

This is the night



Easter Vigil

April 19, 2025

This is the night of salvation! At the Vigil of Easter, we gather around fire, word, water, bread, and wine, proclaiming through story and song that ours is a God who continuously brings life out of death. On this night we experience again the heart of God's baptismal promise and the center of our faith: we are claimed and cleansed, renewed in the death and resurrection of Christ. We gather with all the saints of every time and place to celebrate the good news: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!



Easter Vigil

April 19, 2025 ~ 5:00 p.m.

On the night before Easter Day, Christians around the world gather to celebrate Christ's passage from death to life. The service includes strong signs: new fire in darkness, light spreading from the light of Christ, the water and word of baptism, the first resurrection meal. And powerful words: the great saving stories of Hebrew scriptures and the first Easter gospel. We keep this wondrous night in the spirit of vigil, our lamps lit, awaiting Christ's coming both now and at the end of time Alleluia! Christ is risen! And Christ will come again.

~GATHERING~

All gather in silence.

GREETING

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.

Sisters and brothers in Christ, on this most holy night when our Savior Jesus Christ passed from death to life, we gather with the church throughout the world in vigil and prayer. This is the passover of Jesus Christ. Through light and the word, through water and oil, we proclaim Christ's death and resurrection, share Christ's triumph over sin and death, and await Christ's coming again in glory.

Let us pray. O God, you are like a refiner's fire, and your Spirit kindles the hearts of your faithful people. Bless this flame and those who keep this Easter Vigil so that, burning with desire for life with you, they may be found fit to take part in that festival of Light which has no ending, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

May the light of Christ who rises this night in glory scatter the darkness of our hearts and minds.

Let us pray. Almighty God, pour out your abundant blessing on this lighted candle, so that all who share this night in your holy mysteries may be filled with your grace and spiritual blessings. Once we were in darkness, but since we have become the Lord's people, we are in the light. Help us to live as people who belong to the light, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

EASTER PROCLAMATION

The paschal candle is placed.

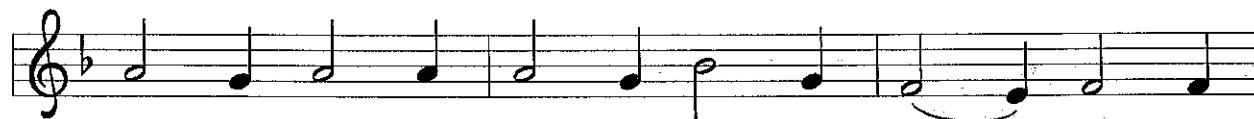
Rejoice, Angelic Choirs, Rejoice!



1 Re - joice, an - gel - ic choirs, re - joice! Re -
2 O earth, ex - ult in ra - diance bright, il -
3 Let all who gath - er round this flame, the



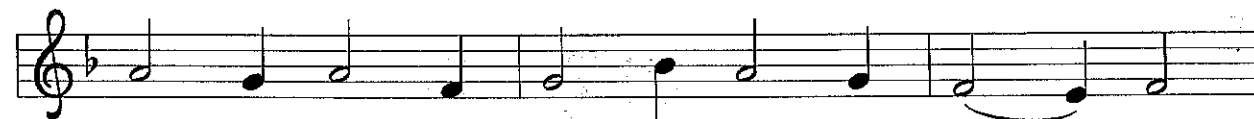
joice now, all cre - a - tion! Let trum - pets loud - ly
lu - mined by Christ's splen - dor! Your dark - ness now is
sign of Christ's a - ris - ing, the death - less light of



raise their voice to hail the Lord's sal - va - tion. Let
put to flight; to him due prais - es ren - der! Be
Christ ac - claim, his sav - ing mer - cy priz - ing; that



all Christ's ho - ly priest - hood sing the tri - umph of their
glad, O church! Sing out your songs! Your tem - ples fill with
all may live by faith in him who con - quered death, de -



might - y king in fes - tive cel - e - bra - tion!
shout - ing throngs to hail the glo - rious vic - tor!
spair, and sin to make us his for - ev - er.

Text: Joel W. Lundeen, paraphrase of the Easter Proclamation

Music: ALLEIN GOTT IN DER HÖH; Plainsong, adapt. Nikolaus Decius

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Eternal giver of life and light, this holy night shines with the radiance of the risen Christ. Renew your church with the Spirit given us in baptism, that we may worship you in sincerity and truth and may shine as a light in the world, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

~WORD~

VIGIL READINGS

FIRST READING

Genesis 1:1—2:4a

Creation

FIRST RESPONSE

Let All Things Now Living

ELW # 881

FIRST PRAYER

Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of the one who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.
Amen.

