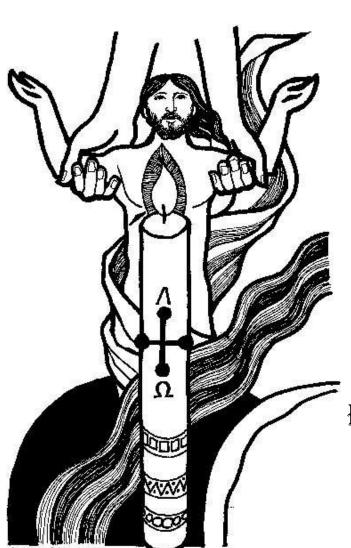
March 25, 2018	Rev. Julie Williams Presiding
Sat 5pm	Fr. Donne Puckle as Concelebrant

# Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

Saint Stephen's welcomes everyone who wishes to follow Christ, worship together, grow in faith and share God's love through service to others.





GREAT VIGIL OF
EASTER
HOLY EUCHARIST

## The Lighting of the Paschal Candle

The people stand as they are able.

Celebrant: Dear friends in Christ: On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church invites her members, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in vigil and prayer. For this is the Passover of the Lord, in which, by hearing his Word and celebrating his Sacraments, we share in his victory over death.

O God, through your Son you have bestowed upon your people the brightness of your light: Sanctify this new fire, and grant that in this Paschal feast we may so burn with heavenly desires, that with pure minds we may attain to the festival of everlasting light; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

Celebrant: The Light of Christ

People: Thanks be to God.

#### **Exsultet**

Rejoice now, heavenly hosts and choirs of angels, and let your trumpets shout Salvation for the victory of our mighty King. Rejoice and sing now, all the round earth, bright with a glorious splendor, for darkness has been vanquished by our eternal King. Rejoice and be glad now, Mother Church, and let your holy courts, in radiant light, resound with the praises of your people. All you who stand near this marvelous and holy flame, pray with me to God the Almighty for the grace to sing the worthy praise of this great light; through Jesus Christ his Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly right and good, always and everywhere, with our

whole heart and mind and voice, to praise you, the invisible, almighty, and eternal God, and your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who at the feast of the Passover paid for us the debt of Adam's sin, and by his blood delivered your faithful people.

This is the night, when you brought our fathers, the children of Israel, out of bondage in Egypt, and led them through the Red Sea on dry land.

This is the night, when all who believe in Christ are delivered from the gloom of sin, and are restored to grace and holiness of life.

This is the night, when Christ broke the bonds of death and hell, and rose victorious from the grave.

(How wonderful and beyond our knowing, O God, is your mercy and loving-kindness to us, that to redeem a slave, you gave a Son.)

(How holy is this night, when wickedness is put to flight, and sin is washed away. It restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to those who mourn. It casts out pride and hatred, and brings peace and concord.)

(How blessed is this night, when earth and heaven are joined and man is reconciled to God.)

Holy Father, accept our evening sacrifice, the offering of this candle in your honor. May it shine continually to drive away all darkness. May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find it ever burning-he who gives his light to all creation, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.** 

## The Liturgy of the Word

#### Celebrant:

Let us hear the record of God's saving deeds in history, how he saved his people in ages past; and let us pray that our God will bring each of us to the fullness of redemption.

## Genesis 1:1-2:4a (edited)

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night.

And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters."

And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so.

And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And God saw that it was good.

And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." And God saw that it was good.

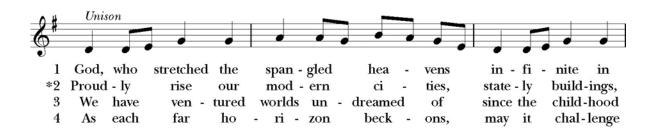
And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. And God saw that it was good.

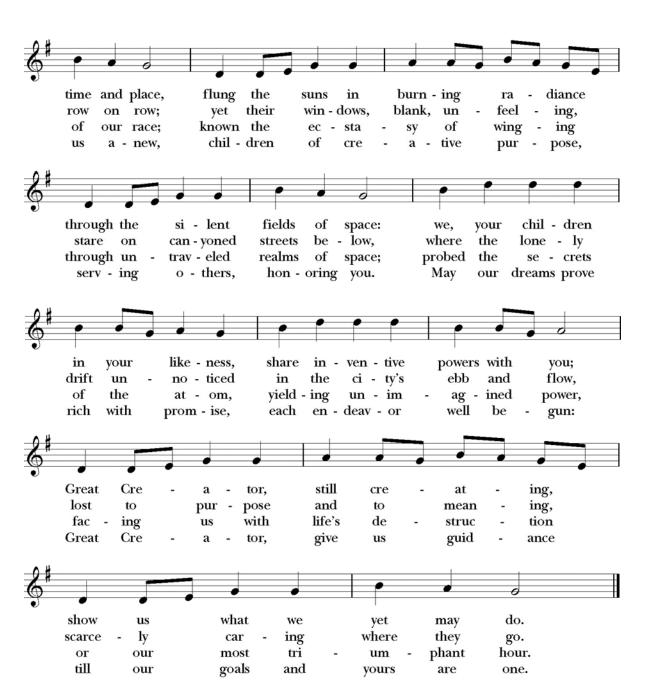
Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

