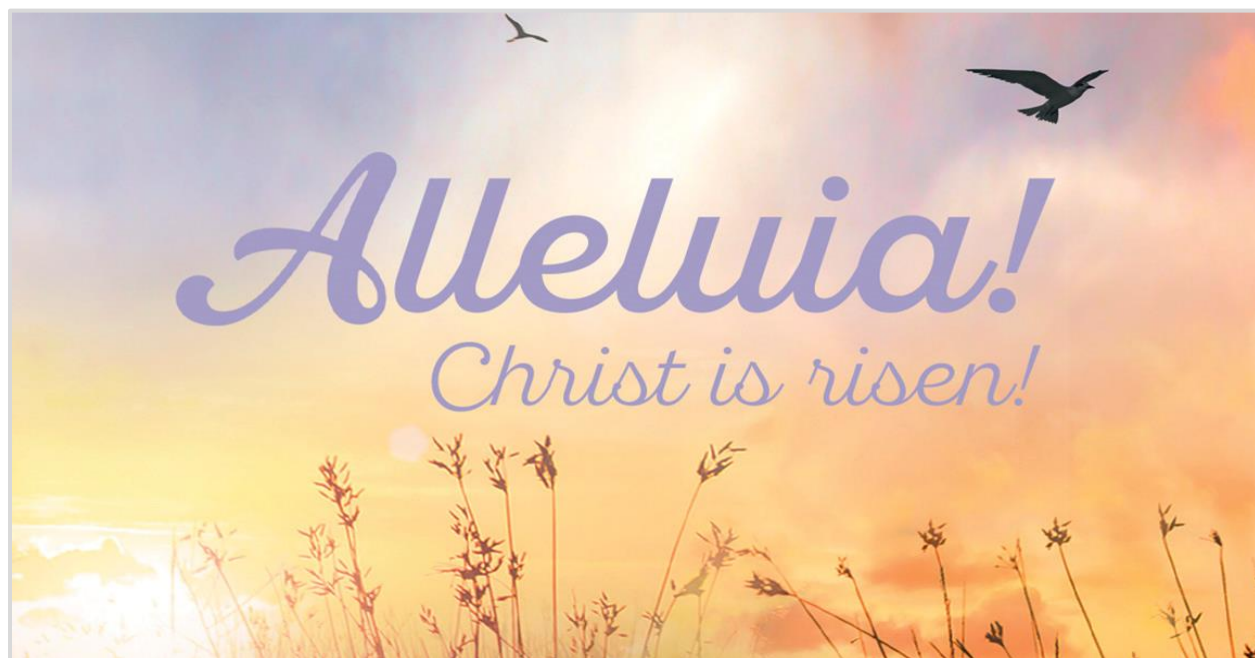


# Fifth Sunday of Easter



**May 18, 2025**

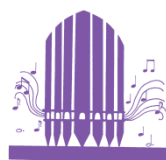
**9:30 AM**

*(You are welcome to share a prayer request to be used in worship today.  
Prayer Cards will be collected during the Sermon Song.)*

## **GATHERING**

*(A time of silence to let go of daily worries and refocus on worshipping God)*

**PRELUDE** *(and lighting of the altar candles)*



## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: God's saving word is for all people.

**All: We do not get to decide who is included.**

Leader: Let us give thanks that God welcomes everyone.

**All: Thank you, God, for welcoming us!**

## LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT PRAYER

Leader: Lord God,

O Loving Creator, we acknowledge this traditional home of the Duwamish and Muckleshoot peoples on which we live and worship today. We give thanks for their stewardship of this land over centuries. We ask for your guidance in our efforts to care for this place, and to honor the First Peoples' legacy with humility, respect and responsibility.

Response: Amen

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Let us pray.

