

Early Service Order of Worship

Divine Service Setting One

As We Gather In Christ, all things are made new. Gentiles hear the promises of God and are baptized and made recipients of forgiveness and eternal life. They are no longer alien to God. Former things, antiquated caste systems, are null and void. New things are imminent. The resurrection of Jesus deprives mourning, crying, and dying of their power. The unleashing of the Holy Spirit changes lingering sorrow into joy, ensuring the newness of all things in heaven and earth.

Prelude

Lift High the Cross

John Behnke
(b. 1953)

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] LSB 151

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

G Amen.

Easter Proclamation

P Christ is risen!

G He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Opening Hymn

Lift High the Cross

LSB 837

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.

G 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

LSB 151

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

G **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.

G Amen.

Please stand as you are able

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 98:2–6; antiphon: v. 1

P Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things! His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

G **The Lord has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

P He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

G **All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**

P Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

G **Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody!**

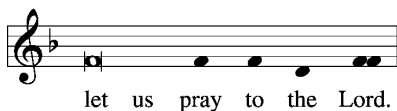
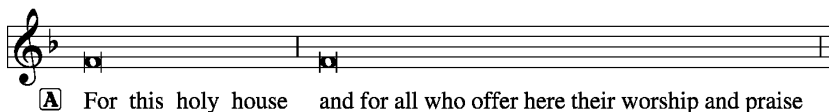
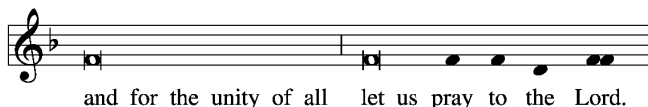
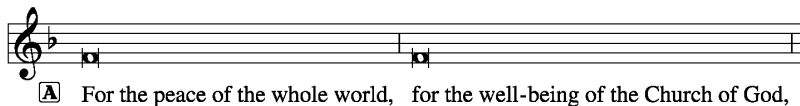
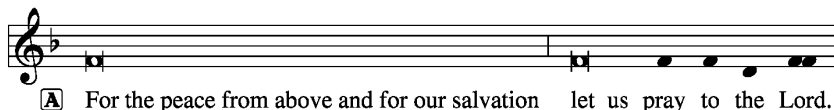
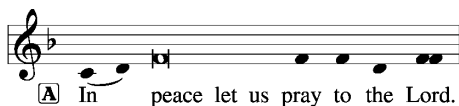
P With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord!

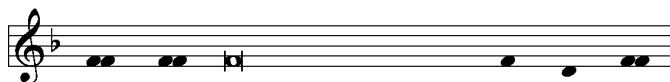
G **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things! His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

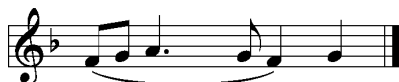
Kyrie

Mark 10:47 LSB 152





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



C A - men.

This Is the Feast

Revelation 5:12–13; 19:5–9 LSB 155



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*



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



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

Salutation and Collect of the Day

2 Timothy 4:22

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 11:1–18

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

¹Now the apostles and the brothers who were throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. ²So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcision party criticized him, saying, ³"You went to uncircumcised men and ate with them." ⁴But Peter began and explained it to them in order: ⁵"I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision, something like a great sheet descending, being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to me. ⁶Looking at it closely, I observed animals and beasts of prey and reptiles and birds of the air. ⁷And I heard a voice saying to me, 'Rise, Peter; kill and eat.' ⁸But I said, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing common or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' ⁹But the voice answered a second time from heaven, 'What God has made clean, do not call common.' ¹⁰This happened three times, and all was drawn up again into heaven. ¹¹And behold, at that very moment three men arrived at the house in which we were, sent to me from Caesarea. ¹²And the Spirit told me to go with them, making no distinction. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³And he told us how he had seen the angel stand in his house and say, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon who is called Peter; ¹⁴he will declare to you a message by which you will be saved, you and all your household.' ¹⁵As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as on us at the beginning. ¹⁶And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the

Holy Spirit.' ¹⁷If then God gave the same gift to them as he gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God's way?" ¹⁸When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, "Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalmody

Psalm 148



L ¹Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord from the | heavens;*
praise him | in the heights!

