



**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCHES**  
**Babbtown (Meta 8 am)**  
**Schubert (Jefferson City 10 am)**

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***Third Sunday of Easter***  
***May 4, 2025***

**Order of Worship: The Order of Matins**

found on page 32 in The Lutheran Hymnal *TLH*

℣: - stands for Versicle (*spoken or sung by Pastor*)

℟: - stands for Response (*sung by Congregation*)

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**The Ringing Of The Bell**

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**Hymn of Invocation:** TLH #478 "The Saints of Earth and Those Above"

**The saints on earth and those above But one communion make;  
 Joined to their Lord in bonds of love, All of His grace partake.**

**One family, we dwell in Him, One Church above, beneath;  
 Though now divided by the stream, The narrow stream, of death.**

**One army of the living God, To His commands we bow;  
 Part of the host have passed the flood, And part are crossing now.**

**Lo, thousands to their endless home Are swiftly borne away;  
 And we are to the margin come And soon must launch as they.**

**Lord Jesus, be our constant Guide; Then, when the word is giv'n,  
 Bid death's cold flood its waves divide And land us safe in heav'n. Amen.**

℣: O Lord, open Thou my lips.

℟: **And my mouth shall show forth Thy praise.**

℣: Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

℟: **Make haste to help me, O Lord.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;**

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Hallelujah!**

**The Invitatory and Venite – TLH Pages 33-34**

℣: Oh, come, let us worship the Lord:

℟: **For He is our Maker.**

1. Oh, come, let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation.
  2. Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving: and make a joyful noise unto Him with psalms.
  3. For the Lord is a great God: and a great King above all gods.
  4. In His hand are the deep places of the earth: the strength of the hills is His also.
  5. The sea is His, and He made it: and His hands formed the dry land.
  6. Oh, come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker.
  7. For He is our God: and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.
- Glory be to the Father and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

**The Psalmody** - Psalm 30 (*spoken responsively*)

℣: "What profit is there in my death, if I go down to the pit?"

℞: **Will the dust praise you? Will it tell of your faithfulness?**

℣: Hear, O Lord, and be merciful to me! O Lord, be my helper!"

℞: **You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; you have loosed my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness,**

℣: that my glory may sing your praise and not be silent.

℞: **O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever!**

**The Lesson** – (The Scripture Readings) *After each Lesson is sung:*

℣: But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.

℞: **Thanks be to Thee, O Lord!**

**The First Lesson**

*Acts 9:1-12*

But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. And falling to the ground, he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And he said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord." And the Lord said to him, "Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem. And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name." But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; and taking food, he was strengthened. For some days he was with the disciples at Damascus. And immediately he proclaimed Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God." And all who heard him were amazed and said, "Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem of those who called upon this name? And has he not come here for this purpose, to bring them bound before the chief priests?" But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Christ.

℣: But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.

℞: **Thanks be to Thee, O Lord!**

## **The Second Lesson**

*Revelation 5:1-7*

Then I saw in the right hand of him who was seated on the throne a scroll written within and on the back, sealed with seven seals. And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?" And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it, and I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. And one of the elders said to me, "Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals." And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne.

℣: But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.

℟: **Thanks be to Thee, O Lord!**

## **The Gospel Lesson**

*John 21:1-14*

*(Please stand)*

After this Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he revealed himself in this way. Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, do you have any fish?" They answered him, "No." He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he was stripped for work, and threw himself into the sea. The other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, but about a hundred yards off. When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, 153 of them. And although there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

℣: But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.

℟: **Thanks be to Thee, O Lord!**

**Hymn of the Day:** TLH #357 "Jesus, Thou Art Mine Forever"

**Jesus, Thou art mine forever, Dearer far than earth to me;  
Neither life nor death shall sever Those sweet ties which bind to Thee.**

**All were drear to me and lonely If Thy presence gladdened not;  
While I sing to Thee, Thee only, Mine's an ever blissful lot.**

**Thou alone art all my Treasure, Who hast died that I may live;  
Thou conferrest noblest pleasure, Who dost all my sins forgive.**

**Brightest gems and fairest flowers Lose their beauty in Thy frown;  
Joy and peace, like balmy showers, In Thy smile come gently down.**

