

MESSIAH LUTHERAN
VALDOSTA, GEORGIA

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Reverend Dr. Richard L. Lutz

Intentional Interim Pastor

SUNDAY, MAY 4TH,



"We have found the Messiah"

We are pleased to meet you and have you visit with us today. **TUES**
Book located in the church entryway (Narthex) as well as the
in the red folder in each pew. Let us know how we may be
way.

- **RESTROOMS** are located in the Narthex.
- **QUIET BAGS** are available in the Narthex for older children
bulletin for ages 3-6 and ages 7-12.

- **QUIET/CALMING ROOM** and changing table is located *near the Fellowship Hall*
(through the accordion doors behind the choir).

- **INVITATION TO COMMUNION** *The Sacrament of Holy Communion is offered to all baptized and prepared Christians who believe Christ is truly present with us in this meal, and trusting in the promises of his Word, “—given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins,” intend to grow in faith by the power of the Holy Spirit working through this means of grace toward a more committed life with Jesus and His Church.*

- **RECEIVING COMMUNION** *Please extend your hand to receive the bread. Wine is offered from the Chalice or from individual cups. Grape juice is offered for those who choose not to receive wine. After the Communion Assistant follows with the Chalice, place your empty cup in the rack on the communion rail. Children not yet prepared for the Sacrament may come forward for a blessing “that, living in the covenant of their Baptism and in communion with the Church, they may lead godly lives until the day of Jesus Christ.”*

• **OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHRISTIAN GROWTH**

Sunday – 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study: **Studying “Revelation”** in the **Pine Tree House**.

Sunday – 9:30 a.m. Sunday School: 4th & 5th Grades led by in the **Pine Tree House**.

Sunday – 9:15 a.m. Sunday School: 6th – 12th Grades led by in the **Pine Tree House**.

Tuesday – 10:00 a.m. Pastor’s Bible Study: **Studying “The Parables of Jesus”** in the **Pine Tree House**.

Tuesday – 6:00 p.m. Pastor’s Men’s Potluck Bible Study in the **Pine Tree House**.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

“And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. they will listen to my voice.” On their own sheep need a shepherd to guide them. The sheep know we delight to go where He leads. Of course, the sinful flesh want to pull us in another direction. in the direction of death. But following the Shepherd matter how difficult the path is, let us follow the

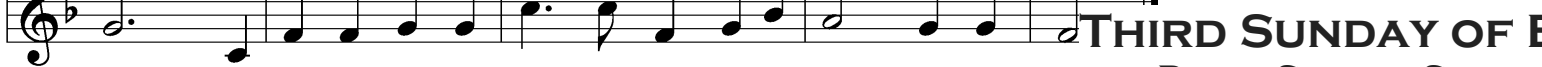
10:00 Bible Study with Pastor: “

6:00 Men’s Potluck Bible Study

9:00 Quilting Group with Devot

6:00 Messiah Singers Practice

Welcome



gain Sing al - le - lu - ia, cry a-loud: Al-le - lu - ia! A - men!

DIVINE SERVICE SETTING

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-76; Tune: Walter L. Pelz, 1926; Text and tune: © 1974 Augsburg Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 1100022

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*The Mission of Messiah Lutheran is to grow in
through worship, education and service, while
fellowship with all.*

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

AS WE GATHER

As we continue to celebrate the Resurrection of Christ, this morning, our thought process too often focuses on the past. Jesus is alive and with that comes the promise of new life. Risen from the dead, Eternal Life is assured and the changes in our life for our good. You see Jesus is in the sky" idea, He is alive for you today!

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: FOURTH SUNDAY

Acts 20:17-35; Revelation 7:9-17; John

PRELUDE & PERSONAL DEVOTION

(Quiet Reflection)

SAINT DAYS, FEAST DAYS, & COMMEMORATIONS

May 4: Friedrich Wyneken - Pastor and Missionary

May 5: Frederick the Wise - Christian Ruler

May 7: C.F. W. Walter - Theologian

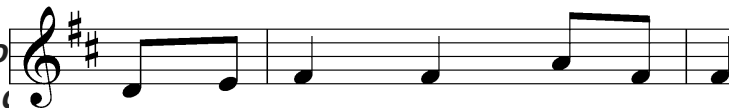
May 9: Job

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and sin which clings so to us, and so run with endurance the race that is set before us."