C ²Praise him, all his | angels;*
praise him, | all his hosts!

L ³Praise him, | sun and moon,*
praise him, all you | shining stars!

C ⁴Praise him, you highest | heavens,*
and you waters above the | heavens!

L ⁵Let them praise the name | of the Lord!*
For he commanded and they were cre- | ated.

C ⁶And he established them forever and | ever;*
he gave a decree, and it shall not | pass away.

L ⁷Praise the Lord | from the earth,*
you great sea creatures and | all deeps,

C ⁸fire and hail, | snow and mist,*
stormy wind fulfill- | ing his word!

L ⁹Mountains and | all hills,*
fruit trees and all | cedars!

C ¹⁰Beasts and all | livestock,*
creeping things and | flying birds!

L ¹¹Kings of the earth and all | peoples,*
princes and all rulers | of the earth!

C ¹²Young men and maidens to- | gether,*
old men and | children!

L ¹³Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for his name alone is ex- | alted;*
his majesty is above earth and | heaven.

C ¹⁴**He has raised up a horn for his people,
praise for | all his saints,*
for the people of Israel who are near to him. | Praise the
Lord!**

C **Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

Epistle

Revelation 21:1–7

A The Epistle is from Revelation, chapter twenty-one.

¹Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. ⁴He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

⁵And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." ⁶And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. ⁷The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son."

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

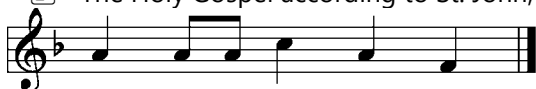


Text: Taizé Community
Tune: Taizé Community
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Holy Gospel

John 16:12-22

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



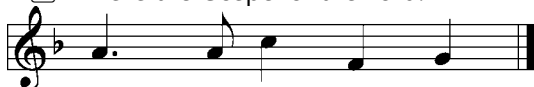
C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹²[Jesus said:] "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

¹⁶"A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me." ¹⁷So some of his disciples said to one another, "What is this that he says to us, 'A little while, and you will not see me, and again a little while, and you will see me'; and, 'because I am going to the Father'?" ¹⁸So they were saying, "What does he mean by 'a little while'? We do not know what he is talking about." ¹⁹Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, "Is this what you are asking yourselves, what I meant by saying, 'A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me'? ²⁰Truly, truly, I say to you,

you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. ²¹When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. ²²So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you."

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

☩ I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

Please be seated

Prayer of the Church

1 Timothy 2:1-4 LSB 159

After each petition:

☩ Lord, in Your mercy.

☩ Hear our prayer.

☩ 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.

☩ Amen.

Blessing of the Graduates

Offering

During this time, please fill out and pass the blue Friendship Register. Please indicate if you plan to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion and whether you are a member or visitor. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to join the family of believers here at Christ the Redeemer.

Voluntary

*Hope of the World
Sanctuary Choir*

Taylor Davis

*Hope of the world, thou Christ of great compassion,
speak to our fearful hearts by conflict rent.
Save us, thy people, from consuming passion,
who by our own false hopes and aims are spent.*

*Hope of the world, God's gift from highest heaven,
bringing to hungry souls the bread of life,
still let thy Spirit unto us be given
to heal earth's wounds and end all bitter strife.*

*Hope of the world, afoot on dusty highways,
showing to wand'ring souls the path of light;
walk thou beside us, lest the tempting byways
lure us away from thee to endless night.*

*Hope of the world, O Christ o'er death victorious,
who by this sign didst conquer grief and pain,
we would be faithful to thy gospel glorious:
Thou art our Lord! Thou dost forever reign!*
--Georgia Harkness (1891-1974)

Please stand as you are able

Offertory Hymn *Our Paschal Lamb, That Sets Us Free*

LSB 473

Service of the Sacrament

The Lord's Supper is celebrated in the confession that we receive not just bread and wine but the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which we eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. Our Lord invites to His table those who have faith in His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to love and forgive as He loves and forgives us.

