

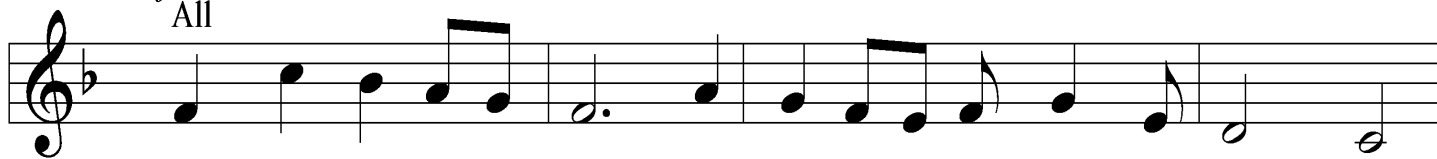


The Ascension of Our Lord

**Peace & St. Matthew Lutheran Churches
May 9, 2024, 6:30 pm**

AS WE GATHER: THIS ENDING IS A NEW BEGINNING

While the Ascension is often underappreciated, it is a very important feast, and its message is deeply profound. We tend to think of Jesus' ascension as an ending point, and no one likes to wave goodbye. Even the apostles felt a sense of apprehension. But our Lord prepared them by opening the Scriptures to them so that they might know where to hear His voice even as His visual appearance would not be with them. We know that they understood this, because they returned with joy and not fear, celebrating this event as a new beginning and not an end.

+ PREPARATION +**489 HAIL THEE, FESTIVAL DAY***sts. ref-a-6**Refrain*
All

Ascension Hail thee, fes - ti - val day! Blest day to be hal - lowed for - ev - er;

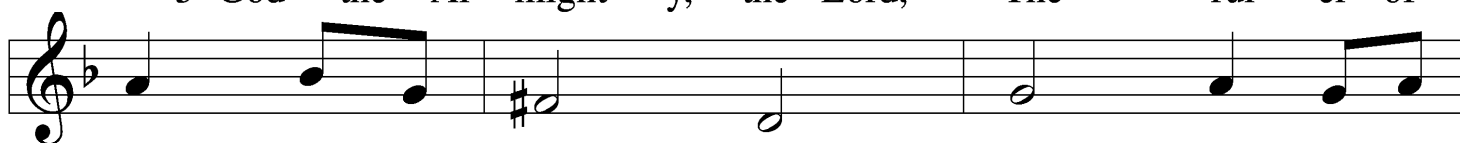


Day when our ris - en Lord Rose in the heav - ens to reign. reign.

All



Ascension 1 He who was nailed to the cross Is rul - er and
3 God the Al - might - y, the Lord, The rul - er of



Lord of all the peo - ple. All things cre -
earth and the heav - ens, Guard us from



at - ed on earth Sing to the glo - ry of God:
harm with - out; Cleanse us from e - vil with - in:

Refrain
All

Ascension Hail thee, fes - ti - val day! Blest day to be hal - lowed for - ev - er;
Day when our ris - en Lord Rose in the heav - ens to reign.

Choir 3 3

Ascension 2 Dai - ly the love - li - ness grows, A - dorned with the
4 Je - sus, the health of the world, Cre - a - tor of
glo - ry of blos - som; Heav - en her gate - way un -
all and re - deem - er, Son of the Fa - ther su -
bars, Fling - ing her in - crease of light:
preme, On - ly - be - got - ten of God:

5 Spirit of life and of pow'r, Now flow in us, fount of our being,
Light that enlightens us all, Life that in all may abide: **Refrain**

6 Praise to the giver of good! O Lover and Author of concord,
Pour out Your balm on our days; Order our ways in Your peace: **Refrain**

Text: Venantius Honorius Fortunatus, c. 530–609; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.
Tune: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958, alt. Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship.
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INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- 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.

Silence for reflection and examination

P Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life.

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.

EXCHANGING OF THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us extend the hand of peace to one another.

V Peace be with you.

R And also with you.

