sons run.
 Thy sal - va - tion, Breathed Thine own life - breath - ing breath.
 press toward glo - ry, And our lives our hopes con - fess.
 ev - er beam - eth All Thy bright re - deem - ing light.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to



Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

5 Give us lips to sing Thy glory,
 Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
 Throats that shout the hope that fills
 us,
 Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 May the light which Thou dost send
 Fill our songs with alleluias,
 Alleluias without end!

△ 6 God the Father, light-creator,
 To Thee laud and honor be.
 To Thee, Light of Light begotten,
 Praise be sung eternally.
 Holy Spirit, light-revealer,
 Glory, glory be to Thee.
 Mortals, angels, now and ever
 Praise the holy Trinity!

Stand

INVOCATION, OPENING SENTENCES, & CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C Amen.**
- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C who made heaven and earth.**
- P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and self-examination. Consider, though the promise of our baptisms we have been adopted by God to be His own children. Have we always brought honor to God through our words and actions?

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C** Amen.

Sit

HYMN OF THE SEASON/MONTH

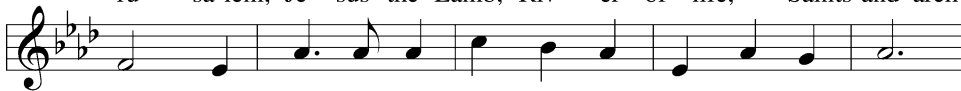
474 Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en! Trum - pets re -
2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter Tell - ing the
3 Je - sus the vine, We are the branch - es; Life in the
4 Weep - ing, be gone; Sor - row, be si - lent: Death put a -
5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er, Gold - en Je -



sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light! Splen - dor, the Lamb, Heav - en for -
sto - ry to o - pen our eyes; Break - ing our bread, Giv - ing us
Spir - it the fruit of the tree; Heav - en to earth, Christ to the
sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright. Cher - u - bim sing: "O grave, be
ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb, Riv - er of life, Saints and arch -



ev - er! Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
glo - ry: Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
peo - ple, Gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
o - pen!" Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.
an - gels, Sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!

Refrain



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise:

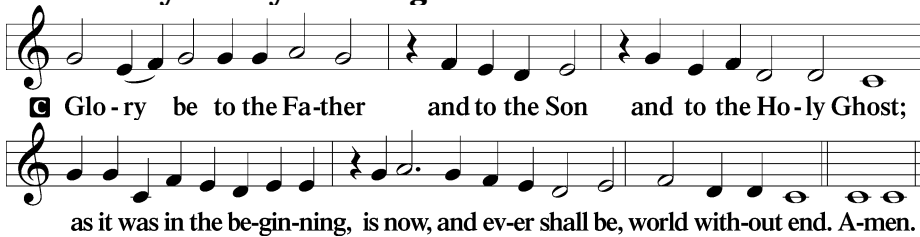


Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Stand

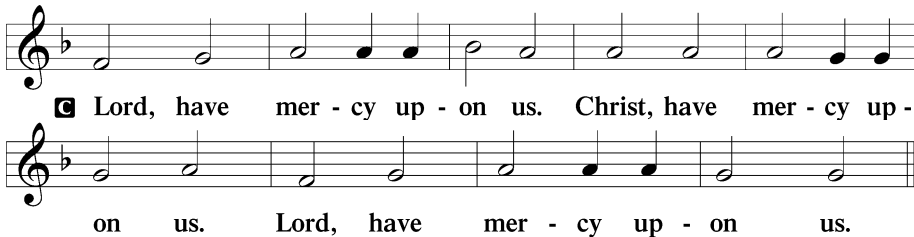
INTROIT *Ps. 119:89–93; antiphon: v. 105*

- P** Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.
- C** **Forever, O LORD, your word
is firmly fixed in the heavens.**
- P** Your faithfulness endures to all generations;
you have established the earth, and it stands fast.
- C** **By your appointment they stand this day,
for all things are your servants.**
- P** If your law had not been my delight,
I would have perished in my affliction.
- C** **I will never forget your precepts,
for by them you have given me life.**



C Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

KYRIE



C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

EARLY SERVICE—HYMN OF PRAISE: THIS IS THE FEAST

- P** This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia!
- C** **Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be
people of God. Power, riches, and wisdom are His. Alleluia!**
**Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever.
Amen.**
**This is the feast of victory for our God. For the Lamb who was slain has
begun His reign. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

LATE SERVICE—HYMN OF PRAISE: THIS IS THE FEAST

Refrain

C 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
- 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
- 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
- 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
- 5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*

join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*

gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

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.