The Order of Holy Baptism for Dakota

593 SEE THIS WONDER IN THE MAKING



1 See this won - der in the ma
2 Mir - a - cle each time it ha
3 Far more ten - der than a mo
4 Here we bring a child of na




self this child is tak - ing As
door to heav-en o - pens And
car - ing than a fa - ther, God,
take a new-born crea - ture, Now

 **P** How are you named?
R -

C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have
The pastor makes the sign of the holy cross upon
each candidate while saying:

 **P** , receive the sign of the ho
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; and upon your \dagger heart to m

 **P** Let us pray
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; Christ the crucified.

 **P** Let us pray
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace

Sit

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

A Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

A Let us bless the Lord.

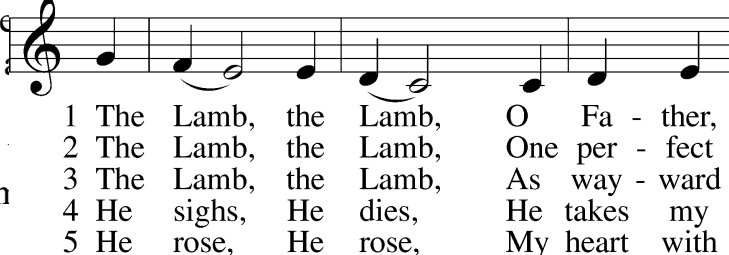
C Thanks be to God.

We pray that You would behold _____
boundless mercy and bless him with
that through this saving flood all sin
from Adam and which he himself ha
drowned and die. Grant that he be kep
ark of the Christian Church, being sep
unbelievers and serving Your name at
and a joyful hope, so that, with all b
would be declared worthy of eternal l
Lord.

C Amen.

LSB 212

appointing sponsors for baptismal candidates
 the Evangelical Lutheran Church sponsors
 expressed in the Apostles' Creed and
 Catechism. They are, whenever possible, to
 those they sponsor. They are to pray for their
 ongoing instruction and nurture in the
 encourage them toward the faithful reception
 They are at all times to be examples to them
 in Christ and love for the neighbor.



1 The Lamb, the Lamb, O Fa - ther,
 2 The Lamb, the Lamb, One per - fect
 3 The Lamb, the Lamb, As way - ward
 4 He sighs, He dies, He takes my
 5 He rose, He rose, My heart with

P Is it your intention to serve _____ as sp
 faith?

R *Yes, with the help of God.*

Faith sees, be - lieves God will pro - v
 The Lamb, the Lamb, Let earth join he
 So still, His will On our be - h
 He lives, for - gives, He gives me H
 His song pro - long Till ev - 'ry he

P God enable you both to will and to do this fa
 and with His grace fulfill what we are unabl

C Amen.

Refrain



Wor - thy is the Lamb whose

P Hear the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark

They brought young children to Jesus that
 but the disciples rebuked those who brought them. When Jesus
 saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, "Let the little
 children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the
 kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever
 the kingdom of God as a little child will by no mea
 He took them up in His arms, put His hands on th
 them.



own! The Lamb is reign-ing

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PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with y

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



639 Wide Open Stand the Gates

LORD'S PRAYER

1 Wide o - pen stand the gates a - dorned with pearl,
 2 He speaks the Word the bread and wine to bless,
 3 The cher - u - bim, their fac - es veiled from light,

C *Our Father* who art in heaven, h
 kingdom come, Thy will be done on
 us this day our daily bread; and forg
 forgive those who trespass against
 temptation, but deliver us from ev
 and the power and the glory forever

round God's gold - en throne The choir
 is My flesh and blood!" He bids
 saints in won - der kneel, Sing praise

P *The pastor addresses the candidate(s) and asks*
 us eat and drink of Him whose
R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?
R *Yes, I renounce them.*

end - less cir - cles curl, And joy - ous praise the Son!
 drink with thank - ful - ness This gift of ho - ly food
 face with glo - ry bright No earth - ly masks con - ceal.

P Do you renounce all his ways?
R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Al
 earth?
 They watch Him now de - scend - ing To vis - it wait - ing earth.
 All hu - man thought must fal - ter— Our God stoops low to hear,
 This sac - ra - ment God gives us Binds us in u - ni - ty.

P *Yes, I believe.*

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His c
 conceived by the Holy Spirit, born
 under Pontius Pilate, was crucified
 descended into hell; the third day He
 The Lord of Life un - end - ing Brings dy - ing hope
 Now pres - ent on the al - tar, For us both host and meal
 Joins earth with heav'n be - yond us, Time with e - ter - ni - ty!

P *Yes, I believe.*

Almighty; from thence He will come
 dead?

R *Yes, I believe.*

communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting?

R *Yes, I believe.*

P _____, do you desire to be baptized?

R *Yes, I do.*

The pastor pours water three times on the head of the candidate while saying:

P _____, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Holy Spirit.