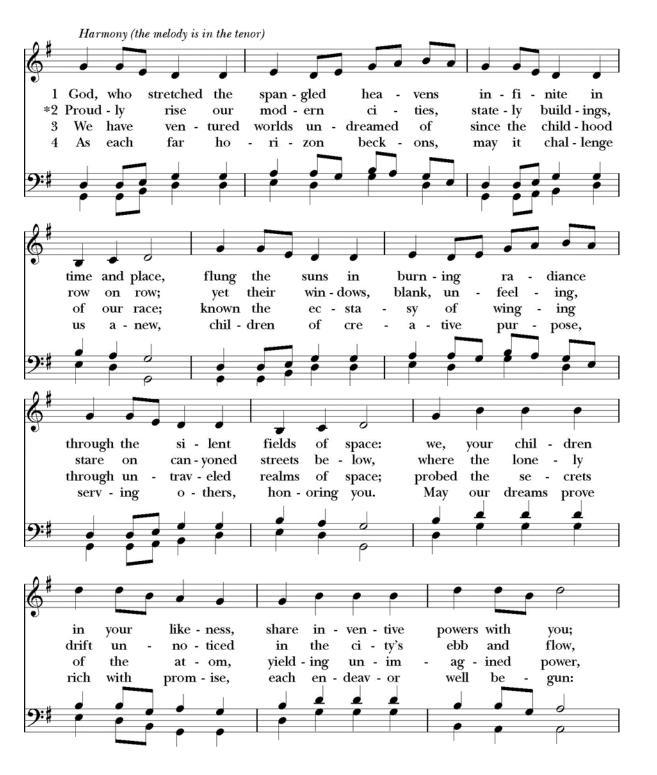
God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food." And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good.

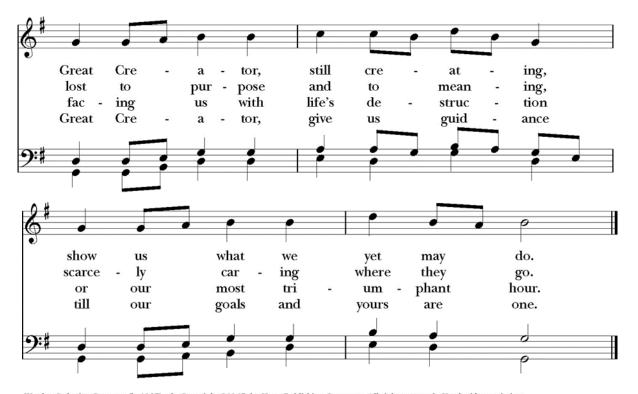
Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done.

The Hymnal 1982 #580









Words: Catherine Cameron (b. 1927), alt. Copyright ©1967, by Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Music: Holy Manna, from The Southern Harmony, 1835

## Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21 (edited)

As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the LORD. But Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the LORD will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to keep still." The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers.

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water

may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians.

Lift Every Voice and Sing II #106 1. Pre - cious Lord. take my hand. Lead me let me on. 2. When my way drear, pre - cious Lord, lin - ger grows\_ 3. When dark the ness pears and the night draws\_ ap stand.\_\_ Ι am tired, am weak. I am worn;\_ 2. near, When my life is\_ al most\_ gone;\_ the And day near, is. past  $and_{-}$ gone;\_ Through the storm, through the night, Lead me the on Hear my call, Hold my hand. lest hear my cry, Ι At the riv er stand, Guide my feet, hold my



## Joshua 1

After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD spoke to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' assistant, saying, 2"My servant Moses is dead. Now proceed to cross the Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the Israelites. <sup>3</sup> Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, as I promised to Moses. <sup>4</sup> From the wilderness and the Lebanon as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, to the Great Sea in the west shall be your territory. <sup>5</sup> No one shall be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will not fail you or forsake you. <sup>6</sup> Be strong and courageous; for you shall put this people in possession of the land that I swore to their ancestors to give them. <sup>7</sup> Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to act in accordance with all the law that my servant Moses commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, so that you may be successful wherever you go. 8 This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to act in accordance with all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall be successful. <sup>9</sup>I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