+ WORD +

492 ON CHRIST'S ASCENSION I NOW BUILD

st. 1

1 On Christ's as - cen - sion I now build The hope of my as -
cen - sion; This hope a - lone has al - ways stilled All doubt and
ap - pre - hen - sion; For where the Head is, there as well I
know His mem - bers are to dwell When Christ will come and call them.

Text: Josua Wegelin, 1604–40; tr. William M. Czamanske, 1873–1964, alt. Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, 1524, Wittenberg. Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000223
Tune: Public domain

SALUTATION

L The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L Almighty God, as Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ascended into the heavens, so may we also ascend in heart and mind and continually dwell there with Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

492 ON CHRIST'S ASCENSION I NOW BUILD

sts. 2–3

2 Since Christ re - turned to claim His throne, Great gifts for me ob -
3 O grant, dear Lord, this grace to me, Re - call - ing Your as -
tain - ing, My heart will rest in Him a - lone, No oth - er
cen - sion, That I may serve You faith - ful - ly In thanks for
rest re - main - ing; For where my trea - sure went be - fore, There
my re - demp - tion; And then, when all my days will cease, Let
all my thoughts will ev - er soar To still their deep - est yearn - ing.
me de - part in joy and peace In an - swer to my plead - ing.

Text: Josua Wegelin, 1604–40; tr. William M. Czamanske, 1873–1964, alt. Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, 1524, Wittenberg Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000223
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FIRST READING

Acts 1:1–11

¹In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach,
²until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³To them he presented himself alive after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

⁴And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” ⁹And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, ¹¹and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Ephesians 1:15–23

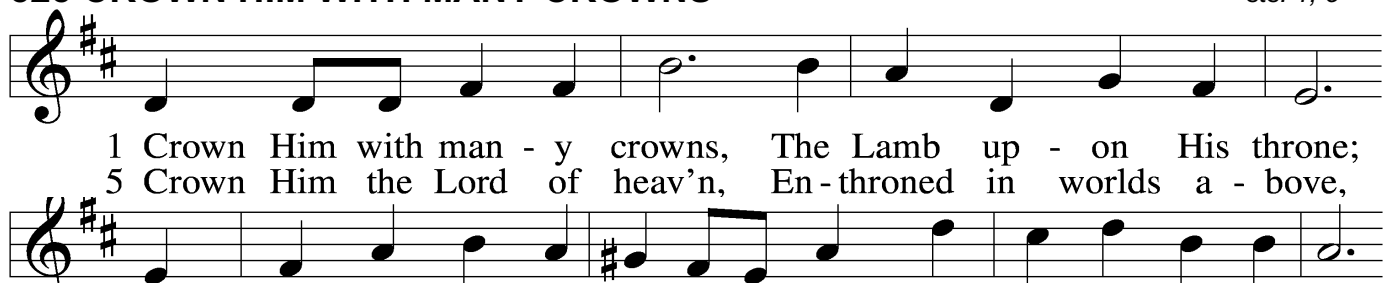
¹⁵For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, ¹⁸having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ²²And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

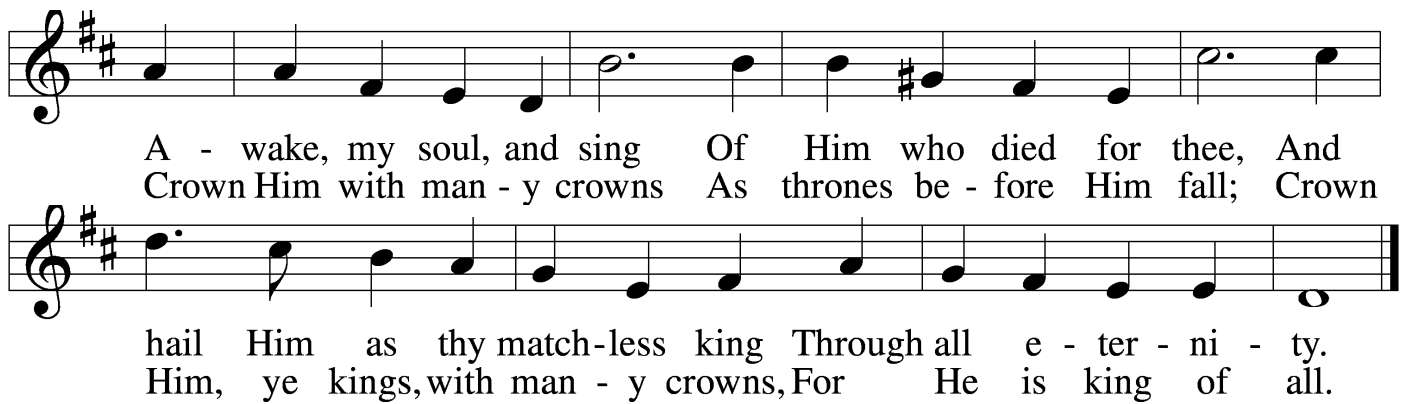
525 CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS

sts. 1, 5



1 Crown Him with man - y crowns, The Lamb up - on His throne;
 5 Crown Him the Lord of heav'n, En - throned in worlds a - bove,

Hark how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns All mu - sic but its own.
 Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n The won-drous name of Love.



Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800–94, alt. Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93. Text and tune: Public domain

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 24:44–53

PThe Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

CGlory to You, O Lord.

⁴⁴Then [Jesus] said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

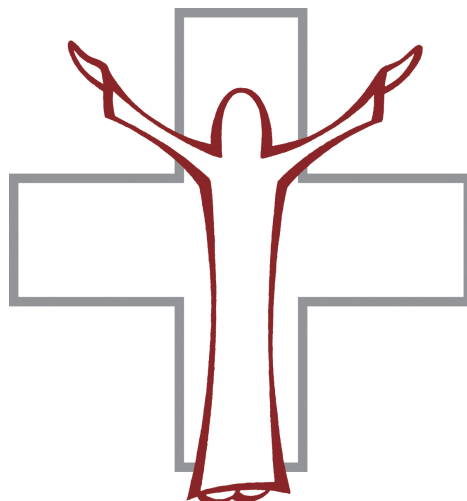
⁵⁰Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them.

⁵¹While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵²And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, ⁵³and were continually in the temple blessing God.

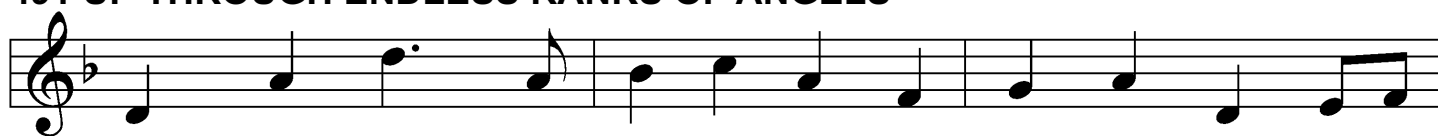
PThis is the Gospel of the Lord.

CPraise to You, O Christ.

Paschal Candle is extinguished at this time



491 UP THROUGH ENDLESS RANKS OF ANGELS



1 Up through end - less ranks of an - gels, Cries of tri - umph

2 Death - de - stroy - ing, life - re - stor - ing, Prov - en e - qual

3 To our lives of wan - ton wan - d'ring Send Your Spir - it,

△ 4 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Oh, to breathe the

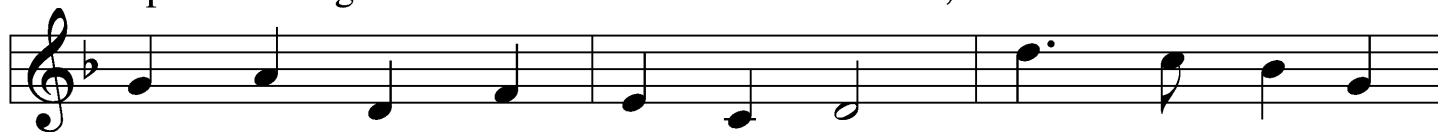


in His ears, To His heav'n - ly throne as - cend - ing,

to our need, Now for us be - fore the Fa - ther

prom - ised guide; Through our lives of fear and fail - ure

Spir - it's grace! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Hav - ing van - quished all their fears, Christ looks down up -

As our broth - er in - ter - cede; Flesh that for our

With Your pow'r and love a - bide; Wel - come us, as

Oh, to see the Fa - ther's face! Al - le - lu - ia,



on His faith - ful, Leav - ing them in hap - py tears.

world was wound - ed, Liv - ing, for the wound - ed plead!