SECOND READING

Exodus 14:10–31; 15:20–21

Deliverance at the Red Sea

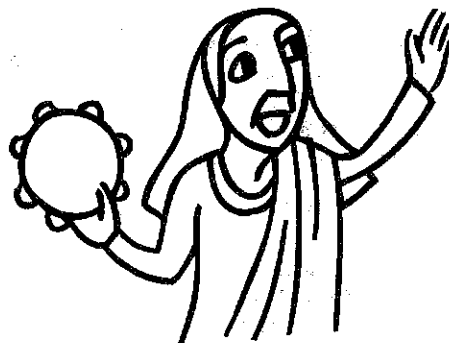
SECOND RESPONSE

Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain
(verses 1, 2, & 4)

ELW# 363

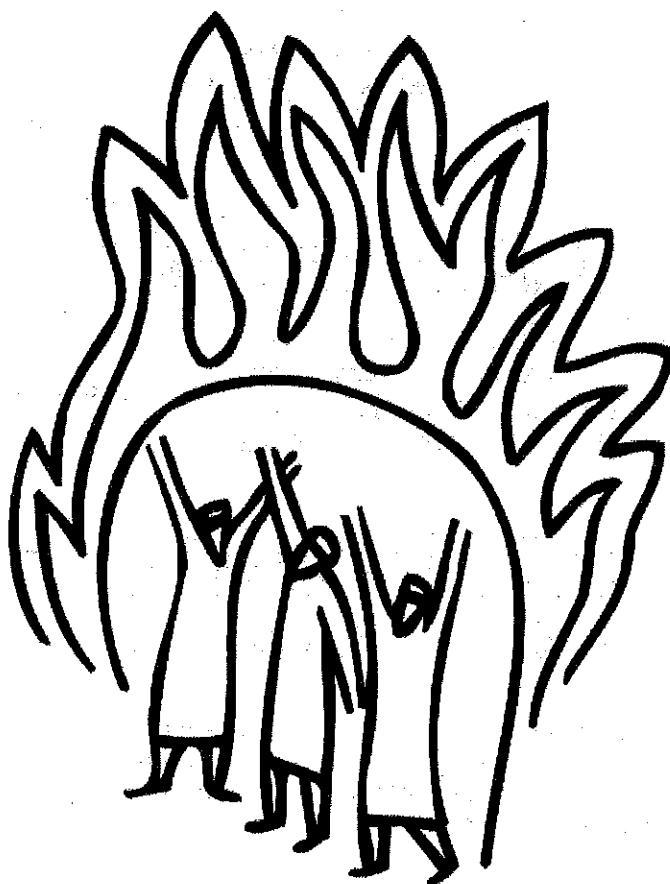
SECOND PRAYER

O God, whose wonderful deeds of old shine forth even to our own day: By the power of your mighty arm you once delivered your chosen people from slavery under Pharaoh, a sign for us of the salvation offered to everyone by the water of baptism. Grant that all the peoples of earth may partake in the salvation of the Israelites and together dance on the safe side of the sea, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.



THIRD READING**Isaiah 55:1-11***Salvation freely offered to all***THIRD RESPONSE*****The Lord Is My Song*****ELW #751***(sing the second (italicized) line twice)***THIRD PRAYER**

Holy God, you created all things by the power of your Word, and you renew the whole earth by your Spirit. Give now the water of life to all who thirst for you, that, rejoicing in your covenant of mercy, we may bring forth abundant fruit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.**FOURTH READING****Daniel 3:1-29***Deliverance from the fiery furnace*

FOURTH RESPONSE

All You Works of God, Bless the Lord

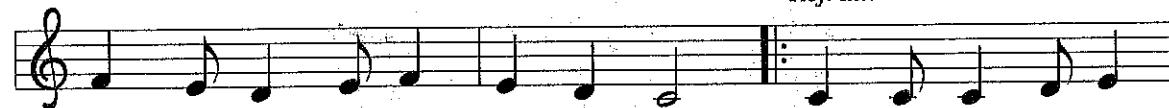


- 1 All you works of God, bless the Lord! All you an - gels, now
2 Sing, you sun and you moon a - bove, stars of heav - en, now
3 Frost of win - ter with song so cold, dew's of sum - mer, your
4 Hills and moun - tains, now sing his worth, all you green things that



bless the Lord; come, you heav - ens and pow'rs that be,
sing his love; dew and show - ers, you winds that blow,
song un - fold; light and dark - ness, you day and night,
grow on earth; seas and riv - ers, you springs and wells,

Refrain



praise the Lord and his maj - es - ty:
heat and fire, . . . you ice and snow: Raise your voic - es high,
clouds of thun - der, you light-nings bright:
beasts and cat - tle, you birds and whales:



praise and mag - ni - fy, all you works of God, bless the Lord!

5 Come, humanity, sing along,
sing, you people of God, a song;
priests and servants, your Lord now bless,
join, you spirits and souls at rest: *Refrain*

6 Bless the Lord, all you pure of heart;
all you humble, his praise impart;
God the Father and Son adore,
bless the Spirit forevermore! *Refrain*

Text: Stephen P. Starke, paraphrase of Song of the Three 35-65

Music: LINSTEAD, Jamaican folk song, adapt. Doreen Potter

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FOURTH PRAYER

Almighty and eternal God, the only hope of the world, by the proclamation of your prophets you declare to us the word of salvation. By the grace of your Spirit increase the devotion of all the baptized, that, strengthened by your presence, we may withstand hardship and sorrow and be united with your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT READING **Romans 6:3-11**

NEW TESTAMENT RESPONSE *We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus* **ELW #451**

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

Beloved of God, on this most holy night, the Church keeps vigil, awaiting the glorious resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. The apostle Paul teaches us that by baptism, we were buried with Christ and lay dead in order that as Christ was raised from the dead in the splendor of the Father, so we should set our feet on the new path of life. Therefore, now that the struggle of Lent is over, let us renew the promises made at our baptism.

I ask you, do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil and all his empty promises?

I do.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God, the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,**

**the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

I do and I ask God to help and guide me.

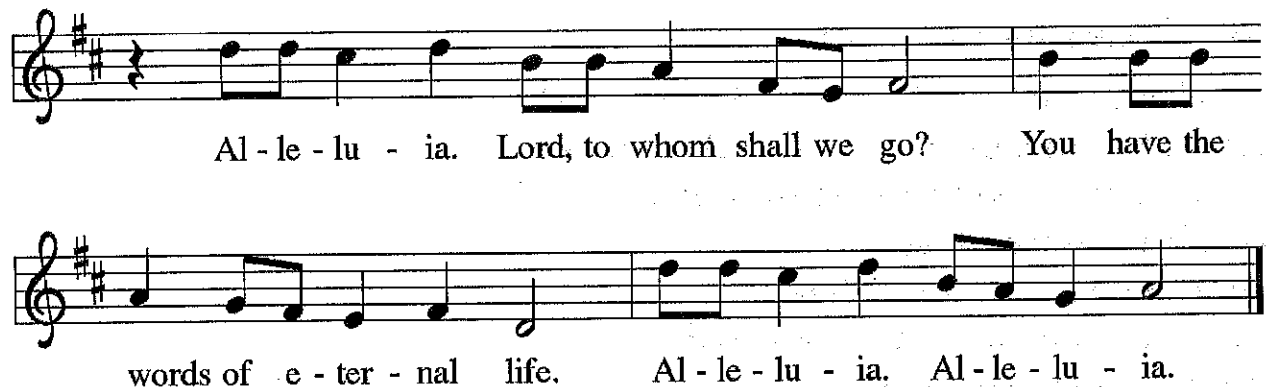
People of God, do you promise to support and pray for one another in your life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

People of God, you had made your profession of faith and renewed the vows of your baptism. By water, you were cleansed and brought to newness of life in the Spirit. May God grant that you may feel and know the grace and favor which God has given you through your baptism.

Amen

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL READING John 20:1-18

The holy gospel according to John.
Glory to you, O Lord.

The gospel is proclaimed, concluding:
The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

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

MEDITATION

HYMN OF THE DAY

The Day of Resurrection
(verses 1 & 2)

ELW # 361

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good:
For his mercy endures forever.

Who has loved us from all eternity:
For his mercy endures forever.

And remembered us when we were in trouble:
For his mercy endures forever.

Who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven:
For his mercy endures forever.