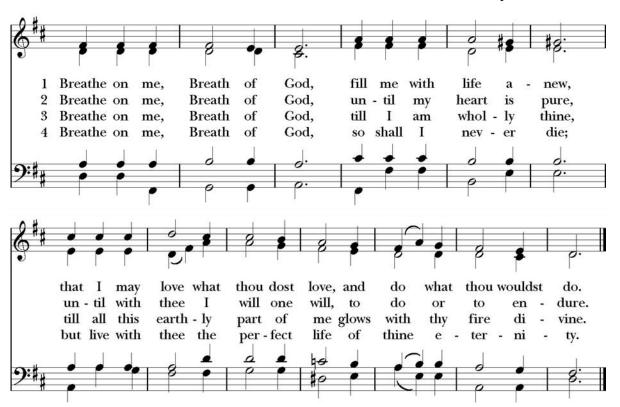
Lift Every Voice and Sing II #9



#### Ezekiel 36:24-28

Thus says the Lord God: I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. Then you shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors; and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

The Hymnal 1982 #508



Words: Edwin Hatch (1835-1889), alt. Music: Nova Vita, Lister R. Peace (1885-1969)

## The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

The people stand as they are able.

Celebrant Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, now that our Lenten observance is ended, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy Catholic Church.

## The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Celebrant: Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

People: I do.

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

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

People: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People: 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.

Celebrant: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in

Christ?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as

yourself?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect

the dignity of every human being?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

ALL Amen.

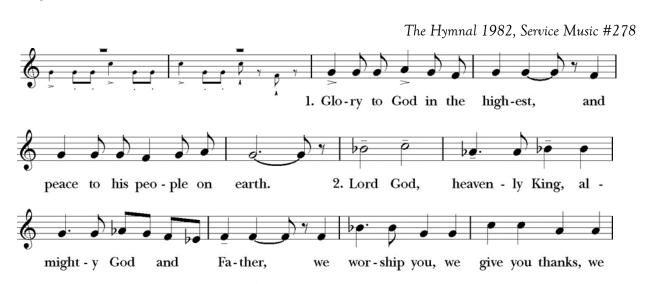
#### At the Eucharist

The candles at the altar are now lighted.

# **Opening Acclamation**

Priest: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.





## Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, who made this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord's resurrection: Stir up in your Church that Spirit of adoption (acceptance?) which is given to us in Baptism, that we, being renewed both in body and mind, may worship you in sincerity and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

# The Epistle

A reading from The Letter of Paul to the Romans 6:3-11

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

## The Response

**Psalm 114** BCP p. 756

In exitu Israel

1 Hallelujah!

When Israel came out of <u>Egypt</u>,\*
the house of Jacob from a people of strange **speech**,

2 Judah became God's sanctuary\* and Israel his dominion.

- The sea beheld it and <u>fled;</u>\*

  Jordan turned and went **back**.
- The mountains skipped like <u>rams</u>,\* and the little hills like young <u>sheep</u>.
- What ailed you, O sea, that you <u>fled</u>?\*
  O Jordan, that you turned **back**?
- You mountains, that you skipped like <u>rams</u>?\* you little hills like young <u>sheep</u>?
- 7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the <u>Lord</u>,\* at the presence of the God of <u>Jacob</u>,
- Who turned the hard rock into a pool of <u>water</u>\* and flint-stone into a flowing <u>spring</u>.

The people stand as they are able.

# Gospel

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People: Glory to You Lord Christ.

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

Priest: The Gospel of our Lord.

People: Praise to you Lord Christ.

#### Sermon

## Prayers of the People

Leader: Our Lord lives, for death has no more power over him. And so we, God's holy church, proclaim the resurrection, saying: Christ is risen! Amen, Alleluia!

Created in the image and likeness of God, we pray to see God's image in one another. May our lives proclaim: **Christ is risen! Amen, Alleluia!** 

Tested in our faith and strengthened by God's love, we pray for open hearts, that we may live to proclaim: **Christ is risen!** Amen, Alleluia!

Liberated from sin and death by water and Spirit, we pray for those who do not share our hope, that they may proclaim: Christ is risen! Amen, Alleluia!

Sharing in the joy of those baptized this night, we pray for their growth into the full stature of Christ, that they may proclaim: **Christ is risen! Amen, Alleluia!** 

Joining with those who share in the passion of Christ through illness, famine, war, temptation, and trial, we pray for their courage and strength, that those who suffer may proclaim: **Christ is risen!** Amen, Alleluia!