C *Amen.*

The pastor places his hands on the head of the newly baptized while saying:

P The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life everlasting.

C *Amen.*

The pastor may light a baptismal candle from the paschal candle and give it to the newly baptized while saying:

P Receive this burning light to show that you have received Christ who is the Light of the world. Live always in the light of Christ ever watchful for His coming, that you may meet Him with enter with Him into the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which shall have no end.



given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "This cup is the new testament in My blood, for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink of Me."

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we will remember the Lord's death until He comes.

C *Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.*

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, who gave Yourself body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to confess Your holy cross and passion, Your death for us at the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment of the living and the dead.

P Give us Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER.

C *Our Father who art in heaven, hallow 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 deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.*



BRING SOME OF THE FISH YOU'VE JUST CAUGHT
and HAVE SOME FOR US

san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
 our Lord Jesus Christ, and an heir w
 you in Jesus' name as our brother in C
 hear His Word, receive His gifts, and
 who called us out of darkness into His
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Stand

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had
 mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten
 Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant
 joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing
 sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You
 O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and
 Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as
 He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray
 from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the
 marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end.
 Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You
 alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and
 the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took
 bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the
 disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✝ body, which is given for
 you. This do in remembrance of Me."



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Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

EXHORTATION

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

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

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination

CONFESSION OF SINS

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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 hearts; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.

C It is right to give Him thanks

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we

all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, a God. And most especially are we bound to the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jes

Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore

His dying He has destroyed death, and by

restored to us everlasting life. Therefore w

and John, and with all the witnesses of the

and with all the company

glorious name, evermore pr


SANCTUS

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

Heav-en and earth are full of Your gl





of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with Your pres - ence, and
 your sins in the name of the Father and
 of the Son and of the Holy Spirit
 give us A fore-taste of the feast to come.

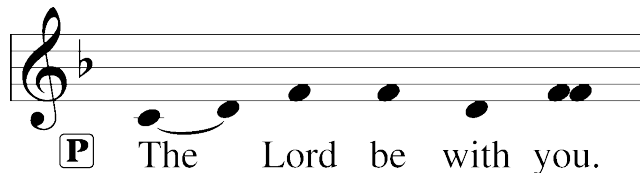
Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-80 Tune: Richard W. Hillert, 1923-2010; Text and tune: © 1978 Lutheran Book of
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SPIRIT OF THE PEACE

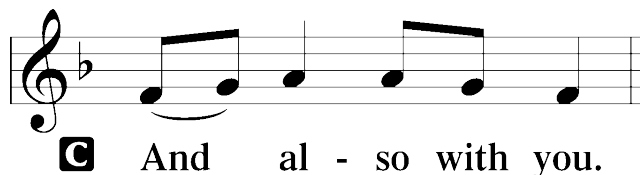
+SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you.
C And also with you

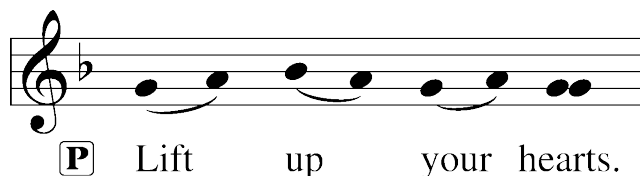
PREFACE



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.

*Please extend the hand of fellowship to your neighbor.
 "The peace of the Lord."*

ENTRANCE HYMN

525 CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS



1 Crown Him with man - y crowns, The Lamb up - on His throne;
 2 Crown Him the vir - gin's Son, The God in - car - nate born,
 3 Crown Him the Lord of love. Be - hold His hands and side,
 4 Crown Him the Lord of life, Who tri - umphed o'er the grave
 5 Crown Him the Lord of heav'n, En - throned in worlds a - bove,



Hark how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns All in its own.
 Whose arm those crim-son tro - phies won Which now His brow a-dorn;
 Rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, In beau - ty glo - ri - fied.
 And rose vic - to - rious in the strife For
 Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n The



A - wake, my soul, and sing Of Him who
 Fruit of the mys - tic rose, Yet of that
 No an - gels in the sky Can ful - ly
 His glo - ries now we sing, Who died and
 Crown Him with man - y crowns As thrones be -



hail Him as thy match-less king Through all
 root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, The babe
 down-ward bend their won-d'ring eyes At mys
 died e - ter - nal life to bring And lives
 Him, ye kings, with man - y crowns, For He

Text (sts. 1-3, 5): Matthew Bridges, 1800-94, alt.; (st. 4): Godfrey
 Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816-93; Text and tune: Public

during temptation, courage in times of
 resolve in the face of persecution. H
 every circumstance; through the same
 Lord, who lives and reigns with You a
 now and forever.