You were wel - comed, To an end - less Eas - ter - tide.

al - le - lu - ia! Oh, to feel the Son's em - brace!

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008. Tune: Henry V. Gerike, 1948

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SERMON

CREED

Apostles' Creed

☩ 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.

OFFERING & VIDEO

OFFERTORY

LSB 192



C 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

LRisen, ascended, and glorified Lord, hear the prayers of Your people and grant us grace that we may recognize Your presence in Word and Sacrament and receive there the fruits of Your redeeming work until You come again to deliver us into Your presence on high. Lord, in Your mercy,

Chear our prayer.

LSustain Your church, O Lord, that she may be faithful in all that You have given her to do and be kept in unity of doctrine and life through the days of trial until at last the church in heaven and the church on earth are one in Your presence on high. Lord, in Your mercy,

Chear our prayer.

L Order all things on earth by Your Word that those entrusted with the leadership of the nations may fulfill Your purpose in the pursuit of peace, justice, and godliness on behalf of all people. Lord, in Your mercy,

Chear our prayer.

L Supply to the sick and those who suffer the grace to sustain them in the day of their trouble and give comfort to the dying and those who mourn. Lord, in Your mercy,

Chear our prayer.

L By Your Spirit bring us to repentance and to faith in Your Word and promise, that we may approach Your altar with confidence and receive for our benefit Your body and blood given and shed for us for the forgiveness of our sins. Lord, in Your mercy,

Chear our prayer.

L Help us by Your grace to lead a holy and godly life, worthy of our calling as Your own people by Baptism and faith and help us to give witness to the hope that is within us before a world in darkness. Lord, in Your mercy,

Chear our prayer.

L Accept the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving we bring with our lips and the tithes and offerings of our hands as the worship acceptable in Your sight.

Lord, in Your mercy,

Chear our prayer.

L Having in remembrance all those who have loved Your appearing and who now rest in Your mercy, we pray for that day when we shall join with them in the marriage feast of the Lamb in Your kingdom without end.

CGlory, honor, blessing, and praise to You, O risen and ascended Lord. Amen.

+ SACRAMENT +

617 O LORD, WE PRAISE THEE



1 O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and a - dore Thee,
2 Thy ho - ly bod - y in - to death was giv - en,
3 May God be - stow on us His grace and fa - vor



In thanks - giv - ing bow be - fore Thee. Thou with Thy
Life to win for us in heav - en. No great - er
That we fol - low Christ our Sav - ior And live to -

bod - y and Thy blood didst nour - ish Our weak souls that
 love than this to Thee could bind us; May this feast there -
 geth - er here in love and u - nion Nor de - spise this
 they may flour - ish: O Lord, have mer - cy!
 of re - mind us! O Lord, have mer - cy!
 blest Com - mu - nion! O Lord, have mer - cy!
 May Thy bod - y, Lord, born of Mar - y, That our
 Lord, Thy kind - ness did so con - strain Thee That Thy
 Let not Thy good Spir - it for - sake us; Grant that
 sins and sor - rows did car - ry, And Thy blood for us plead
 blood should bless and sus - tain me. All our debt Thou hast paid;
 heav'n - ly - mind - ed He make us; Give Thy Church, Lord, to see
 In all tri - al, fear, and need: O Lord, have mer - cy!
 Peace with God once more is made: O Lord, have mer - cy!
 Days of peace and u - ni - ty: O Lord, have mer - cy!