And was made flesh of the Virgin Mary and became human:
For his mercy endures forever.

Who by his cross and suffering has redeemed the world:
For his mercy endures forever.

And washed us from our sins in his own blood:
For his mercy endures forever.

Who on the third day rose from the dead:
For his mercy endures forever.

And has given us the victory:
For his mercy endures forever.

Who ascended on high:
For his mercy endures forever.

And opened wide for us the everlasting doors:
For his mercy endures forever.

Who is seated at the right hand of God:
For his mercy endures forever.

And ever lives to make intercession for us:
For his mercy endures forever.

Glory 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

For the gift of his Spirit:
Blessed be Christ.

For the holy catholic Church:
Blessed be Christ.

For the means of grace:
Blessed be Christ.

For the hope of glory:
Blessed be Christ.

For the triumphs of his gospel:
Blessed be Christ.

For the lives of his saints:
Blessed be Christ.

In joy and in sorrow:
Blessed be Christ.

In life and in death:
Blessed be Christ.

Now and unto endless ages:
Blessed be Christ. Blessing and honor and thanksgiving and praise, more than we can utter, more than we can conceive, be to you, O holy and glorious Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, by all angels, all humanity, and all creatures, forever and ever. Amen

~MEAL~

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also 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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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 he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

COMMUNION SONG



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



COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Believing in the real presence of Christ, we invite all present to participate in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. All who are baptized and believe that Jesus Christ is present in the gifts of bread and wine are welcome at the Lord's table. The ushers will direct you to come forward by the center aisle to receive the bread from the pastor.. Both wine and grape juice are available for communion. The grape juice is the darker color in the middle of the tray. Those who do not wish to receive communion and children who are not yet receiving communion will receive a blessing. There are baskets at the end of the first pew where you may place your cups as you return to your seat by the side aisle. Those who are worshipping with us online are invited to have bread and wine or juice available for worship, and we will commune you at the end of communion.

COMMUNION HYMN

Come, Let Us Eat

ELW # 491

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

~SENDING~

BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope
✠ bless you now and always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

The Day of Resurrection
verses 3 & 4

ELW # 361

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

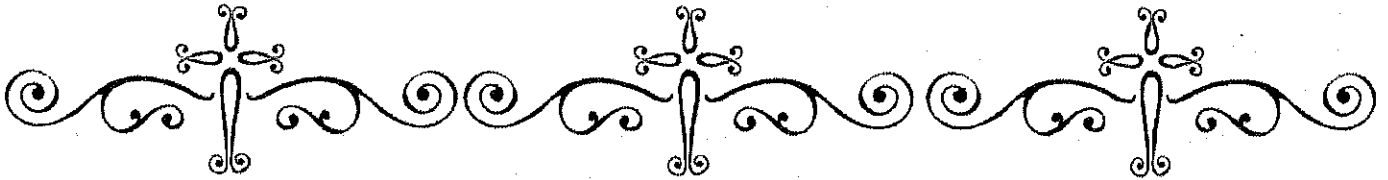
At the conclusion of the service, the congregation is invited to come forward to the baptismal font to remember their baptism by dipping a finger in the water and making a sign of the cross.

An offering plate is located in the Gathering Space for those wishing to make a financial offering.

Join us for the culmination of our joyful Easter celebration by participating in worship tomorrow morning at 8:00 am or 10:30 am. Easter Breakfast is served from 9:00 –10:15 am. There will be an Easter Egg Hunt beginning at 9:30 am

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THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SHARE IN OUR WORSHIP



	5:00 Worship Service
Ushers:	Bob & Carol Kuehl
Reader:	Tom Bauer
Communion Assistant:	Kelly Goldsmith
Counters:	Kelly Goldsmith & <i>Not determined at time of printing</i>
Organists:	Teri Wittkowski & Susan Becker
Choir Director:	Susan Becker
Online Streaming Crew	Lucas Golinghorst, Scott LaPlante, & Kevin Zidarich

EASTER Worship SERVICES Sunday, April 20

Our Easter celebration services will be held at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

EASTER BREAKFAST Sunday, April 20—9:00 a.m.

The high school youth who are going on the Denver Mission Trip in July will provide an Easter breakfast of breakfast casseroles, cinnamon rolls, fruit, milk, juice and coffee. A free will offering will be taken to help offset the cost of the mission trip.

EASTER EGG HUNT Sunday, April 20—9:30 a.m.