Amen.

OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY

955 LET THE VINEYARDS BE FRUITFUL



Let the vine - yards be fruit-ful, Lord,



cup of bless-ing. Gath - er a har



sown, That we may be fed with the b



hopes and the dreams of all; U - nite

service of the Church and to suffer for the Gospel, confounding her enemies with Christ's wisdom, let us pray to the Lord:
All your works shall give thanks to you,
saints shall bless you!

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the Church of Jesus, that He who provided fish for His apostles and sent them out as fishers of men would bless the Word and gather in as many as would be saved, let us pray to the Lord:
One generation shall commend your work
declare your mighty acts.
On the glorious splendor of your majesty,
works, I will meditate.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all fathers and mothers, that God would strengthen their faith and increase their joy in the Gospel, and that they would declare the mighty acts of God to the generation to come, let us pray to the Lord:
They shall speak of the might of your awe
declare your greatness.
They shall pour forth the fame of your abounding
sing aloud of your righteousness.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For our rulers and all the nations of the earth, that God who orders all nations would inspire His Church to shepherd them unto eternal life, let us pray to the Lord:
The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is
All: **Glor**y be to the Father and to the S
as it was in the beginning, is now, and w

C Lord, have mercy.

P For those who struggle among us, [*especially* shall bless you!] that God would give them faith and grace and be glorified through their trials, let us pray to the Lord:
All your works shall give thanks to you, C

C Lord, have mercy.

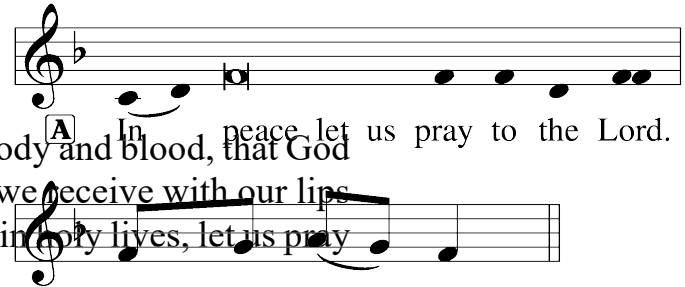
P (Special Petitions)

C Lord, have mercy.

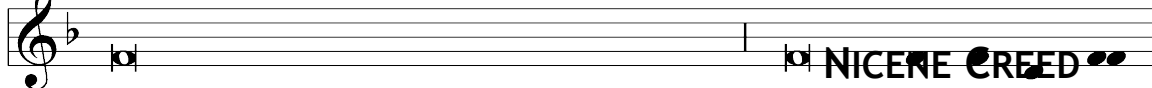
P For the faithful reception of Christ's very body and blood, that God would give us the Holy Spirit so that what we receive with our lips we may keep in holy hearts and show forth in holy lives, let us pray to the Lord:
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

KYRIE



C Lord, have mer - cy.



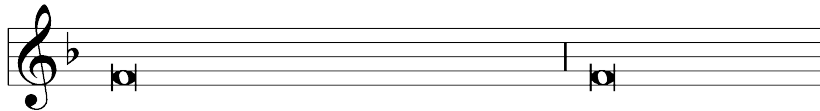
A

For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray



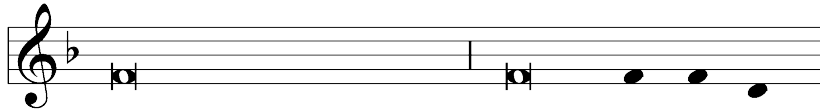
C

Lord, have mer - cy.



A

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being

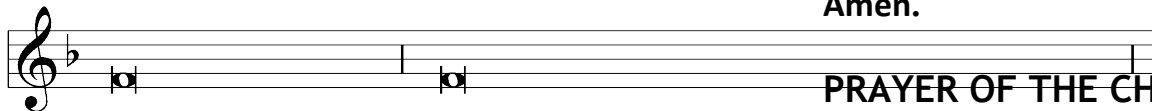


and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



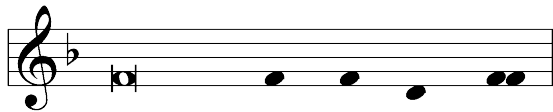
C

Lord, have mer - cy.



A

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C

Lord, have mercy.

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. By him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; for us he was dead, buried in the ground; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; 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.

I 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, who with the Father and the Son, is glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P That the Lord would accomplish His will in us; that we may joyfully to know His redemption; and that we, who are called by God, would live lives of service and love in accordance with God's holy will, let us pray:

C Lord, have mercy.