SALUTATION & COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spir - it.

P O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C A - men.

FIRST READING

Acts 6:1–9; 7:2a, 51–60

While Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, “What does this babblers wish to say?” Others said, “He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities”—because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. And they took hold of him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean.” Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: “Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, ‘To the unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, for

“In him we live and move and have our being’;

as even some of your own poets have said,

“For we are indeed his offspring.’

Being then God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 146

P Bless our God, O peoples;
let the sound of his praise be heard,

C **who has kept our soul among the living
and has not let our feet slip.**

P For you, O God, have tested us;
you have tried us as silver is tried.

C **You brought us into the net;
you laid a crushing burden on our backs;**

- P** you let men ride over our heads;
we went through fire and through water;
- C** **yet you have brought us out to a place of abundance.**
- P** I will come into your house with burnt offerings;
I will perform my vows to you,
- C** **that which my lips uttered
and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.**
- P** I will offer to you burnt offerings of fattened animals,
with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams;
- C** **I will make an offering of bulls and goats.**
- P** Come and hear, all you who fear God,
and I will tell what he has done for my soul.
- C** **I cried to him with my mouth,
and high praise was on my tongue.**
- P** If I had cherished iniquity in my heart,
the Lord would not have listened.
- C** **But truly God has listened;
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.**
- P** Blessed be God,
because he has not rejected my prayer
or removed his steadfast love from me!

EPISTLE

1 Peter 3:13–22

Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, but in your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

EARLY SERVICE—ALLELUIA AND VERSE

P Alleluia. In the world you will have tribulation.

C **But take heart; I have overcome the world. Alleluia.**

LATE SERVICE—ALLELUIA



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 14:15–21

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



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

“I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

Sit

SERMON HYMN

657 *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, A sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might. We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land All threat - ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, No thanks to foes, who



to - rious; He breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod And wins sal -
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, Whom God Him -
 our us, We trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; They can - not
 fear it; For God Him - self fights by our side With weap - ons



va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe Has sworn to
 self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be? The Lord of
 o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage; In bat - tle
 of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house, Goods, hon - or,



work us woe. With craft and dread - ful might He
 hosts is He, Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord, God's
 we'll en - gage. His might is doomed to fail; God's
 child, or spouse, Though life be wrenched a - way, They



arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 can - not win the day. The King - dom's ours for - ev - er!

SERMON

Stand

OFFERTORY



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
 way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** ...let us pray to the Lord: **C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** ...this mortal life and stand before You in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE & SANCTUS

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary... evermore praising You and saying:



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

EARLY SERVICE—LORD'S PRAYER

LATE SERVICE—LORD'S PRAYER



C For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the



glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

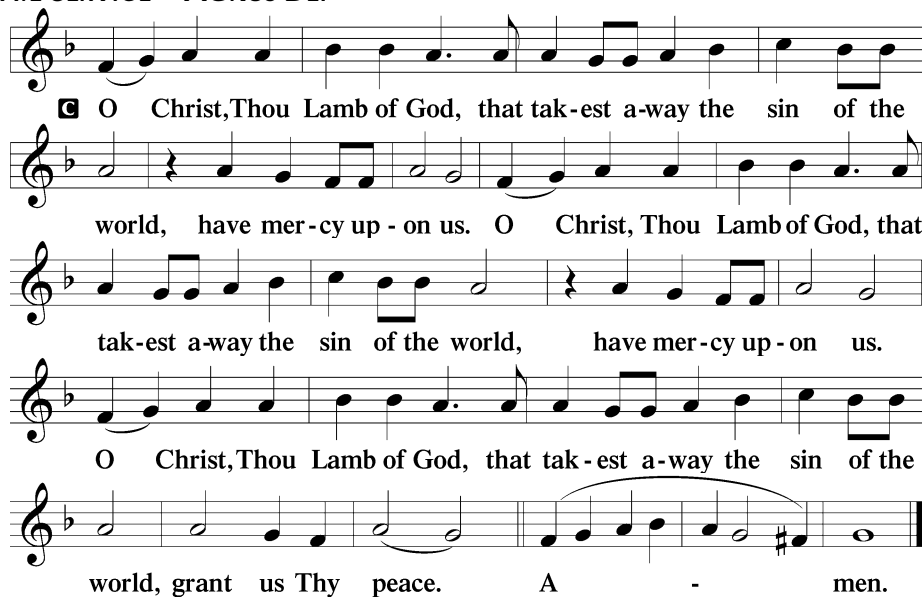
THE WORDS OF OUR LORD & PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C A - - - men.

