

Early Service Order of Worship

Divine Service Setting One

As We Gather The waters of Baptism connect us to God forever. Baptism, through water and the Word, creates faith in our hearts by which we confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh and is from God. Through Baptism, we are able to believe, to love, and to bear fruit. In the fulfillment of all deeds, witnessing, and believing, we are to abide in the Word, which is Christ Himself.

Prelude Partita on *Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain* David Cherwien
(b. 1957)
I. "Come, you faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness"

Confession and Absolution

Please stand as you are able

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

Invocation *Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]*

P In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Easter Proclamation

P Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Opening Hymn *Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain* LSB 487

Exhortation *1 John 1:8–9 LSB 151*

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Please kneel as you are able

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Absolution

John 20:19–23 LSB 151

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

Please stand as you are able

Service of the Word

Introit

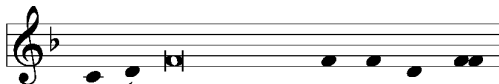
Psalm 145:1–2, 8, 10, 21; antiphon: John 16:16

- P** A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me.
- C** **I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.**
- P** Every day I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever.
- C** **The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**
- P** All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all your saints shall bless you!
- C** **My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD, and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.**
- C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me.

Kyrie

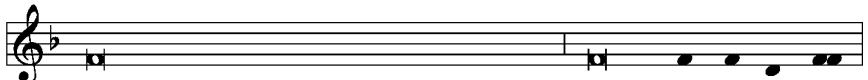
Mark 10:47 LSB 152



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.




C Lord, have mer - cy.




A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



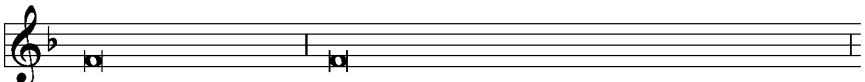
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



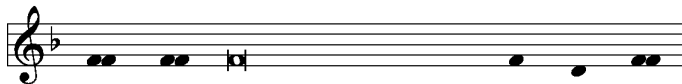
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29 LSB 154



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a - lone are the Ho - ly One, You a - lone are the Lord,

You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,
 in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Please be seated

First Reading

Acts 8:26–40

A The First Reading for the Fifth Sunday of Easter is from Acts, chapter eight.

²⁶An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is a desert place. ²⁷And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹And the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and join this chariot.” ³⁰So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” ³¹And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with 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 before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.”

³⁴And the eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” ³⁵Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture, he told him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?” ³⁸And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. ³⁹And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through, he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 150



L ¹Praise the LORD!

Praise God in his sanctu- | ary;*
praise him in his mighty | heavens!

C ²Praise him for his | mighty deeds;*
praise him according to his excellent | greatness!

³Praise him with | trumpet sound;*
praise him with | lute and harp!

⁴Praise him with tambou- | rine and dance;*
praise him with | strings and pipe!

⁵Praise him with sounding | cymbals;*
praise him with loud clashing | cymbals!

**⁶Let everything that has breath | praise the LORD!*
Praise | the LORD!**

Epistle

1 John 4:1–21

A The Epistle is from First John, chapter four.

¹Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. ²By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. ⁴Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. ⁵They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. ⁶We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides 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 testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. ¹⁷By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also 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 been perfected in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. ²¹And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able

Alleluia

*Be Not Afraid
Repeat as led*

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

Text: Taizé Community
Tune: Taizé Community
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Holy Gospel

John 15:1–8

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

C **Glo - ry to You, O Lord.**

¹Jesus said: "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ²Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me, and I in you. 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. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated

Children's Message

Please stand as you are able

Hymn of the Day

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

LSB 633

Stanzas 1-2 All
Stanza 3 Women
Stanza 4 All
Stanza 5 Men
Stanzas 6-8 All

Please be seated

Sermon

Silence for reflection

Please stand as you are able

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.

Please be seated

Prayer of the Church

After each petition:

P Lord, in Your mercy.

C Hear our prayer.

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

C Amen.

Offering

During this time, please fill out and pass the blue Friendship Register. Please indicate whether you are a member or visitor. If you do not currently have a church home, we invite you to join the family of believers here at Christ the Redeemer.

Voluntary Partita on *Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain* David Cherwien
IV. "His deep peace..." (b. 1957)

Please stand as you are able

Offertory Hymn *All the Earth with Joy is Sounding* LSB 462

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9–13

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.**

Collect

P Blessed Lord, You have caused all Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

Alleluia! Jesus is Risen

LSB 474

Announcements

P Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude Fanfare on *At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing* John Behnke
(b. 1953)

Acknowledgments

Preacher & Liturgist: Rev. Scott Burmeister

Director of Christian Education: Suzanne Watt; Director of Music: Jacob Drenkler;

Assistant Director of Music: Craig Amendt

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Music Notes for April 28, 2024 – Fifth Sunday of Easter

The Prelude and Voluntary for the Fifth Sunday of Easter are excerpted from David Cherwien's (b. 1957) Partita on the Opening Hymn, "Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain" (LSB 487). The majestic first movement, which will serve as the Prelude, is inspired by the first stanza of the hymn:

Come, you faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness!
God has brought His Israel into joy from sadness.
Loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke Jacob's sons and daughters,
Led them with unmoistened foot through the Red Sea waters.

The fourth movement of Dr. Cherwien's Partita will be heard during the gathering of the tithes and offerings. This movement, which features ethereal harmonies and a gentle registration, is a musical interpretation of the fourth stanza of "Come, You Faithful:"

For today among His own Christ appeared, bestowing
His deep peace, which evermore passes human knowing.
Neither could the gates of death nor the tomb's dark portal
Nor the watchers nor the seal hold Him as a mortal.

The Communion Voluntary is a buoyant setting of the Hymn of the Day, "At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing" (LSB 633), by American composer and organist Charles Ore (b. 1936). Dr. Ore is Emeritus Professor of Music at Concordia University Nebraska and maintains an active career as a church musician as organist of First Presbyterian Church in Lincoln, Nebraska.

The Postlude is a stately fanfare on "At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing" by John Behnke (b. 1953). Subtitled "The Eclipse," this piece is drawn from *Three Church Windows: Reflections for Organ*, a collection of organ pieces inspired by three of the stained glass windows of Peace Lutheran Church in St. Louis, Missouri. This movement was inspired by the window placed in the center of the church, directly above the altar, which is called the "Eclipse Window."

In his preface to *Three Church Windows*, Dr. Behnke reflected on the inspiration that the "Eclipse Window" provided, writing:

To me, even though it is the smallest window, it is the most intense. Out of the black background emerges the blue halo, and inside the lens shines brilliant reds, yellows, and lighter blue colors. It focuses our eyes on the empty cross, and in its placement above the altar points us to victory over death and the grave. This window reminds us that we share in the victory of Christ, which is expressed with the hymn "At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing."