

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

page 97

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth,
our light and our salvation.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By
water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit,
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

The service continues with gathering song. As a reminder of the gift of baptism, the assembly may be sprinkled with water during the singing.

***GATHERING SONG**

Bless Now, O God, the Journey

#326



1 Bless now, O God, the jour - ney that all your peo - ple make,
2 Bless so - journ - ers and pil - grims who share this wind - ing way;
3 Di - vine e - ter - nal lov - er, you meet us on the road.



the path through noise and si - lence, the way of give and take.
your hope burns through the ter - rors, your love sus - tains the day.
We wait for lands of prom - ise where milk and hon - ey flow,



The trail is found in des - ert and winds the moun - tain round,
We yearn for ho - ly free - dom while of - ten we are bound;
but wait - ing not for plac - es, you meet us all a - round.



then leads be - side still wa - ters, the road where faith is found.
to - geth - er we are seek - ing the road where faith is found.
Our cov - e - nant is writ - ten on roads, as faith is found.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent.

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***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.

Refrain

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

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

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to

Refrain

hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

Refrain

gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray

Hold a brief silence.

O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture readings, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING

Acts 4:5-12

The next day the rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners Peter and John stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are being questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are being asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.' There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23

Refrain



Tone



¹The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

²**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

³You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear
no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. R**

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever. R**

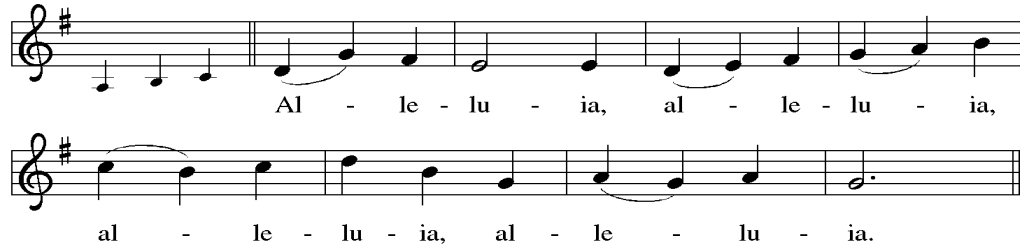
SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Now I want you to understand, my dear family, 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 believers 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, Christ 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 God's 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 believed.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *All sing the alleluias. Choir sings the proper verse.*



Alleluia. Jesus says, I am | the good shepherd.
I know my own and my | own know me. *Alleluia* (John 10:14)

***GOSPEL**

John 10:11-18

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

Jesus said: "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own, and my own know me, just as the Father knows me, and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord.

I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

After the reading:

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

SERMON

Pr Janet

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

#502



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed
 3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in
 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
 soul he lead - eth and, where the ver - dant
 love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
 Lord, be - side me, thy rod and staff my



I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.
 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
 com - fort still; thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
 thine unction grace bestoweth;
 and, oh, what transport of delight
 from thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so, through all the length of days,
 thy goodness faileth never.
 Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
 within thy house forever.

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–1877
 Music: St. COLUMBA, Irish tune

***NICENE CREED**

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.

Temple Talk

Eclipse!

Katherine Reier & Don Barb

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

**Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has
triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the
world, and all those in need of good news.**

A brief silence.

**Shepherding God, gather your church whenever we
wander from you and one another. Empower our
church in ministries around the world to worship
and serve alongside global companions as equal
partners and coworkers in the gospel.**

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Nurturing God, preserve the health of biomes and ecosystems. Inspire scientists, researchers, conservation organizations, and all people entrusted with the task of caring for creation, that we may be better stewards of the world around us.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Almighty God, lead nations and communities to share resources, cooperate in solving conflicts, and listen to the wisdom of Indigenous peoples. Help all those with power to share it and to use such power for good.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

God, protect the very young and the very old, those living without housing, victims of domestic abuse, and all who live with chronic illness or compromised immune systems. Guide communities to actively care for people who are vulnerable.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Gracious God, help this and all communities of faith to listen for your voice. Call us away from things that distract us from following you. Invite us to more deeply love and serve people who are lonely, isolated, and on the margins.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Living God, we give thanks for our ancestors in faith (*including Anselm of Canterbury and all who labored to help generations understand the good news of the gospel*). Strengthen us to share the good news in our own day.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. Amen.

***PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

*We greet one another with a sign of peace.
Please be mindful of touch.*

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church. Our offering at Christ Ascension goes to support our ministries as well as those of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. If you want to give electronically, you may do so using the DONATE tab on our website: christascension.org, or by scanning the QR Code. For those physically present in worship, an offering plate is near the entrance on the information table.