Holy Communion also signifies a unity of faith and belief with those who gather at this altar. Baptized Christians who share the confession of the Lutheran church are welcome at the Lord's Table. If you are unsure what you believe or have questions, we invite you to speak with the Elder on duty or the Pastor before the service. Grape juice is available in the center circle of the individual cup trays.

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136 LSB 160

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

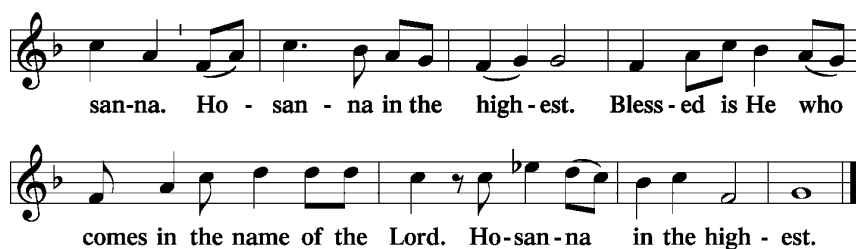
C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore, with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9 LSB 161





Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9–13 LSB 162

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.

The Words of Our Lord

Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

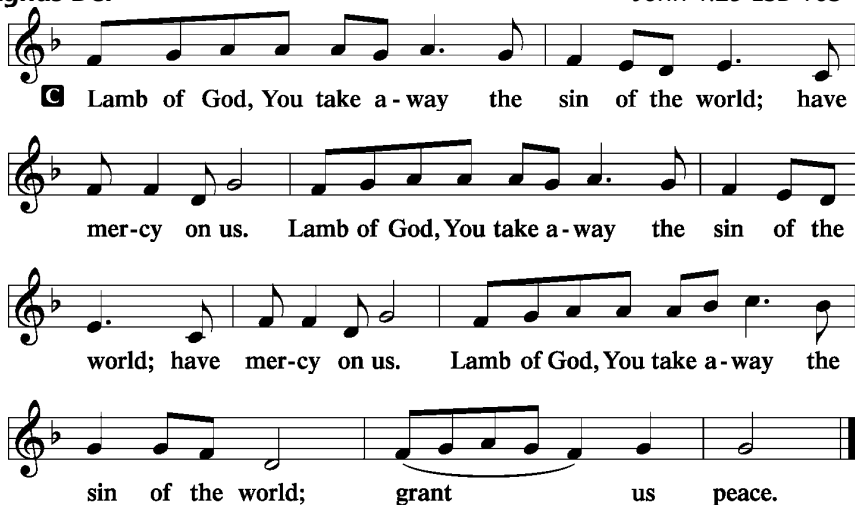
John 20:19 LSB 163

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29 LSB 163



C 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.

Please be seated

Voluntary

Praise the Lord
Sanctuary Choir

Ralph Johnson
(b. 1955)

Praise, praise, praise the Lord!
Praise God's holy name. Alleluia!

--Cameroon processional song

Distribution Hymns

In Thee is Gladness

LSB 818



1 In Thee is glad - ness A - mid all sad - ness, Je - sus,
 2 Since He is ours, _____ We fear no pow - ers, Not of
 sun - shine of my heart. By Thee are giv - en The gifts of
 earth nor sin nor death. He sees and bless - es In worst dis -
 heav - en, Thou the true Re - deem - er art. Our souls Thou
 tress - es; He can change them with a breath. Where - fore the
 wak - est, Our bonds Thou break - est; Who trusts Thee sure - ly Has built se -
 sto - ry Tell of His glo - ry With hearts and voic - es; All heav'n re -
 cure - ly; He stands for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! Our hearts are
 joic - es In Him for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! We shout for
 pin - ing To see Thy shin - ing, Dy - ing or liv - ing
 glad - ness, Tri - umph o'er sad - ness, Love Him and praise Him
 To Thee are cleav - ing; Naught can us sev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!
 And still shall raise Him Glad hymns for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!