Gracious God,

**All: Whether we are aware of it or not, we often put up barriers,  
deciding for ourselves who is "in" and who is "out" of your righteous reign.  
Shake us out of our need to control,  
and open our hearts to accept all people without exception, as you do.  
In Jesus' name we pray.  
Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN

### *People of the Word*

DATH 1



1 Peo - ple of the word: O - pen up your door and wel - come in the strang - er.  
2 Peo - ple of the truth: O - pen up your mouth and tell the pres - ent dan - ger.  
3 Peo - ple of the heart: O - pen up your love and re - con - cile your an - ger.  
4 Peo - ple of the cross: O - pen up your arms and dance a - round the man - ger.



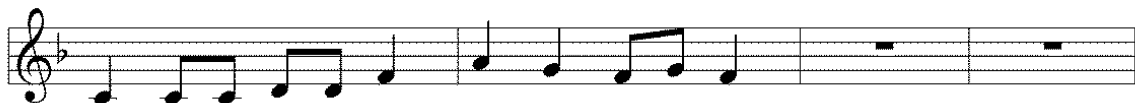
Peo - ple of the word: O - pen up your door and wel - come in the strang - er.  
Peo - ple of the truth: O - pen up your mouth and tell the pres - ent dan - ger.  
Peo - ple of the heart: O - pen up your love and re - con - cile your an - ger.  
Peo - ple of the cross: O - pen up your arms and dance a - round the man - ger.



Here ev - 'ry - bod - y is wel - come all the time. Here ev - 'ry - bod - y is ac -  
Not ev - 'ry - bod - y is wel - come all the time. Not ev - 'ry - bod - y is ac -  
So ev - 'ry - bod - y is wel - come all the time. So ev - 'ry - bod - y is ac -  
Now ev - 'ry - bod - y is wel - come all the time. Now ev - 'ry - bod - y is ac -



cept - ed as they are. Here ev - 'ry - bod - y is greet - ed with a smile.  
cept - ed as they are. Not ev - 'ry - bod - y is greet - ed with a smile.  
cept - ed as they are. So ev - 'ry - bod - y is greet - ed with a smile.  
cept - ed as they are. Now ev - 'ry - bod - y is greet - ed with a smile.



Here ev - 'ry-bod - y is wel-come all the time.  
Not ev - 'ry-bod - y is wel-come all the time.  
So ev - 'ry-bod - y is wel-come all the time.  
Now ev - 'ry-bod - y is wel-come all the time.

Text: Ray Makeever

Music: PEOPLE OF THE WORD, Ray Makeever

Text and music © 1997 Ray Makeever, admin, Augsburg Fortress

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## CONFESSION

Leader: We confess our sins before God and one another.

(Pause for a time of reflection)

God of new life,

**All: We live as though you are still in the grave.**

**We do not rejoice in the good news of liberation  
for all people without exception.**

**We continue to sin against you and our neighbors  
by our actions and our failure to act.**

**Shake us out of our complacency,**

**cleanse our hearts of selfishness,**

**and make us joyful participants in the work of bringing about your reign in the world today.**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: We are an Easter people!

Through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ,  
God has redeemed all of creation.

We are made whole, forgiven of all our sins,  
and empowered to live out the gospel in joy.

**All: Amen.**



## KYRIE

S.M.Haley

{Organ}

Leader: Assembly:

In peace, in peace let us pray to the Lord. Lord . . . have

6 Leader: Assembly:

mer-cy. For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-va-tion, let us pray to the Lord. Lord . . . have

11 Leader: //

mer-cy. For the peace of the whole world, the well - be ing of the church of God, and for the

14 Assembly: Leader:

un-it-y of all, let us pray to the Lord. Lord . . . have mer-cy. For this ho-ly house,

19 Assembly:

and for all who of-fer here their wor-ship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. Lord . . . have mer-cy.

24 Leader: Assembly:

Help. save, com-fort, and de-fend us grac-ious Lord. A - - men.