**Jesus, Thou art mine forever; Never suffer me to stray.  
Let me in my weakness never Cast my priceless pearl away.**

**Lamb of God, I do implore Thee, Guard, support me, lest I fall.  
Let me evermore adore Thee; Be my everlasting All. Amen.**

**The Sermon** – "I Have Seen the Lord!" - Acts 9

*Today's Sermon imagines St. Paul talking to us about Jesus*

**The Canticle - The Te Deum Laudamus - (*we stand and sing together*)** (offering is brought forward)  
**We praise Thee O God, we acknowledge Thee to be the Lord. / All the earth doth worship Thee, the Father Everlasting.**

**To Thee all the angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the powers therein; / To Thee cherubim and seraphim continually do cry;**

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; / Heaven and earth are full of the majesty of Thy glory.**

**The glorious company of the Apostles praise Thee / The goodly fellowship of the prophets praise Thee;**

**The noble army of martyrs praise Thee; / The holy Church though all the world doth acknowledge Thee;**

**The Father of an infinite majesty; Thine adorable true and only Son, / Also the Holy Ghost, the Comforter.**

**Thou art the King of Glory, O Christ. / Thou are the everlasting Son of the Father.**

**When Thou tookest upon Thee to deliver man; / Thou didst humble Thyself to be born of a virgin.**

**When Thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death, / Thou didst open the kingdom of heaven to all believers.**

**Thou sittest at the right hand of God / In the glory of the Father.**

**We believe that thou shalt come / To be our judge.**

**We therefore pray Thee to help Thy servants, / Whom Thou hast redeemed with Thy precious blood.**

**Make them to be numbered with Thy saints / In glory everlasting.**

**O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine heritage. / Govern them and lift them up forever.**

**Day by day we magnify Thee, / And we worship Thy name ever, world without end.**

**Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin, / O Lord have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us,**

**O Lord, let Thy mercy be upon us, as our trust is in Thee. / O Lord, in Thee have I trusted; let me never be confounded.**

### **The Prayers**

**The Kyrie (*sung*)** Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

### **The Lord's Prayer (*spoken together*)**

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name;**

**Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;**

**Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;**

**And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil;**

**For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

## **THE ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION**

*[We invite those who are communicant members of sister Lutheran Congregations, in the fellowship of LC-MS, and are repentant, to commune with us.]*

℣: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

℣: **But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

**Most merciful God, We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

℣: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As the undershepherd of our Good Shepherd, Jesus himself, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

℣: **Amen.**

℣: Come to receive the grace of our Lord Jesus as we eat and drink together in communion with Him and with one another, the body and blood given and shed for us for the forgiveness of all our sins.

## **The Distribution**

**Distribution Hymns: TLH #409 "Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus"**

**Let us ever walk with Jesus, Follow His example pure,  
Flee the world, which would deceive us And to sin our souls allure.  
Ever in His footsteps treading, Body here, yet soul above,  
Full of faith and hope and love, Let us do the Father's bidding.  
Faithful Lord, abide with me; Savior, lead, I follow Thee.**

**Let us suffer here with Jesus, To His image e'er conform;  
Heaven's glory soon will please us, Sunshine follow on the storm.  
Tho' we sow in tears of sorrow, We shall reap with heav'nly joy;  
And the fears that now annoy Shall be laughter on the morrow.  
Christ, I suffer here with Thee; There, oh, share Thy joy with me!**

**Let us also die with Jesus. His death from the second death,  
From our soul's destruction, frees us, Quickens us with life's glad breath.  
Let us mortify, while living, Flesh and blood and die to sin;  
And the grave that shuts us in Shall but prove the gate to heaven.  
Jesus, here I die to Thee There to live eternally.**

**Let us gladly live with Jesus; Since He's risen from the dead,  
Death and grave must soon release us. Jesus, Thou art now our Head,  
We are truly Thine own members; Where Thou livest, there live we.  
Take and own us constantly, Faithful Friend, as Thy dear brethren.  
Jesus, here I live to Thee, Also there eternally. Amen.**

TLH #238 "All Glory Be to God Alone"

All glory be to God alone, For evermore the Highest One.  
Who doth our sinful race befriend; And grace and peace to us extend.  
Among man-kind may His good will, All hearts with deep thanksgiving fill.  
  