For our Armed Forces, those who are far from home, for their safety and the wellbeing of their families and loved ones left behind, we pray: **Christ is risen! Amen, Alleluia!** 

We acknowledge and pay respect to the first peoples of this land and their role as custodians of the earth given to them by our one and only Creator God. We commit ourselves to work actively alongside indigenous people for reconciliation and justice as we live into our Baptismal Covenant and respect the dignity of every person. We pray: Christ is risen! Amen, Alleluia!

United in our hope that we and all who die will live again, we pray for family and friends who have died (pause for names, aloud or silently), proclaiming: Christ is risen! Amen, Alleluia!

Leader: *Let us pray together:* 

Teach us, Good Lord, to serve you as you deserve; to give and not to count the cost; to fight and not to heed the wounds; to work and not to seek to rest; to labor and not to ask for any reward, except that by knowing we do your will, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Holy God, make us holy. Revealing God, make us see. Sending God, make us move. Loving God, make us love. **AMEN** 

Celebrant continues:

O true God, who has glorified your Son Jesus Christ as the pledge of our freedom from sin and death, receive our praise and prayer through Christ our Lord, the great Amen and our Alleluia, now and forever. **AMEN** 

#### The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

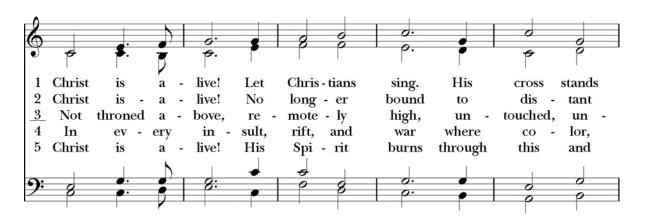
The Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Priest says

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. Psalm 50:14

## Offertory Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 #182





Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936), rev. Copyright ©1975 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Music: Truro, melody from Psalmodia Evangelica, Part II, 1789; harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872), alt.

# The Holy Communion

# The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

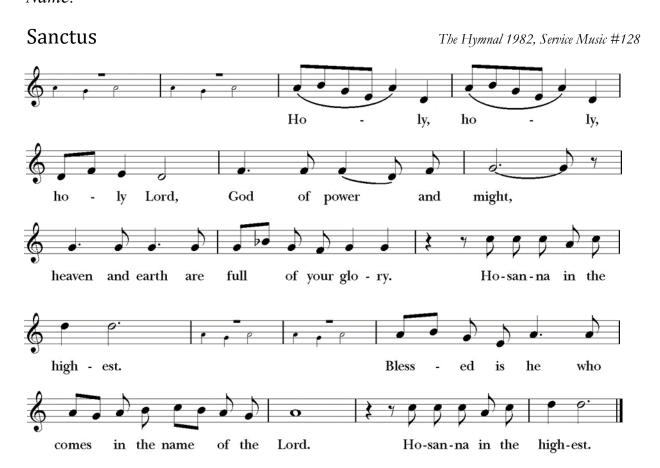
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

#### Celebrant

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our

Lord. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your

will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said,

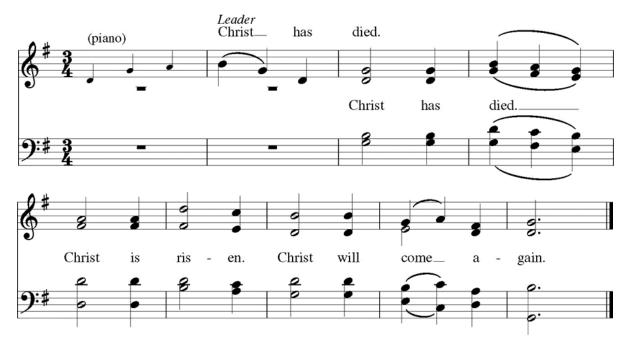
"Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said,

"Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People



the Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ.