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## CANTICLE OF PRAISE

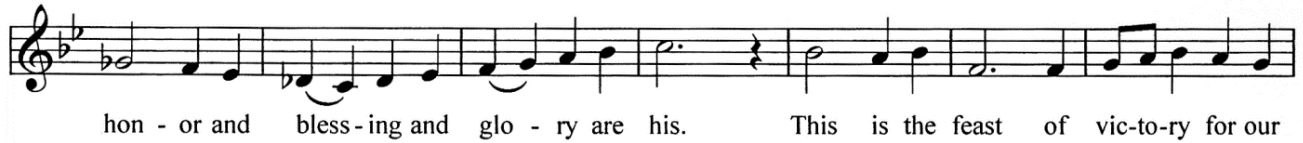
S.M. Haley

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia, al -

7 - le - lu - ia Worth - y is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us

14 free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength and

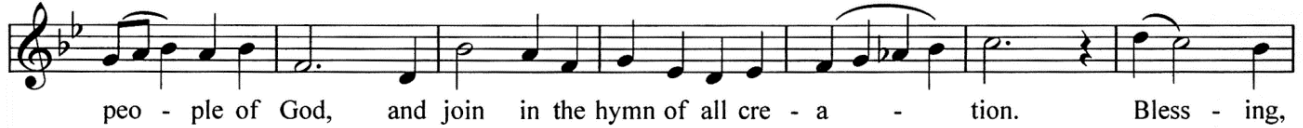
21



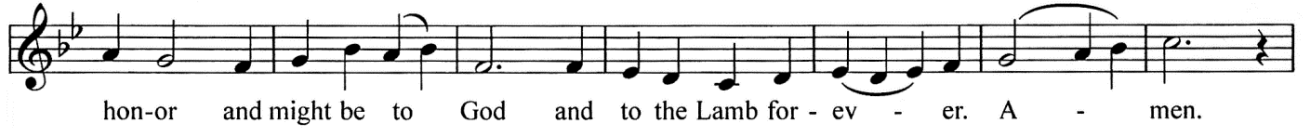
28



35



42



49



56



63



68



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# THE WORD

## THE READING Acts 15:1-18

Reader: The reading today is from the fifteenth chapter of the book of Acts:

<sup>1</sup> Then certain individuals came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers, “Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.”

<sup>2</sup> And after Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and debate with them, Paul and Barnabas and some of the others were appointed to go up to Jerusalem to discuss this question with the apostles and the elders. <sup>3</sup> So they were sent on their way by the church, and as they passed through both Phoenicia and Samaria, they reported the conversion of the gentiles and brought great joy to all the brothers and sisters. <sup>4</sup> When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and the elders, and they reported all that God had done with them. <sup>5</sup> But some believers who belonged to the sect of the Pharisees stood up and said, “It is necessary for them to be circumcised and ordered to keep the law of Moses.”

<sup>6</sup> The apostles and the elders met together to consider this matter. <sup>7</sup> After there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, “My brothers, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that I should be the one through whom the gentiles would hear the message of the good news and become believers. <sup>8</sup> And God, who knows the human heart, testified to them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as he did to us, <sup>9</sup> and in cleansing their hearts by faith he has made no distinction between them and us. <sup>10</sup> Now, therefore, why are you putting God to the test by placing on the neck of the disciples a yoke that neither our ancestors nor we have been able to bear? <sup>11</sup> On the contrary, we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will.”

<sup>12</sup> The whole assembly kept silence and listened to Barnabas and Paul as they told of all the signs and wonders that God had done through them among the gentiles. <sup>13</sup> After they finished speaking, James replied, “My brothers, listen to me. <sup>14</sup> Simeon has related how God first looked favorably on the gentiles, to take from among them a people for his name.

<sup>15</sup> This agrees with the words of the prophets, as it is written,

<sup>16</sup> ‘After this I will return,  
and I will rebuild the dwelling of David, which has fallen;  
from its ruins I will rebuild it,  
and I will set it up,  
<sup>17</sup> so that all other peoples may seek the Lord—  
even all the gentiles over whom my name has been called.  
Thus says the Lord, who has been making these things  
<sup>18</sup> known from long ago.’

Word of God, word of life.

Response: **Thanks be to God.**



S.M. Haley



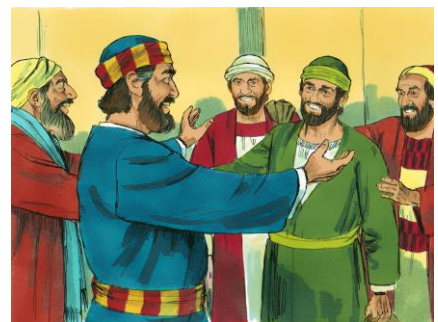
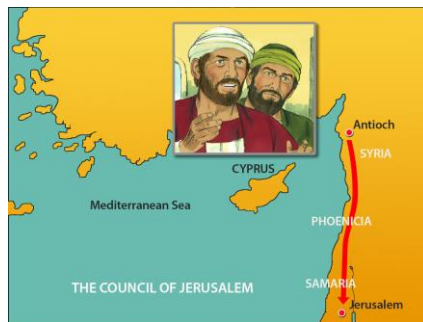
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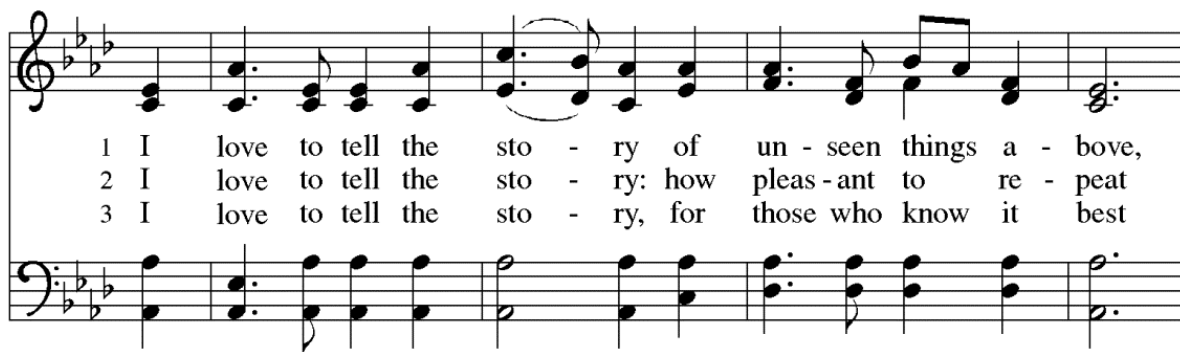
## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE




## SERMON

Pastor Tormod Svensson





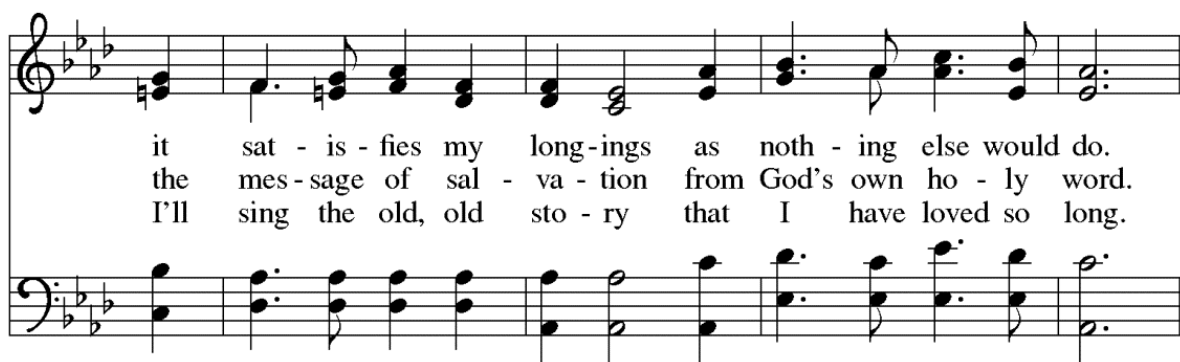
1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,  
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat  
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.  
 what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!  
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;  
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard  
 And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.  
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.  
 I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

*Refrain*



I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry





Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834–1911  
Music: HANKEY, William E. Fischer, 1849–1936

## DECLARATION OF FAITH

Leader: We declare our faith using the Nicene Creed:

**All:** We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\*  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come.

Amen.



## COMMUNITY PRAYERS

Leader: We pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*(silence for reflection)*

Leader: As the early followers of Jesus finally decided that salvation was open to all people, and not just the Jews, so remind us that we also must welcome everyone, even if they don't fit into our preferred set of criteria.

Holy and wonderful God,

**Response: Receive our prayer.**

Leader: Salvation is open to all creation, O God. Help us to see the natural environment as we see ourselves, and work for the restoration and preservation of all that you have made.

Holy and wonderful God,

**Response: Receive our prayer.**

Leader: Guide leaders throughout the world to truly listen to those most vulnerable and oppressed in their communities. May they make changes that positively transforms lives and situations.

Holy and wonderful God,

**Response: Receive our prayer.**

Leader: Comfort and sustain all who journey with ongoing challenges to their physical, emotional, or spiritual health. Hold them in your loving arms and give them strength and courage through their difficulties. Guide and sustain their caregivers and medical providers. Grant patience and acceptance to their loved ones through these trying times, and bring peace to troubled hearts.

Holy and wonderful God,

**Response: Receive our prayer.**

Leader: Give us spirits of generosity to be of love and service to all those around us: in our families, congregations, communities, social groups, and more. And give us humility to ask for and accept care from others.

Holy and wonderful God,

**Response: Receive our prayer.**

Leader: May we honor those saints who have gone before us by continuing the walk of faith, that others might follow after us, continuing the chain of community in Christ. And we thank you for the lives of all those saints who have recently entered eternal life, including.... Confident in the promise of the resurrection, we wait with anticipation and certainty that we will be reunited with them again at your heavenly banquet. Until that time, comfort those who are mourning the physical loss of their loved ones. Be with them as they struggle to find a path through their grief back to joy.

Holy and wonderful God,

**Response: Receive our prayer.**

Leader: Listen now to the prayers of your people, spoken aloud or silently...  
*(pause for personal prayers)*  
*(special congregational prayers are lifted up)*

*A more complete list of all whom the congregation is praying  
for this week is in the announcement insert in your bulletin.*

Holy and wonderful God,

**Response: Receive our prayer.**

Leader: These and the prayers of all creation we lift to you in Jesus' name.

**Response: Amen.**

## MEAL



*(Note: Receptacles for your offerings are available on stools at the front  
on either side of the center aisle as you come forward for communion)*

## OFFERING PRAYER

Leader: Our offering prayer:  
God of love,  
we offer these gifts to you,  
knowing that they are already your own.  
Accept them for the sake of Jesus Christ,  
who gave his life to redeem creation,  
that they would be used to help others,  
as we have so often been helped.  
In Jesus' name we pray.

**Response: Amen.**



# GREAT THANKSGIVING

## DIALOGUE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## PREFACE

Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,  
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;  
who in dying has destroyed death,  
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.  
And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,  
with earth and sea and all their creatures,  
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

S.M. Haley

Ho - ly, ho - ly ho - ly. Lord God of pow - er and might.

Heav'n and earth are full, full of Your glo - ry. Ho -

8  
san - na in the high - est Bless - ed are they who

come in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na, ho -

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

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Pastor: In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.



## LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: We join in the prayer Jesus taught us to pray.

All: Our [Father | Mother | Heavenly Parent | Creator] 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.



## COMMUNION HYMN

S.M.Haley

(Org.)



Lamb of God you take a - way the sin of the world.

Lamb of God you take a - way the sin of the world.

Lamb of God you take a - way the sin . . . of the world.

Grant us peace. Grant us peace.

1.1.13 Seattle

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## ABOUT COMMUNION

*All are welcome to receive the Lord's Supper. Please wait in your pew until the usher indicates that it is your turn, then come forward using the center aisle. You may choose either the rail side or the side where there is no rail. If you and/or your children are not comfortable participating in the Rite of Communion, **know that all are still welcome to come forward for a blessing – just let the presider know your preference when you and/or your children are in front of the first Chancel step.** When you are at the front, please fill in a vacant spot. **If you would like a gluten free alternative to the bread, or if you prefer grape juice instead of wine, please indicate that to the presider.** After you have communed, please discard the empty cup to be recycled in the trash can by the side wall before returning to your seat.*



## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Leader: Jesus, who is for all people regardless of origin,  
invites every single person without exception to this holy meal in his name.

Join your siblings throughout the world in the bread and wine that is Jesus present with us,  
and be united into the Body of Christ now and forever.



1 For the bread which you have bro - ken, for the wine which you have poured,  
 2 By this prom - ise that you love us, by your gift of peace re - stored,  
 3 With the saints who now a - dore you, seat-ed at the heav'n - ly board,  
 4 In your ser - vice, Lord, de - fend us; in our hearts keep watch and ward;

for the words which you have spo - ken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.  
 by your call to heav'n a - bove us, hal - low all our lives, O Lord.  
 may the church still wait - ing for you keep love's tie un - bro - ken, Lord.  
 in the world to which you send us let your king-dom come, O Lord.

Text: Louis F. Benson, 1855–1930, alt.

Music: OMNI DIE, *Gross Catolisch Gesangbuch*, Nürnberg, 1631; arr. William Smith Rockstro, 1823–1895

Text © Robert F. Jefferys Jr.

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*(when all in the sanctuary have been fed)*

Pastor: Those joining us online – pick up your bread and hear these words:

*This is the body of Christ given for you.*

Eat and receive saying, "**Amen.**"

Lift up your cup of wine or juice and hear these words:

*This is the blood of Christ shed for you.*

Drink and receive saying, "**Amen.**"

## COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Response: **Amen.**

## EASTER SEASON BENEDICTION

Leader: Go out into the world as the people of God in this place,  
and may the God who raised Jesus from the dead grant you grace,  
the Son who gave his life for you give you peace,  
and the Spirit who is with you day by day,  
inspire you to greater service both now and forever more.

Response: Amen.

## SENDING HYMN

### *Signs and Wonders*

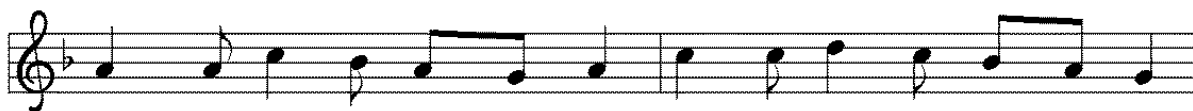
ELW 672



- 1 Signs and won - ders lead the danc - ing from the heart God frees from fear:
- 2 Hope and free - dom join the cir - cle: Mar - y to the gar - den came,
- 3 Cast a - side all fear and hid - ing; hand in hand we dance the round.



wings of an - gels greet the mai - den, and God finds a dwell - ing here;  
saw the ra - diance of the mar - vel, heard the Ris - en call her name;  
God is with us, Christ, a - bid - ing, and the Spir - it's gifts a - bound.



bold - ly may we lift our hands, bow the head, and voice A - men;  
bold - ly may we heed Christ's call, step be - yond the gar - den wall:  
Called by God to ho - li - ness, let us bold - ly serve and bless;



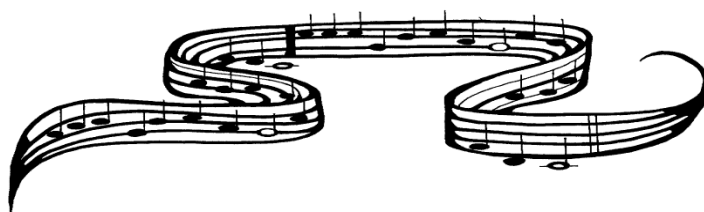
thus does glo - ry shine at mid - night: o - pen hearts in - vite the star - light.  
beau - ti - ful the feet pro - ceed - ing with good news of death's de - feat - ing.  
and to hearts that sigh and hun - ger may our lives dance signs and won - ders.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953

Music: FREU DICH SEHR, *Trente quatre psaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551

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## WE GO

Pastor: Let us go now, to follow Jesus,  
to serve our neighbor,  
to stand with the oppressed,  
to proclaim and live God's grace,  
and to share God's peace with one another and our world!

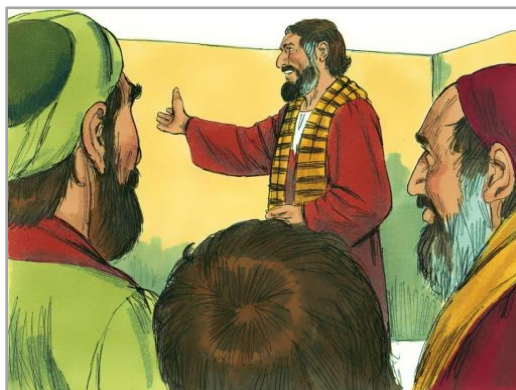
Response: **Thanks be to God!**

*(As we pass the peace, **ALL** people have the right to choose  
if they would like a verbal greeting, a handshake, or a hug.)*

## POSTLUDE







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Resources: All bible texts are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible Updated Edition, Friendship Press, 2021

Call to Worship, Opening Prayer, Confession and Forgiveness, Community Prayers, Offering Prayer, and Communion  
Invitation ~ written by Pastor Katelyn Rakotoarivelo, Narrative Lectionary *Program 1*, 2024-25 Worship  
Resources, copyright © 2024 Clergy Stuff, 11260 Deer Ridge Lane, Minnetonka, MN 55343.

Easter Season Benediction ~ written by Rev Margaret Whyte, and posted on the Church of Scotland's **Starters for Sunday**  
website. <http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/>

Special Clip Art:

Your sins are forgiven ~ from <http://clipart-library.com/clipart/380450.htm>

Stained Glass, Cross, and Bible ~ from <https://clipart-library.com/clipart/church-service-cliparts-3.htm>

Jesus with the Children ~ from <http://clipart-library.com/clipart/2089869.htm>

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Praying Hands ~ from <http://clipart-library.com/clipart/516920.htm>

Praying Hands in front of Stained Glass Window ~ from  
[https://www.clipartmax.com/middle/m2H7G6i8K9K9d3Z5\\_prayer-invites-us-to-clip-art-prayer-hand/](https://www.clipartmax.com/middle/m2H7G6i8K9K9d3Z5_prayer-invites-us-to-clip-art-prayer-hand/)

Come to the Table ~ from <http://clipart-library.com/clipart/702688.htm>

Piano with Music ~ from <http://clipart-library.com/clipart/314679.htm> and recolored

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CCLI Copyright License 263987 Size B, Streaming License 20757860 Size B

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## ***KENT LUTHERAN CHURCH***

*lives and celebrates the accepting love of Christ*

### **CORE VALUES**

We affirm the following values:

- \* We value the love of God revealed in Christ Jesus;
- \* We value God's love as a gift to be shared with everyone;
- \* We value everyone as a child of God, and invite all to be embraced by God;
- \* We value providing a loving, caring environment supporting spiritual needs;
- \* We value that all people are empowered by the Holy Spirit to serve God and community.
- \* We value the participation of people of all ages, ethnic background, sexual orientation, gender identity, educational background, different abilities, and economic conditions.

### **OUR VISION**

**Kent Lutheran Church**, a Christ-centered, sacred place  
for spiritual, cultural, and community enrichment.

**Kent Lutheran Church** is an **RIC (Reconciling in Christ)** congregation.

**336 Second Avenue South, Kent, WA 98032-5849**

Phone: 253-852-2057

Office email: [klcoffice@kentlutheran.org](mailto:klcoffice@kentlutheran.org)

Web Site: [www.kentlutheran.org](http://www.kentlutheran.org)

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Other KLC related web sites: [www.KentGrandOrgan.org](http://www.KentGrandOrgan.org), [www.klcsouthsudan.blogspot.com](http://www.klcsouthsudan.blogspot.com)

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