

New Hope Lutheran Church April 27th, 2025 People of Grace, Lives of race, Words of Grace

+WORSHIP AT NEW HOPE+

WE RISE AND GREET ONE ANOTHER

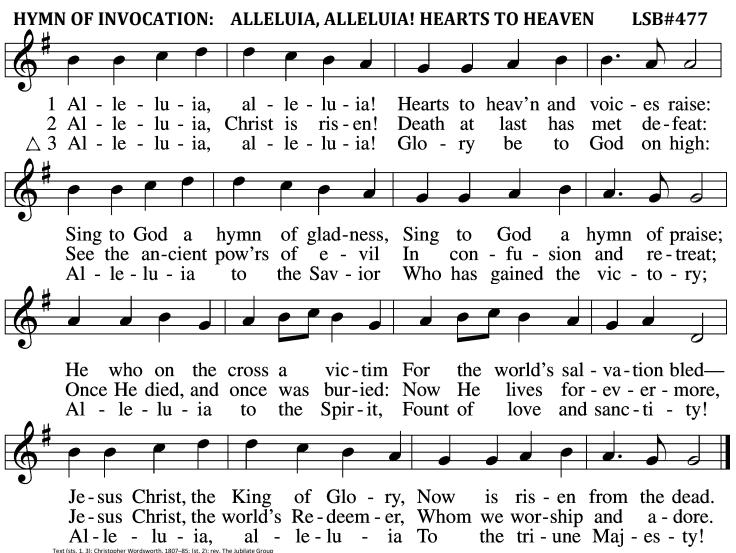
AS WE GATHER

We are "Easter people".

Easter – the special **day** on which we celebrate Jesus' victory in the decisive battle between good and evil, life and death. We sing and shout: "He is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!"

However, Easter is more than a day; it's also a **season**. For six weeks, we sing "Alleluia!" and shout "He is risen!"

But Easter is even more than a season; it's a **way of life**. We are to live as "Easter people". Despite our flaws, we are to be people who know and show the difference that Jesus' resurrection makes in our everyday lives.



Text (sts. 1, 3): Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–85; (st. 2): rev. The Jubilate Group
Tune: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1796–1867
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INVOCATION

- God has raised His Son from death! The risen Lord Jesus is here! His Spirit is with us!

 Our God Father, Son and Spirit: three persons, one God invites us to join the whole company of heaven and the communion of His saints around the world in worshiping Him.
- We thank and praise You, O God.

EXHORTATION

Sisters and brothers: Even as we deny the resurrection by living with doubts and in fear, our God chooses life for us and saves us from being consumed by sin and death. Therefore, with our confession of sin, we also affirm God's grace.

CONFESSION OF SINS

Silence for reflection

Acknowledging our sin and God's grace (Confession and absolution)

- P As we sin, thereby grieving our Father, harming our neighbor and diminishing ourselves,
- our Father still showers us with His love.
- **P** As we walk in the darkness of our doubts,
- Christ, the light of the world, shows us the truth.
- **P** As we live in fear,
- the Holy Spirit enables us to live with hope.
- **P** In the midst of our sin, darkness and fear,
- we are forgiven by the Father, enlightened by Christ and encouraged by the Holy Spirit. Thanks be to God!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray:

On the first Easter day, an angel proclaimed the good news.

The angel said: "Do not be afraid".

- Risen Lord, I give to You all my fears. Resurrect my faith in Your power.
- **P** The angel said: "I know you are looking for Jesus".
- Risen Lord, when I am searching for answers, lead me to find the truth in You.
- **P** The angel said: "He has risen, just as he said".
- Risen Lord, You keep Your promises. Help me to trust You more, obey You better.
- **P** The angel said: "Come and see".
- Risen Lord, give me eyes that see You are with me always.
- P The angel said: "Go quickly and tell".
- Risen Lord, I don't want to be a secret keeper; I want to be a truth proclaimer. Help me to be a bold witness for You...with You... because of You! Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE



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HOLY BAPTISM

Emma Jean Geertman

FIRST READING ACTS 5:12-32

PAGES 621-622

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE REVELATION 1:4-18

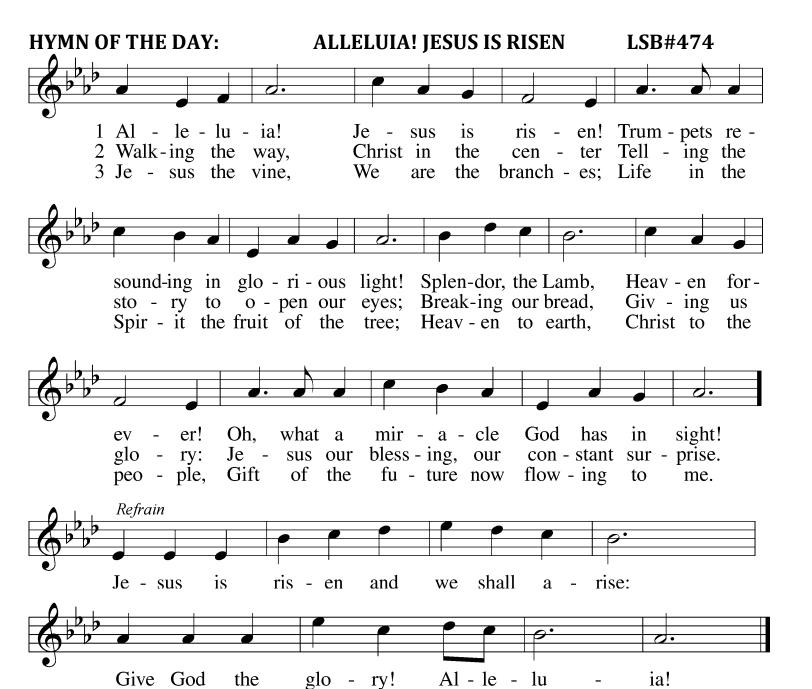
PAGE 698

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL JOHN 20: 19-31

PAGE 617

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.
- **G** Glory to You, O Lord.
- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to You, O Christ.



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Tune: David N. Johnson, 1922–87
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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

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray:

We thank You, risen Lord, that with Your death and resurrection, You established Your Kingdom here on earth. We pray that we and all people in Your world-wide Kingdom grow to know You better and experience the power and hope of Your resurrection. O Lord,

- help us to be Easter people!
- Risen Lord, You specialize in doing the impossible. At the first Easter, You brought life from lifelessness. You can resurrect hope when we are mired in despair. O Lord,
- help us to be Easter people!
- Risen Lord, bring Easter to all among us who are grieving: Your comfort that we will see our loved ones again; Your promise that You will be with us at the hour of our death. O Lord,
- help us to be Easter people!
- Risen Lord, bring Easter to all among us who are distressed: give us meaning in our times of suffering; Your energy when our life is at its lowest ebb. O Lord,
- help us to be Easter people!
- Risen Lord, bring Easter to all among us who are ill in body, mind or spirit: Your healing touch to calm our fears; Your soothing presence to carry us when we falter. This morning, we lift before You as well as those we now name in our hearts. O Lord,
- help us to be Easter people!
- Bring Easter to all who are living in jails. By Your resurrection power, also free those chained by addictions or locked in the prison of prejudice. O Lord,
- help us to be Easter people!
- Bring Easter to our neighborhoods and our world: Your peace diffusing our conflicts; Your mercy tempering our justice; Your people welcoming the stranger and feeding the hungry; Your kingdom coming here. O Lord,
- help us to be Easter people!
- Risen Lord, we thank you for freeing us from the grip of sin and death, showing us who we can be and transforming us daily through your creative Holy Spirit. O Lord,
- we are becoming Easter people! Thanks be to God! Amen!

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

It is our duty and delight, always and everywhere, to praise You, almighty Father, Creator of heaven and earth. Today we join the angels, archangels and all the company of heaven in thanking You because You gave Your only Son Jesus to and for us, that we may be cleansed from sin and given the right to become Your children.

Father, from the beginning of time, You have always done what is good for Your children. We can wander far from You, but through Your Son Jesus You bring us back. Jesus is the hand that You stretch out to wayward sinners; He is the way that leads to You. Your Son Jesus – who lived, died and rose again – restores us as members of Your family.

On the night He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it, gave it to His disciples, and said: "Take, eat: this is My body, which is given for You. Do this to remember Me."