We invite your family to participate an egg hunt on the church lawn at 9:30am on Easter Sunday. Bring your basket, or we will provide bags. We will celebrate the good news of Jesus' resurrection together. If the weather does not permit, we will hunt for eggs in the education wing.



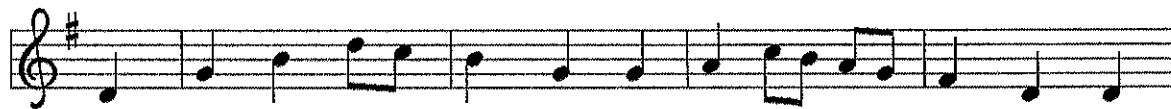
Let All Things Now Living



1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to
2 God rules all the forc - es: the stars in their cours-es and



God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,
sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;



who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who
the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the



still guides us on to the end of our days.
deeps of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.



God's ban - ners are o'er us, God's light goes be -
We too should be voic - ing our love and re -



fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,
joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise



till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing: "To



for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.
God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

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

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O Lord, Hear My Prayer

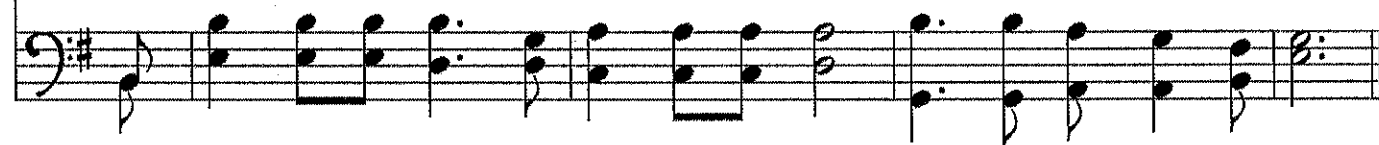
The Lord Is My Song



O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, an - swer me.
OR *The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: all my hope comes from God.*



O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and lis - ten to me.
The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life.



Text: Psalm 102:1-2; Taizé Community, adapt.

Music: HEAR MY PRAYER, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994

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We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus



1 We are bap-tized in Christ Je - sus, we are bap - tized in his death;
2 In the wa - ter and the wit - ness, in the break - ing of the bread,
3 Glo - ry be to God the Fa - ther, glo - ry be to Christ the Son,



that as Christ is raised vic - to - rious, we might live a brand new life.
in the wait - ing arms of Je - sus who is ris - en from the dead,
glo - ry to the Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er three and ev - er one;



And if we have been u - nit - ed in a dread-ful death like his,
God has made a new be - gin - ning from the ash - es of our past;
as it was in the be - gin - ning, glo - ry now re-sounds a - gain



we will all be re - u - nit - ed, for he lives.
in the los - ing and the win - ning we hold fast.
in a song that has no end - ing. . . . A - men.

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937
Music: OUIMETTE, John C. Ylvisaker
Text and music © 1985 John C. Ylvisaker
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The Day of Resurrection!

1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,
 2 Let hearts be purged of e - vil that we may see a - right
 3 Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, let earth its song be - gin,
 4 All praise to God the Fa - ther, all praise to Christ the Son,

the pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the pass - o - ver of God.
 the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light,
 the round world keep high tri - umph and all that is there - in.
 all praise to God the Spir - it, e - ter - nal Three in One!

From death to life e - ter - nal, from sin's do - min - ion free,
 and lis - t'ning to his ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,
 Let all things, seen and un - seen, their notes of glad - ness blend;
 Let all the ran - somed num - ber fall down be - fore the throne,

our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.
 his own "All hail!" and hear - ing, may raise the glad re - frain.
 for Christ the Lord has ris - en, our joy that has no end!
 and hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry as - cribe to God a - lone!

Come, Let Us Eat

Leader or All



- 1 Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,
- 2 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,
- 3 In Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest,
- 4 Rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y word,

All



come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.
come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.
in Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest.
rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y word.

Leader or All



Our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er,
Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er,
In the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er,
Je - sus ris - en will bring in the king - dom,

All



our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er.
Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er.
in the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er.
Je - sus ris - en will bring in the king - dom.

Text: Billema Kwillia, b. 1925, sts. 1-3; Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930, st. 4, alt.; tr. Margaret D. Miller, b. 1927, sts. 1-3, alt.

Music: A VA DE, Billema Kwillia, adapt.

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