We praise Thee, God and Thee we bless, We worship Thee in humbleness;  
From day to day we glorify Thee, everlasting God on high.  
Of Thy great glory do we sing, And e'er to Thee our thanks we bring.  
  
Lord God, Our King on heaven's throne, Our Father, the Almighty One.  
O Lord, the Sole begotten One, Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's Son,  
True God from all eternity, O Lamb of God, to you we flee.  
  
Thou dost the world's sin take away; Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.  
Thou dost the world's sin take away; Give ear unto the prayer we say.  
Thou sitt'st at God's right hand for aye; Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.  
  
Thou only art the Holy One, Thou art o'er all things Lord alone.  
O Jesus Christ, We glorify Thee only as the Lord most high;  
Thou art, the Holy Ghost with Thee, One in the Father's majesty.  
  
Amen, this ever true shall be, As angels sing adoringly.  
By all creation, far and wide, Thou, Lord, are ever glorified;  
And Thee all Christendom doth praise Now and through everlasting days. Amen.

**Prayer of Thanks**

**The Salutation** – TLH Page 40 (*sung*)

℣: The Lord be with you.

℟: **And with thy spirit.**

**The Collect For Grace**

℣. O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day, defend us in the same with Thy mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Thy governance, may be righteous in Thy sight; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

℟: **Amen.**

**The Benedicamus**

℣: Bless we the Lord.

℟: **Thanks be to God.**

**The Benediction**

℣: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Ghost be with you all.

℟: **Amen.**

**Closing Hymn: TLH #341 “Crown Him with Many Crowns”**

**Crown Him with many crowns, The lamb upon His Throne;  
Hark how the Heav’nly anthem drowns All music but its own.  
Awake my soul and sing Of Him who died for thee  
And hail Him as thy matchless king Thro’ all eternity.**

**Crown Him the Virgin’s Son, The God incarnate born,  
Whose arm those crimson trophies won Which now His brow adorn;  
Fruit of the mystic rose, As of that rose the stem;  
The root whence mercy ever flows, The Babe of Bethlehem.**

**Crown Him the Lord of Love. Behold His hands and side,  
Rich wounds, yet visible above, In beauty glorified.  
No angel in the sky Can fully bear that sight,  
But downward bends his wond’ring eye At mysteries so bright!**

**Crown Him the Lord of Life Who triumphed o’er the grave  
And rose victorious in the strife For those He came to save.  
His glories now we sing Who died and rose on high,  
Who died eternal life to bring And lives that death may die.**

**Crown Him the Lord of Heaven, Enthroned in worlds above,  
Crown Him the King to whom is given The wondrous name of Love.  
Crown Him with many crowns As thrones before Him fall;  
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns, For He is King of all. Amen.**

**Silent Prayer**

**Announcements**

***Have A Blessed Week!***

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**Cover pic artwork:** Allan Forbis

**The Lutheran Hymnal:** St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, © 1941.

Hymn # 478: Scripture: Hebrews 12:22-24; The Saints on Earth and Those Above; Authors: Isaac Watts (1709), Charles Wesley (1759, cento, alt.); Tune: St. Flavian; Source: “Psalter”, John Day’s (1562).

Hymn #357: Scripture: Psalm 73:24; Jesus, Thou Art Mine Forever; Author: Matthias Loy (1863); Tune: Stuttgart; Source: “Psalmodia Sacra”, Gotha, 1715.

Hymn #409: John 11:16; Lasset un smit Jesu ziehen; Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus; Author: Sigismund von Birken (1653); Translator: J. Adam Bimbach (1900); Tune: Lasset un smit Jesu Ziehen; Composer: Georg G. Boltze (1788).

Hymn # 238: Scripture: Luke 2:14; All’ Ehr’ und Lob soll Gottes sein; All Glory To God Alone; Author: Unknown (1534);Translator: W. Gustave Polack (1940). Tune: All’ Her’ und Lob; Source: “Kirchengesangbuch,” Strassburg, 1541.

Hymn #341: Scripture: Revelation 19:12; Crown Him With Many Crowns; Author: Matthew Bridges (1851, cento, alt.); Tune: Diademata; Composer: George J. Elvey (1868).

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