LATE SERVICE—AGNUS DEI



□ O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sit

A NOTE TO OUR VISITORS

There are many notions and convictions about worship and the celebration of the Lord's Supper. It is our belief that Jesus Christ is really present in this holy meal – that in eating and drinking the bread and wine, we receive Christ's true body and blood. Because it can be received in an unworthy manner for judgement rather than blessing (1 Corinthians 11:27) we make use of the practice of close(d) communion. If you are not a confirmed member in good standing of a sister congregation within our Synod, you may come forward to receive a blessing by crossing your hands over your chest. Even if you do not come forward, please join us as we pray for that time when all divisions cease, and God's elect will be together in joyous assembly in the banquet hall of heaven!

COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS – SOCIAL DISTANCING AND SANITIZING

To conform to social distancing standards we will use a “rotational practice” of communion and commune as individuals/families. Please dismiss yourselves when there is an open spot in the line. When waiting in line, please remain at the tape on the floor until those before you have moved on. Pastor is sanitizing his hands before distribution with hand sanitizer and the chalice between uses with a solution of Everclear. Once you have received the elements, please move back to your seats via the external aisle. Pastor will give the dismissal once everyone has communed.

PRAYER FOR RIGHT RECEPTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

“O Lord, our God, in Holy Baptism You have called us to be Christians and granted us the remission of sins. Make us ready to receive the most holy body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of all our sins, and grant us grateful hearts that we may give thanks to You, O Father, to Your Son, and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

For Questions and Answers to help PREPARE for the Lord's Supper, turn to page 329 in hymnal.

Stand

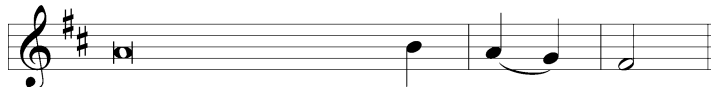
LATE SERVICE—POST COMMUNION CANTICLE: NUNC DIMITTIS



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

THANKSGIVING

P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

P We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

BENEDICAMUS & BENEDICTION

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Bless we the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Sit





In Memory of Vada Faye Atkins (1931-2020)



HYMN TO DEPART

677 For All the Saints



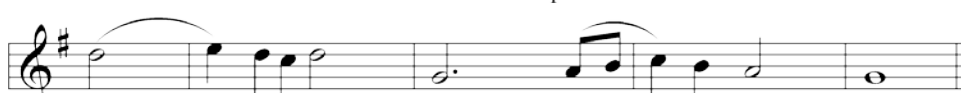
1 For all the saints who from their la - bors rest,
 2 Thou wast their rock, their for - tress, and their might;
 4 Oh, blest com - mu - nion, fel - low - ship di - vine!
 6 The gold - en eve - ning bright - ens in the west;



Who Thee by faith be - fore the world con - fessed, Thy
 Thou, Lord, their cap - tain in the well - fought fight;
 We fee - bly strug - gle, they in glo - ry shine; Yet
 Soon, soon to faith - ful war - riors com - eth rest;



name, O Je - sus, be for - ev - er blest.
 Thou, in the dark - ness drear, their one true light.
 all are the one in Thee, for all are Thine.
 Sweet is the calm of par - a - dise the blest.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

7 But, lo, there breaks a yet more glorious day:
 The saints triumphant rise in bright array;
 The King of Glory passes on His way.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!

△ 8 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
 Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
 Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:
 Alleluia! Alleluia!

Acknowledgments

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