

# Easter

March 31, 2024 † The Resurrection of Jesus Christ



**Christ is risen! Jesus is alive, and God has swallowed up death forever. With Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, we may feel astonished and confused, unsure of what to make of the empty tomb. But this is why we gather: to proclaim, witness, praise, and affirm the liberating reality of Christ's death and resurrection. In word and feast, we celebrate God's unending love, and depart to share this good news with all the world. Alleluia!**

Masks are welcomed, especially for those who have not been boosted, cannot be vaccinated, are at higher risk, or simply prefer to do so.



Ebenezer is a *Reconciling in Christ* Congregation. **You are welcome here.**

**Welcome** to long-time Lutherans, Christians from every tradition, and people new to this faith. **Welcome** to friends new and old. **Welcome** to people of every age and size, color and culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression; every socioeconomic and marital status, political conviction, ability and challenge.

**Welcome** to believers and questioners, and questioning believers.

**Welcome.**



This worship booklet is available in **LARGE PRINT** and may be **recycled** (in the baskets near the Welcome Center) or taken home. It is also online at [ebenezerchurch.org](http://ebenezerchurch.org).



Please **silence** phones and other devices during the liturgy.



A **platform lift** is available to access the Sanctuary, Education Center, and Restrooms. Please see an usher for assistance.



**Restrooms** are located up the stairs under the model ship, or down the stairs on the west side of the narthex entry area.



**Postures** are a way in which we engage the body in worship. These movements (sitting, standing, making the sign of the cross) are optional; please engage in them only as you are comfortable or able.



**Children** are always welcome in worship at Ebenezer. A nursery is available (the attendant is vaccinated). A quiet play area is located in the narthex entry area.



**Holy Communion**, or the Eucharist, is offered to all who seek the presence of Christ. This is a welcome table.

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Cover artwork by Nathan Tolzmann.

## Gathering

Prelude

*Amor Soñador* John Stubblefield  
*Jesus Loves Me*

Words of Welcome

*Silence follows; then, the ringing of bells.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*Rise in body or spirit.*

Gathering Hymn

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today *Sing "Alleluias" on verse 3 only.*



1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!  
 praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!



who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 now a - bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!



suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1-3; tr. J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt.; Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, st. 4  
 Music: EASTER HYMN, J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708

Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Hymn of Praise

This Is the Feast of Victory for Our God



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

*Continues...*

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

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

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

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

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

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

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

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



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

### Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## Word

### The First Reading      Isaiah 25:6-9

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples  
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,  
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

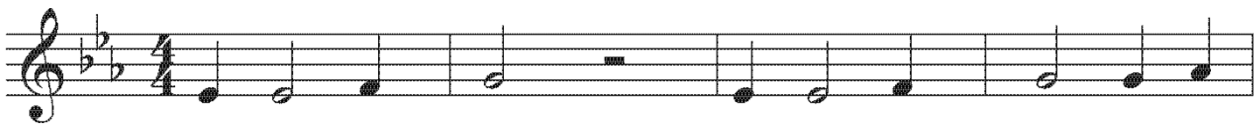
And he will destroy on this mountain  
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,  
the sheet that is spread over all nations;  
he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces,  
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,  
for the Lord has spoken.

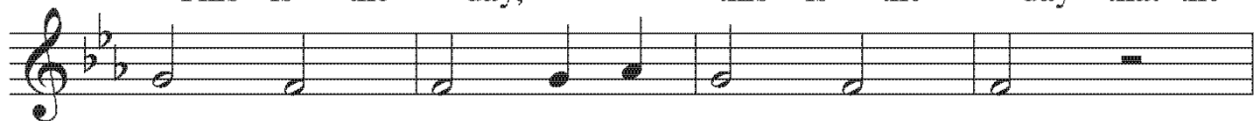
It will be said on that day,  
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.  
This is the Lord for whom we have waited;  
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 118:24      This Is the Day      *Sing three times.*



This is the day, this is the day that the



Lord has made, that the Lord has made.

*Continues...*

We will re - joice, we will re - joice and be  
 glad in it, and be glad in it.  
 This is the day that the Lord has made.  
 We will re - joice and be glad in it.  
 This is the day, this is the day that the  
 Lord has made.

The Second Reading First Corinthians 15:1-11

*Paul writes:* Now I would remind you, kindred, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

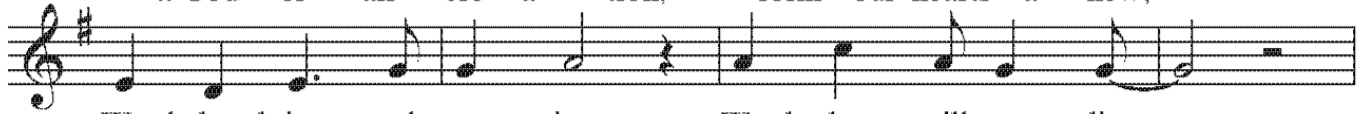
Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

*Rise in body or spirit.*

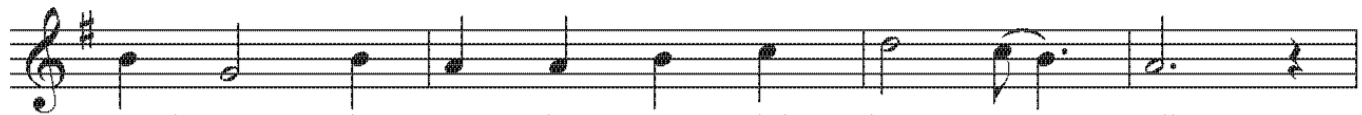
Welcoming the Gospel Word that Formed Creation *Sing verses 1 and 2.*



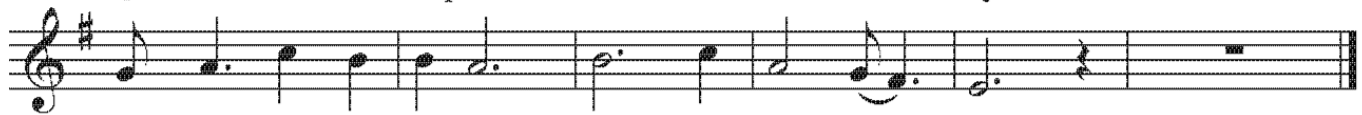
1. Word that formed cre - a - tion, earth and sea and sky;  
2. Love that formed and named us, filled this clay with breath;  
3. Song of joy and won - der, sound so wild and free;  
4. God of all cre - a - tion, form our hearts a - new;



Word that brings sal - va - tion, Word that will not die;  
Love that seeks and claims us, Love be - yond all death;  
voice of wind and thun - der, bound-less as the sea;  
God of our sal - va - tion, lead us home to you;



Speak now in us that we might hear your call;  
come now and fire the life that flows from you;  
Mu - sic of God, the love that casts out fear;  
Spi - rit, in - spire our hearts to hear your call;



Liv - ing Word of Je - sus, sound with - in us all.  
Love that raised up Je - sus, raise us up a - new.  
Song that sang in Je - sus, sing with - in us here.  
liv - ing God of Je - sus, come re - new us all!

text: Marty Haugen  
music John Elmquist

The Gospel

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Mark 16:1-8

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint *Jesus' body*. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sing verses three and four of the gospel acclamation; then, please be seated.

Sermon Pastor Michael Fick

Silence for reflection follows.

Rise in body or spirit.

Hymn of the Day Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds *Sing in parts on vs. 3.*

Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876–1947, alt.

Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623

1. Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds in  
2. E - ter - nal is the gift he brings, there -  
3. Oh, fill us Lord with daunt - less love; set  
4. A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring and

praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is  
fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is  
heart and will on things a - bove that we con - quer through your  
with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has tri - umphed! Al - le -

liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of an - gels, loud and clear! Re -  
liv - ing!" Now still he comes to give us life and  
tri - umph; grant grace suf - fi - cient for life's day that  
lu - ia!" Be to Cre - a - tor, and our Lord, to

peat their song of glo - ry here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is  
by his pre - sence stills all strife. "Christ has tri - umphed! He is  
by our lives we tru - ly say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is  
Spi - rit blest most ho - ly God, all the glo - ry, nev - er





**Nicene Creed**

*Children seated in the balcony who wish to attend the children's message begin to move downstairs.*

**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.**

*Please be seated.*

**Children's Message**

**Prayers of Intercession** *The response to each intercession is: **Hear our prayer.***

**Meal**

**Peace**                      **The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.**

*Share a sign of peace with those around you, being mindful about whether touch is welcomed, or a verbal greeting is preferred. Check your neighbor's name tag:*

A **yellow square** indicates a distanced elbow or fist bump is preferred.

A **red circle** indicates your neighbor prefers a verbal, distanced greeting only.

For members of the Ebenezer community, an offering is part of our expression of gratitude to God. If you are visiting with us today, your presence is already a great gift.

*Please be seated.*

Offertory

*An Easter Carol*

The Ebenezer Choir

Text by Christina Rossetti; music by John Elmquist

Spring bursts to-day,  
For Christ is risen and all the earth's at play.  
Flash forth, thou Sun,  
The rain is over and gone, its work is done.  
Winter is past,  
Sweet Spring is come at last, is come at last.  
Bud, Fig and Vine,  
Bud, Olive, fat with fruit and oil and wine.  
Break forth this morn  
In roses, thou but yesterday a Thorn.

Uplift thy head,  
O pure white Lily through the Winter dead.  
Beside your dams  
Leap and rejoice, you merry-making Lambs.  
All Herds and Flocks  
Rejoice, all Beasts of thickets and of rocks.  
Sing, Creatures, sing,  
Angels and Men and Birds and everything.  
All notes of Doves  
Fill all our world: this is the time of loves.

*Rise in body or spirit.*

Offering Song

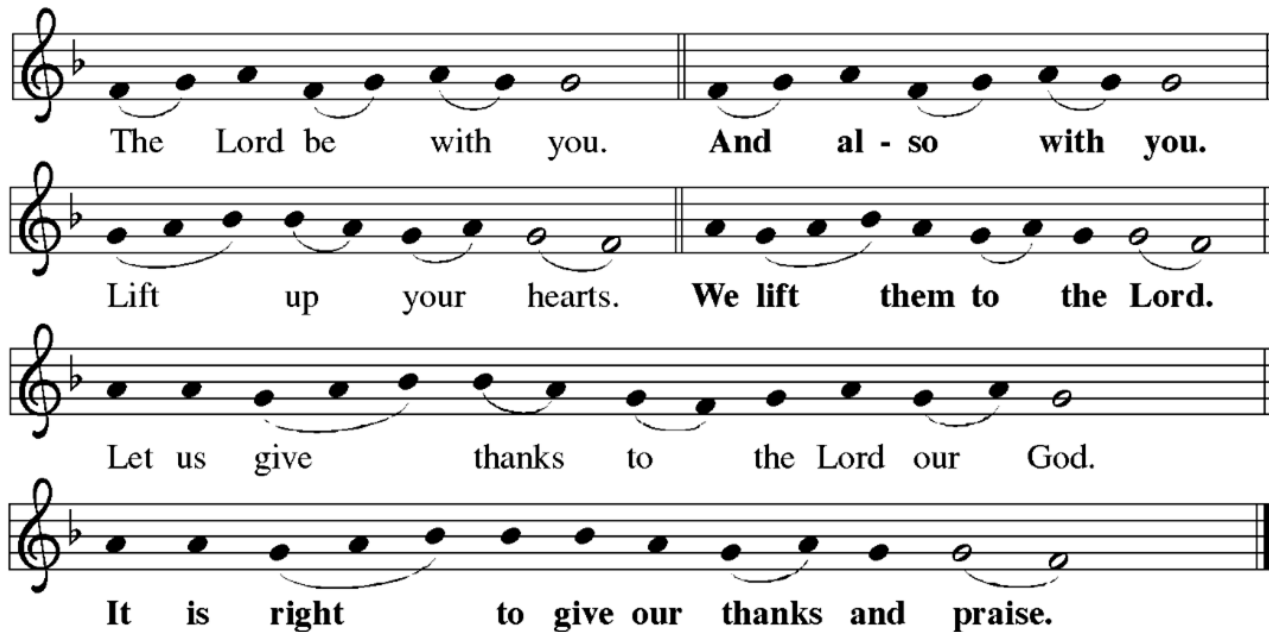


Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be  
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -  
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

## Offering Prayer

Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. **Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving Dialogue



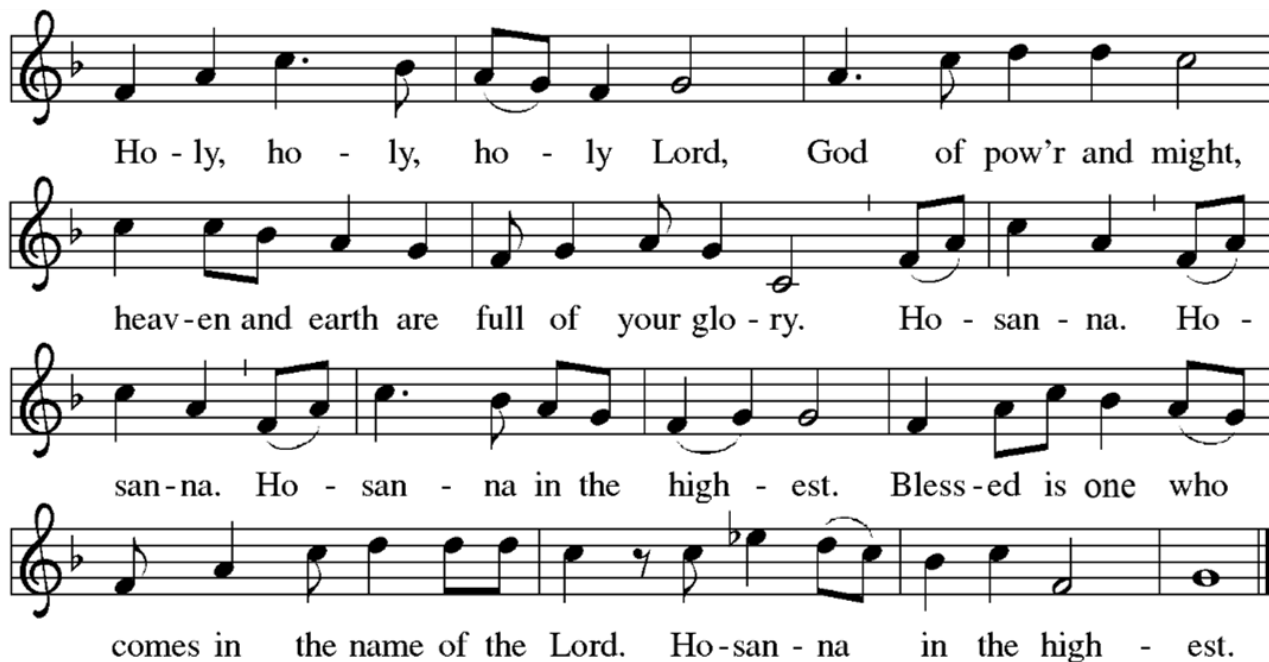
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

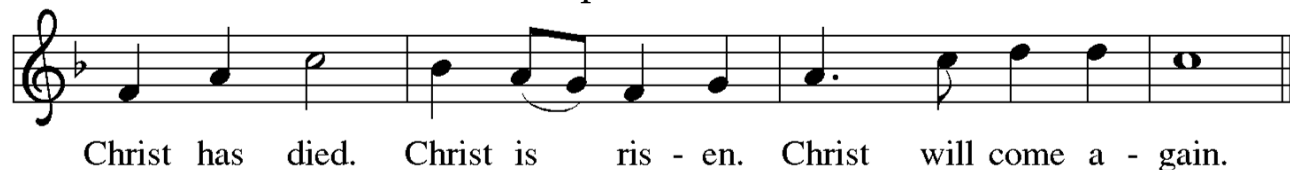
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## Preface Sanctus Holy, Holy, Holy Lord



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is one who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

## Thanksgiving at the Table ...we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

With this bread and cup... sorrows will be no more. **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**  
 Holy God... with all the world. **Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**  
 Holy and benevolent God... now and forever.



**Lord's Prayer**

*You may pray this prayer in these words; or, in language close to your heart.*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,  
 your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

**Invitation to the Table**

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.

All are welcome at God's table.

*Please be seated.*

All who seek Christ's presence in the sacrament are invited. This is a welcome table. At the invitation of the usher, you may come forward down the center aisle to receive the bread or a gluten-free wafer. Then, dip the wafer in the cup of **red wine** or **white grape juice**, receiving the elements together.

Those seated in the balcony will be invited to the rear of the area where elements are available. If you prefer to take communion with you, it is available in the narthex.

**Agnus Dei**

**Lamb of God**





sin of the world; grant us peace.

Anthem

*O Quam Gloriosum*  
Tomás Luis de Victoria

The Ebenezer Choir

O quam gloriosum est regnum,  
in quo cum Christo gaudent omnes Sancti!  
Amicti stolis albis,  
sequuntur Agnum, quocumque ierit.

*O how glorious is the kingdom  
wherein with Christ, joyful are the ransomed!  
Arrayed in white they follow the Lamb  
whither He leadeth.*

Hymn

Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain



1 Come, you faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant glad - ness!  
2 'Tis the spring of souls to - day: Christ has burst his pris - on,  
3 Now the queen of sea - sons, bright with the day of splen - dor,  
4 Nei - ther could the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark por - tal,  
5 Al - le - lu - ia! now we cry to our Lord im - mor - tal,



God has brought forth Is - ra - el in - to joy from sad - ness,  
and from three days' sleep in death as a sun has ris - en.  
with the roy - al feast of feasts comes its joy to ren - der;  
nor the watch - ers, nor the seal, hold you as a mor - tal:  
who tri - um - phant burst the bars of the tomb's dark por - tal;



loosed from Pha-raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters;  
All the win - ter of our sins, long and dark, is fly - ing  
comes to glad Jer - u - sa - lem, who with true af - fec - tion  
but to - day, a - mong your own, you ap - pear, be - stow - ing  
Al - le - lu - ia! with the Son God the Fa - ther prais - ing;



led them with un - moist - ened foot through the Red Sea wa - ters.  
from the Light to whom we give laud and praise un - dy - ing.  
wel - comes in un - wea - ried strain Je - sus' res - ur - rec - tion!  
your deep peace, which ev - er - more pass - es hu - man know - ing.  
Al - le - lu - ia! yet a - gain to the Spir - it rais - ing.

Text: John of Damascus, c. 696–c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.  
Music: GAUDEAMUS PARITER, Johann Horn, 1490–1547

Instrumental

*Maiden Voyage* Herbie Hancock

## Hymn

## Jesus Loves Me

1 Je - sus loves me! this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so;  
 2 Je - sus loves me! he who died heav - en's gates to o - pen wide;  
 3 Je - sus loves me! he will stay close be - side me all the way;

lit - tle ones to him be - long, they are weak, but he is strong.  
 he will wash a - way my sin, let his lit - tle child come in.  
 when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high.

Yes, Je - sus loves me, yes, Je - sus loves me,  
 yes, Je - sus loves me, the Bi - ble tells me so.

Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820–1915, alt.  
 Music: JESUS LOVES ME, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

*Rise in body or spirit.*

## Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ  
 bless and keep us in grace. **Amen.**

## Prayer

Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

# Sending

## Benediction

May God bless us and keep us. May God's face shine on us with grace and mercy.  
May God look upon us with favor, ☩ and give us peace. **Amen.**

## Sending Hymn

### This Joyful Eastertide



1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide, a - way with sin and  
2 My flesh in hope shall rest and for a sea - son  
3 Death's flood has lost its chill since Je - sus crossed the



sor - - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied, has  
slum - - ber till trump from east to west shall  
riv - - er. Lov - er of souls, from ill my



sprung to life this mor - - row.  
wake the dead in num - - ber.  
pass - ing soul de - liv - - er.



Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three-day pris - on, our



faith had been in vain. But now has Christ a - ris - en, a -



ris - en, a - ris - en, a - ris - en.

Text: George R. Woodward, 1848–1934  
Music: VRUECHTEN, Dutch folk tune, 17th cent.

## Dismissal

Go in peace. Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

*Criss Cross* Ray Obiedo



## A Blessed Easter from All of Us at Ebenezer Lutheran Church

Easter Flowers and Donations to Care for Real are given by:

Bev Albert

in memory of June and Ernie Albert

Carolyn Bertagnoli

in celebration of her daughters and sisters

Kristin and Sean Clemenz

in memory of Lorin Clemenz and Patricia Culp

Melissa Dailey

in honor of the wonderful people at Ebenezer

The Donnelly-Daniels Family

in memorial to and in celebration of all our mothers and fathers in faith

Ashley Frigerio

in honor of her friends at Ebenezer

The Hobbins Family

with prayers for peace

The Lowe Family

in memory of Wes Aldridge and in celebration of Emmett's baptism

Lorna Luebbers and Sue Baker

Aurie Pennick

in recognition of all who work to help others

Cris and Valerie Sievenpiper

Joyce and Chris Sweet

in memory of Betty Jennings

Steven Williams

in honor of Paula Kimbauer and Emily Krause

David and Jackie Wood

in celebration of their children and grandchildren