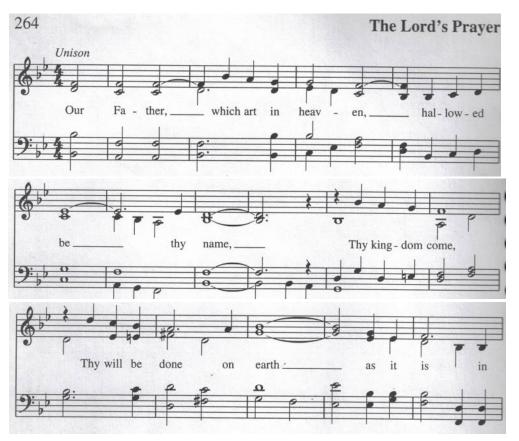
Celebrant and people

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

## **AMEN**

## **Lord's Prayer**

Celebrant : As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

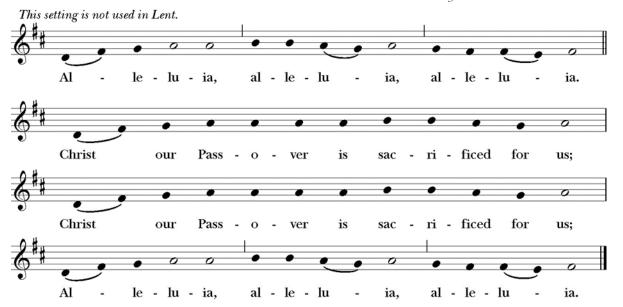




## The Breaking of the Bread

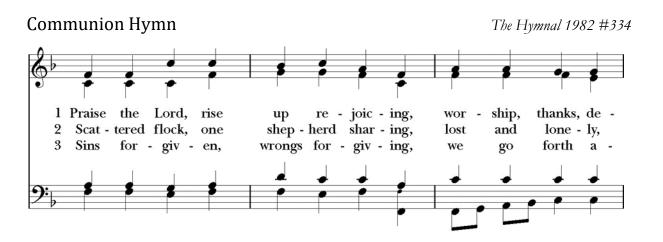
#### Fraction Anthem

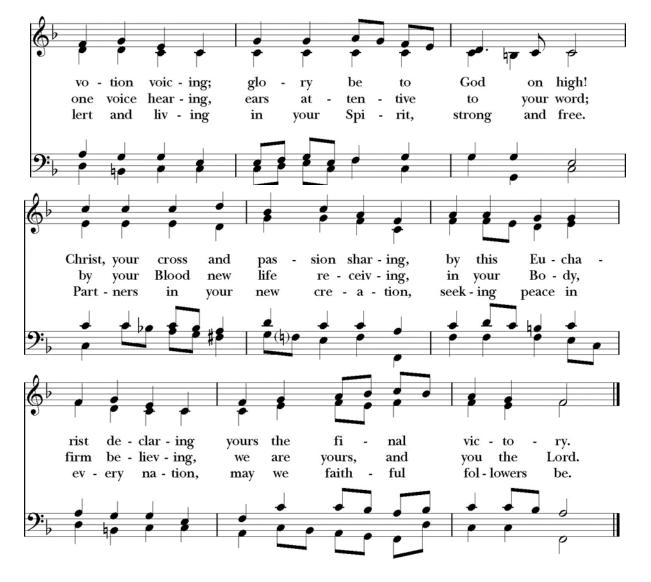
The Hymnal 1982, Service Music #154



The Priest invites the people to Communion

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.





Words: Howard Charles Adie Gaunt (b. 1902), alt. Copyright © by permission of H.C.A. Gaunt. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Music: Alles ist an Gottes Segen, melody att. Johann Balthasar König (1691-1758), alt.; harm. Johann Löhner (1645-1705), after chorale ver. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

The people stand as they are able.

## Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Priest says

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. **Amen.** 

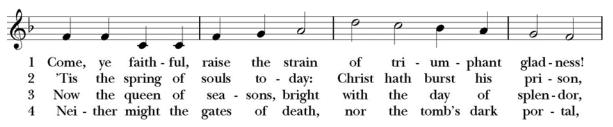
May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ forever. **Amen.** 

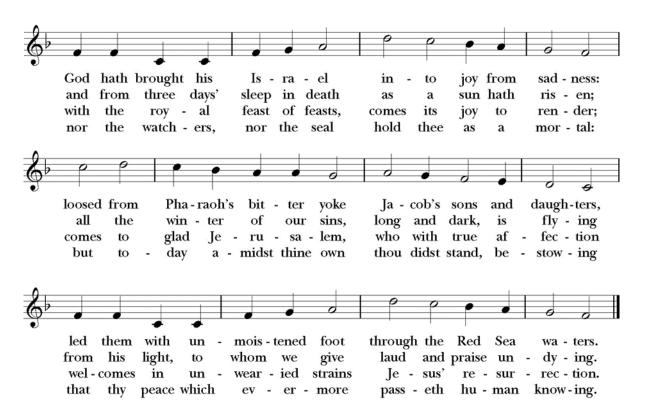
May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. **Amen**.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen** 

## Recessional Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 #142





Words: John of Damascus (8th cent.); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt. Music: Gaudeamus pariter, melody from Medieval [German or] Bohemian Carol Melody, 1544; harm. Songs of Syon, 1904

### Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia, (Alleluia!)