Text and tune: Public domain

Christ is Risen, Christ is Living

LSB 479



1 Christ is ris - en, Christ is liv - ing, Dry your tears, be un - a - fraid!
2 If the Lord had nev - er ris - en, We'd have noth - ing to be - lieve.
3 Death has lost its old do - min - ion, Let the world re - joice and shout!



Death and dark - ness could not hold Him, Nor the tomb in which He lay.
But His prom - ise can be trust - ed: "You will live, be - cause I live."
Christ, the first - born of the liv - ing, Gives us life and leads us out.



Do not look a - mong the dead for One who lives for - ev - er - more;
As we share the death of Ad - am, So in Christ we live a - gain;
Let us thank our God, who caus - es Hope to spring up from the ground;



Tell the world that Christ is ris - en, Make it known He goes be - fore.
Death has lost its sting and ter - ror, Christ the Lord has come to reign.
Christ is ris - en, Christ is giv - ing Life e - ter - nal, life pro - found.

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Please stand as you are able

P Now may this body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart in peace.

C Amen.

Post-Communion Canticale

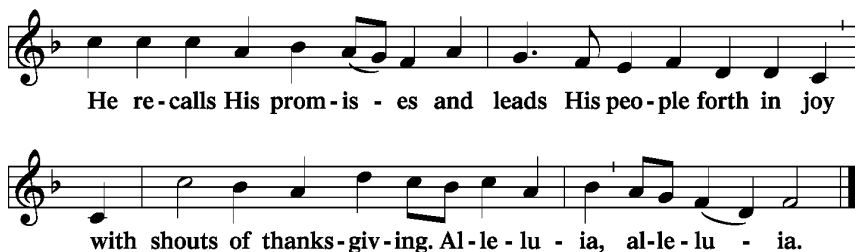
Thank the Lord *Psalm 105:1–3, 42–43; 1 Chronicles 16:8–10* LSB 164



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud - ly bear His name.



Post-Communion Collect

LSB 166

P Let us pray. 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 Amen.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26 LSB 166

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

He's Risen, He's Risen

LSB 480

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 May 18, 2025 – Fifth Sunday of Easter

The Prelude is a majestic arrangement of the Opening Hymn, “Lift High the Cross” (LSB 837), by American composer and organist John Behnke (b. 1953). Dr. Behnke, who serves as Minister of Music at Lakeside Lutheran Church in Venice, Florida, is Professor Emeritus of Music at Concordia University Wisconsin.

The Voluntary for the 8:15 service is “Hope of the World,” a stirring choral anthem by American composer Taylor Davis. The text was written by Methodist theologian and academic Georgia Harkness (1891-1974). In this powerful hymn, which is found in *Lutheran Service Book* (LSB 690) set to a different tune, Dr. Harkness “combines themes of social ethics with those of eternal salvation,” confessing that “questions of society are...caught up into the eternal, saving work of Christ.” It is Christ alone who is the Hope of the world. He is the one who establishes true peace; therefore, we acclaim with Harkness: “Thou dost forever reign!”

The Voluntary for the 10:45 service 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 Professor Emeritus 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 Communion Voluntary is “Praise the Lord,” a choral setting of a Cameroonian processional song arranged by American composer and church musician Ralph Johnson (b. 1955). “Praise the Lord” originated as a processional song to be sung during services when the Lord’s Supper was to be celebrated. The tune and text were collected by Elaine Hanson, a Lutheran missionary to Cameroon who was a member of *Femmes Pour Christ* (Women for Christ), a multicultural group of women who used French as their common language. The official languages of Cameroon are French and English, and this song is often sung in either language. Johnson’s joyful arrangement features rhythmic support provided by percussion instruments in keeping with the stylistic norms of traditional Central African music.

The Postlude is a stately fanfare on "At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing" by John Behnke. 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."