MUSICAL OFFERING

Non nobis, Domine

by William Byrd

Translation: Not unto us, O Lord,

But unto thy name be glory given. (Psalm 115:1)

***OFFERTORY**

Christ is Arisen (verse 3 only)

#372

3 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia! So let our joy rise full and free;
 Christ our com - fort true will be. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: German hymn, c. 1100; tr. Martin L. Seltz, 1909–1967
 Music: J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543
 Text © 1969 Concordia Publishing House

CHRIST IST ERSTANDEN
 P.M.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray

Hold a brief silence.

**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.**

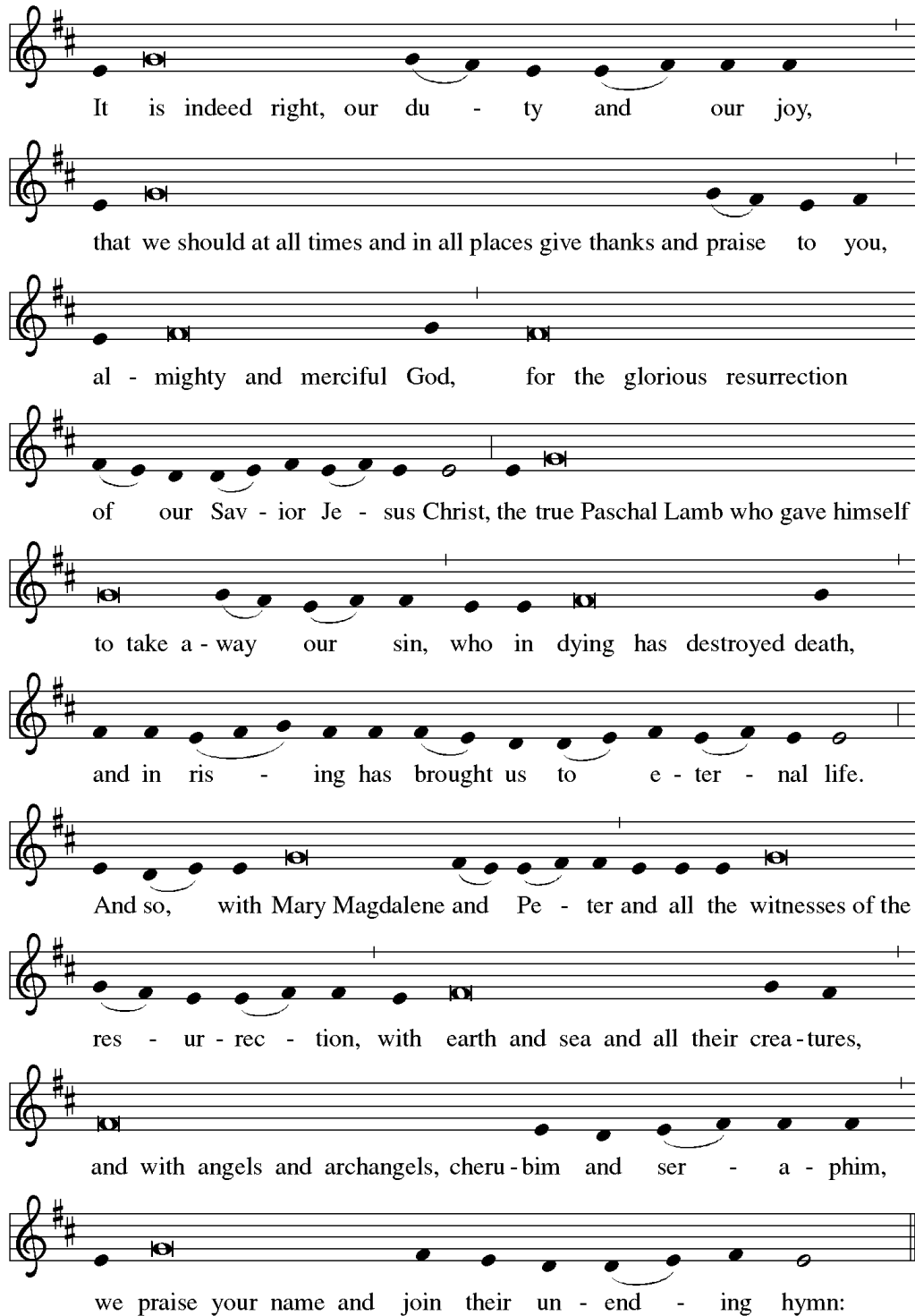
MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

***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



It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,
al - mighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection
of our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself
to take a - way our sin, who in dying has destroyed death,
and in ris - ing has brought us to e - ter - nal life.
And so, with Mary Magdalene and Pe - ter and all the witnesses of the
res - ur - rec - tion, with earth and sea and all their crea - tures,
and with angels and archangels, cheru - bim and ser - a - phim,
we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:

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*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

The presiding minister continues, using one of the following or another appropriate form.