HYMN OF THE DAY

483 WITH HIGH DELIGHT LET US UNITE



1 With high de-light Let us u - nite In songs of great
2 True God, He first From death has burst Forth in - to life,
3 Let prais-es ring; Give thanks, and bring To Christ our Lord



ju - bi - la - tion. Ye pure in heart, All bear your part,
all sub-du - ing. His en - e - my Doth van-quished lie;
ad - o - ra - tion. His hon - or speed By word and deed



Sing Je - sus Christ, our sal - va - tion. To set us
His death has been death's un - do - ing. "And yours shall
To ev - 'ry land, ev - 'ry na - tion. So shall His



free For - ev - er, He Is ris'n and sends To all earth's
be Like vic - to - ry O'er death and grave," Saith He, who
love Give us a - bove, From mis - er -



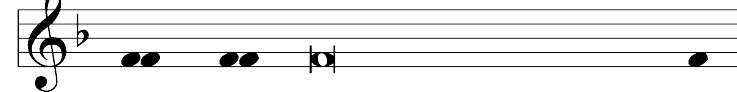
ends Good news to save ev - 'ry
gave His life for us, life re
free, All joy and full con - so

Text: Georg Vetter, 1536-99; tr. Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-76; Tune: Cinquant
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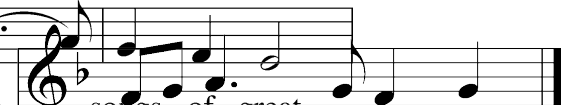
SERMON

"Jesus is Wor

Reverend Dr. Richard L. Thompson



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra -



C A men.

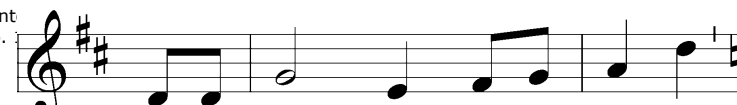


THIS IS THE FEAST


Refrain




C This is the feast of vic



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




1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength,
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God,
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might
 5 For the Lamb who was slain



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.
 gun His reign. Al - le - lu

Final Refrain



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



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

put on his outer garment, for he was stripped himself into the sea. ⁸The other disciples caught a net full of fish, for they were not far from the shore. ⁹When they got out on land, they saw that Jesus was there, and he said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." ¹⁰Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." ¹¹So Simon and the other disciples hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, 153 in all. ¹²Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." ¹³Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." ¹⁴Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." ¹⁵Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." ¹⁶Jesus said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than the other disciples?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷He said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁸Truly, truly, I say to you, when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will lead you where you do not want to go." ¹⁹(This he said so that after his death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this, he breathed his last.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

creatures said, "Amen!" and the elders fell down and worshiped.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

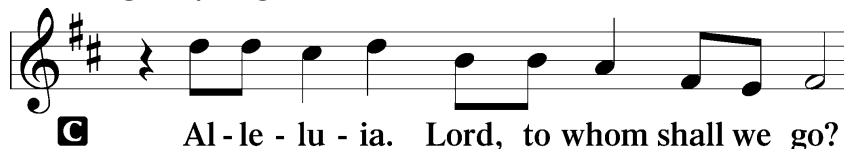
C Thanks be to God.



P The Lord be with you.

Stand

ALLELUIA VERSE



C And al - so with you.
P You have the pray.

O God, through the humiliation of Your
fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people
of everlasting death, perpetual gladness
Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and
Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

John 21:1-19

HOLY GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twenty-first chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.



¹After this Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he revealed himself in this way. ²Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together. ³Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the Lord, went to the high priest ²and asked him for a sign to kill you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore, yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵Jesus said to them, "Children, do you have any fish?" They answered him, "No." ⁶He 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 great number of fish. ⁷When Simon and Andrew, his brothers, saw this, they followed him, saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting the Lord?"

OLD TESTAMENT

¹But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the Lord, went to the high priest ²and asked him for a sign to kill you. ³They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. ⁴Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore, yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵Jesus said to them, "Children, do you have any fish?" They answered him, "No." ⁶He 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 great number of fish. ⁷When Simon and Andrew, his brothers, saw this, they followed him, saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting the Lord?"

are to do.” ⁷The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, **he to God.** hearing the voice but seeing no one. ⁸Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So **he** **cast** him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹And for three days he **was** without sight, and neither ate nor drank. **Men** **without** in the right hand of him who scroll written within and on the back, sealed

10 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." 11 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 he is praying, 12 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." 13 But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem." 14 And here he has stood before the chief priests to bind all who call on your name." 15 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. 16 For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." 17 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." 18 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."²¹ 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?"²² But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Christ.