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; (st. 1): German, 14th cent.; (sts. 2–3): Martin Luther, 1483–1546
 Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House Used by permission: LSB
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PREFACE

- P**The Lord be with you. **C** And also with you.
PLift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

- P**Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
CIt is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

- 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, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who after His resurrection appeared openly to all His disciples and in their sight was taken up into heaven that He might make us partakers of His divine life.

Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB 195



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,



bles - ed is He, bles - 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.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

PBlessed 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.

CAmen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

PAs often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

CAmen. Come, Lord Jesus.

PO Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

COur 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.

PAX DOMINI

PThe peace of the Lord be with you always. **C** Amen.

AGNUS DEI

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.

+ DISTRIBUTION HYMNS +

821 ALLELUIA! SING TO JESUS



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; His the
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans Are we
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, Here on
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Lord om -
 5 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; His the



scep - ter, His the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! His the
 left in sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! He is
 earth our food, our stay; Al - le - lu - ia! Here the
 nip - o - tent we own; Al - le - lu - ia! Born of
 scep - ter, His the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! His the



tri - umph, His the vic - to - ry a - lone.
 near us; Faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how.
 sin - ful Flee to You from day to day.
 Mar - y, Earth Your foot - stool, heav'n Your throne.
 tri - umph, His the vic - to - ry a - lone.



Hark! The songs of peace - ful Zi - on Thun - der
 Though the cloud from sight re - ceived Him When the
 In - ter - ces - sor, Friend of sin - ners, Earth's Re -
 As with - in the veil You en - tered, Robed in
 Hark! The songs of peace - ful Zi - on Thun - der



like a might - y flood: "Je - sus out of
 for - ty days were o'er, Shall our hearts for -
 deem - er, hear our plea Where the songs of
 flesh, our great High Priest, Here on earth both
 like a might - y flood: "Je - sus out of



ev - 'ry na - tion Has re - deemed us by His blood."
 get His prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more?"
 all the sin - less Sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
 priest and vic - tim In the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.
 ev - 'ry na - tion Has re - deemed us by His blood."

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–98, alt. Tune: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–87. Text and tune: Public domain

Our God Reigns

1 How lovely on the mountains are the feet of him
who brings good news, good news
Announcing peace, proclaiming news of happiness.
Our God reigns, Our God reigns!

Refrain:

Our God reigns! Our God reigns!
Our God reigns! Our God reigns!

2 He had no stately form. He had no majesty,
That we should be drawn to Him.
He was despised and we took no account of Him,
Yet now He reigns with the Most High. *Refrain*

3 Out from the tomb He came with grace and majesty,
He is alive, He is alive.
God loves us so, see here His hands, His feet, His side.
Yes, we know, He is alive. *Refrain*

© 1974, 1978 by L. E. Smith, Jr./New Jerusalem Music

POST COMMUNION DISMISSAL

PThe body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body
and soul to life everlasting. Depart + in peace.

CAmen.

THANK THE LORD

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 - jice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

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.

830 SPREAD THE REIGN OF GOD THE LORD



1 Spread the reign of God the Lord, Spo - ken, writ - ten, might - y Word;
2 Tell how God the Fa - ther's will Made the world, up - holds it still,
3 Tell of our Re-deem - er's grace, Who, to save our hu - man race
4 Tell of God the Spir - it giv'n Now to guide us on to heav'n,



Ev - 'ry - where His crea - tures call To His heav'n - ly ban - quet hall.
How His own dear Son He gave Us from sin and death to save.
And to pay re - bel - lion's price, Gave Him - self as sac - ri - fice.
Strong and ho - ly, just and true, Work - ing both to will and do.

5 Enter, mighty Word, the field;
Ripe the promise of its yield.
But the reapers, oh, how few
For the work there is to do!

6 Lord of harvest, great and kind,
Rouse to action heart and mind;
Let the gath'ring nations all
See Your light and heed Your call.

Text: Jonathan Friedrich Bahnmaier, 1774–1841; tr. composite

Tune: Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch, 1704, Halle, ed. Johann A. Freylinghausen, alt. Text and tune: Public domain

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 2.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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