After supper, He took the cup of wine; and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you. This is My blood of the new covenant, shed for you for the forgiveness of sin. Whenever you drink this, remember Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

P The gifts of God for the people of God:

this bread is the body of Christ;

this wine is the blood of Christ.

As often that we eat this bread and drink this cup,

we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

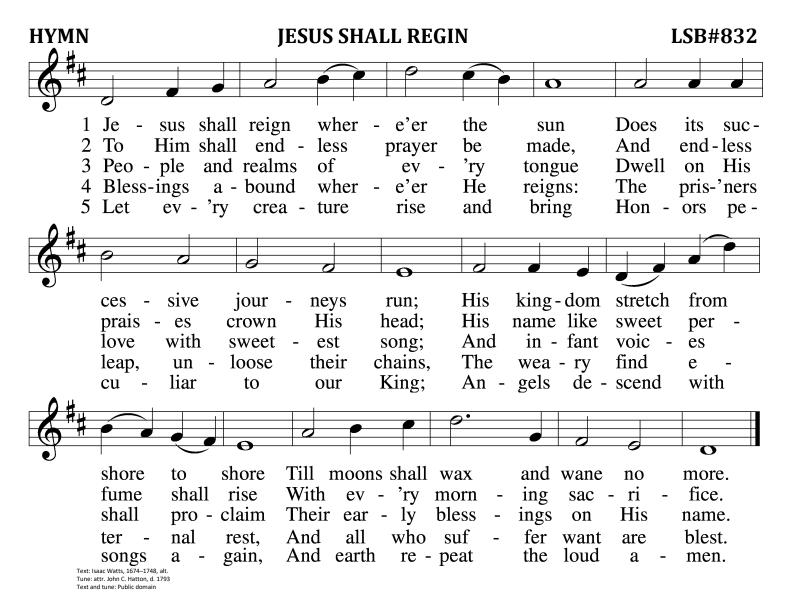
PAX DOMINI

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION



PRAYER

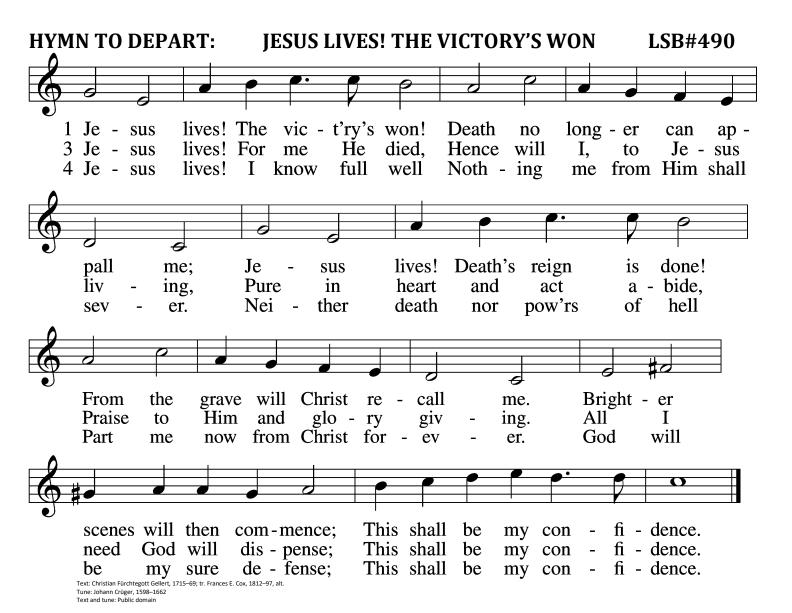
Father, you have prepared a table for us in the presence of our enemies. You have fed us not just with bread, but with the Bread of Life. Thank you for forgiving our sins and making us your children. We pray that you would use this gift in us to make us people of grace, to speak words of grace, and to live lives of grace so that more people would know how much they are loved in Jesus. Amen

BENEDICTION

Now may the God of peace – who raised from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep – may He equip you with all you need for doing His will. May He produce in you, through the power of Jesus Christ, every good thing that is pleasing to Him.

And may the blessing of God Almighty – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – be with you, those you love, and those who need your love, now and forever.

C Amen.



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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