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
Your mercy is everlasting
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.
Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.
Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.
Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness
to the land of milk and honey.
Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.
Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.
Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life:
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Bless this feast.
Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.
Breathe new life into us.
Send us forth,
burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With [name/s and] your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
now and forever.

Amen.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your Kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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 COMMUNION

The risen Christ is made known to us
in the breaking of the bread.
Come and eat at God's table.

COMMUNION

This is Christ's Table and Christ himself is present when we share this Meal. All Christians are welcome to receive the bread and wine, Christ's body and blood, given and shed for the sake of the world. Wine, with a grape juice alternative, is offered by pouring chalice. Take a small cup from the tray. Receive the bread in your open palm. Hold your cup steadily for the assisting minister to pour into. You may stand there to drink. When you return to your seat, please dispose of the cup in the bowl provided. For those who desire it, gluten-free bread is available; indicate your desire to the presiding minister. For those who would like to participate, but not to receive bread or wine, please come forward for a blessing. Indicate this desire by crossing your arms in front of you. If you are unable to come forward and would like Communion brought to you in your seat, let the usher know.

SONGS DURING DISTRIBUTION

Now the Green Blade Rises

#379



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958
Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol
Text from *Oxford Book of Carols*, © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved.

Nothing Can Trouble

ACS#1033

The musical score is presented in three systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The first system contains the first two lines of the song. The second system contains the next two lines. The third system contains the final two lines, ending with a double bar line. The music is in a simple, homophonic style with a clear melody and accompaniment.

Na - da te tur - be, na - da te_es - pan - te.
Noth - ing can trou - ble, noth - ing can fright - en.

Quien a Dios tie - ne na - da le fal - ta. Na - da te tur - be,
Those who seek God shall nev - er go want - ing. Noth - ing can trou - ble,

na - da te_es - pan - te. So - lo Dios bas - ta.
noth - ing can fright - en. God a - lone fills us.

Text: Teresa of Avila, 1515–1582; adapt. Taizé Community
Music: NADA TE TURBE, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
Text and music © 1986, 1991 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, admin. GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

TABLE BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray

Hold a brief silence.

**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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Touch That Soothes and Heals

ACS#939



1 Touch that soothes and heals the hurt - ing, hands that
2 Feed the hun - gry, clothe the na - ked, vis - it
3 Love and serve with - out dis - tinc - tion all earth's
4 Hands that beck - on lit - tle chil - dren, bind a



break a loaf of bread; steps that walk be - side the
ones in need of care, give the home - less warmth and
peo - ple, first and least. Know with - in each act of
wound, pre - pare a meal, feet that rush to share good



wea - ry, bear - ing bur - dens in their stead:
shel - ter: Christ will find a wel - come there.
kind - ness hope and whole - ness are in - creased.
tid - ings, Christ a - ris - en, still re - veal.

Refrain



"See my hands and feet," said Je - sus, love a - ris - en from the



grave. "Be my hands and feet," said Je - sus, "live as



ones I died to save."

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953
Music: CIVILITY, Gregg DeMey, b. 1972
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the renewal of Christ! **Thanks be to God.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

—Transition Team Congregational Discussion today (4/21) in Kimes Hall after worship

—Congregational Meeting (4/28) after worship in Kimes Hall

LEADING IN WORSHIP THIS MORNING

PRESIDING MINISTER AND PREACHER

PASTOR JANET PETERMAN

ASSISTING MINISTER

TOM BECK

MUSICIAN

KATHERINE REIER

LECTOR

BERYL EVANS

USHER

GORDON GERHART

ALTAR GUILD

ELIZABETH BECK

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ELW #326 *Bless Now, O God, the Journey*
Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993
Music: Welsh tune, 19th cent.
Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.

ELW #502 *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*
Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877
Music: Irish tune

ELW #372 *Christ Is Arisen*
Text: German hymn, c. 1100; tr. Martin L. Seltz, 1909-1967
Music: J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543
Text © 1969 Concordia Publishing House

ELW #379 *Now the Green Blade Rises*
Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872-1958
Music: French carol
Text © Oxford University Press

ACS #1033 *Nothing Can Trouble*
Text: Teresa of Avila, 1515-1582; adapt. Taizé Community
Music: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994
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