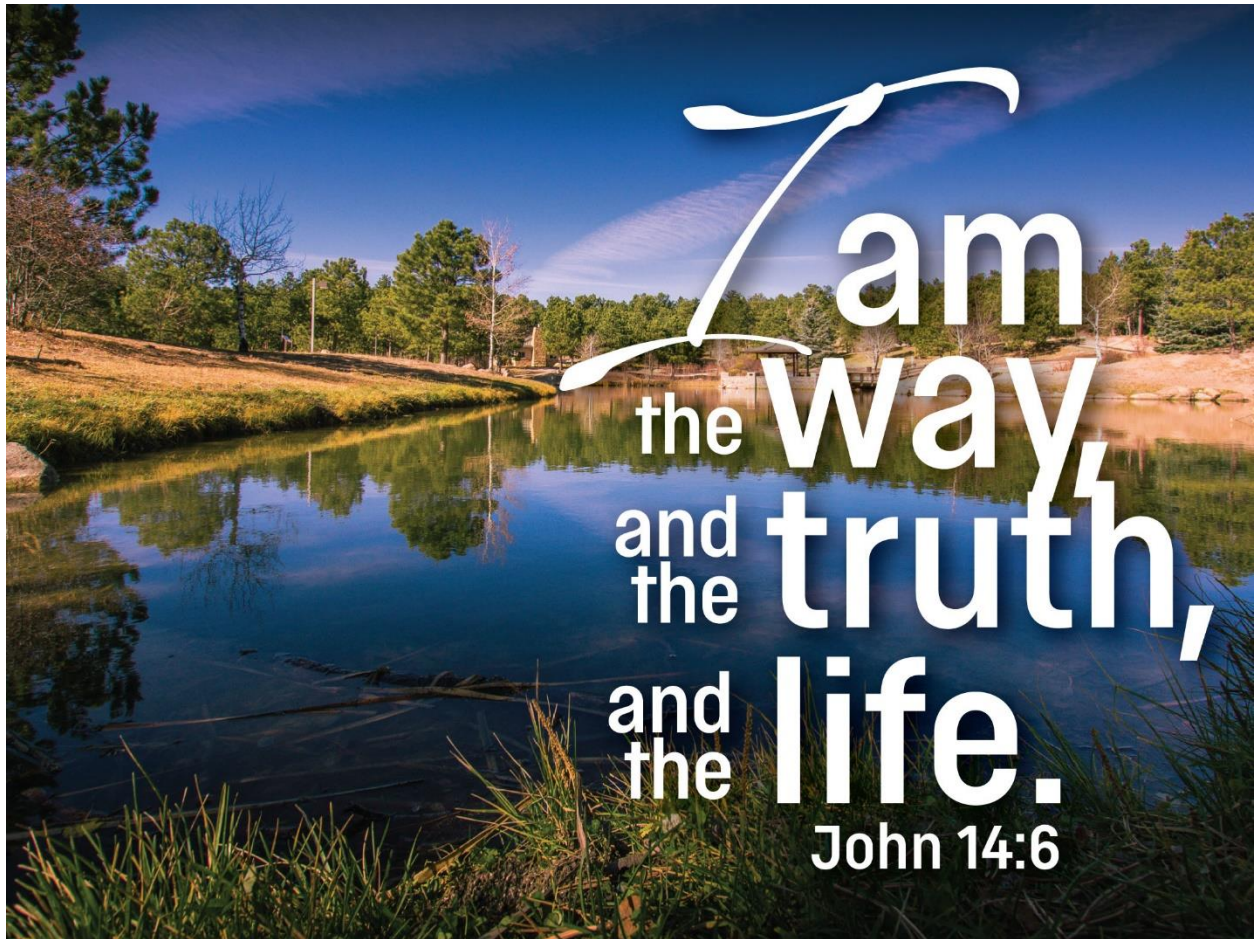


Sunday, May 7, 2023  
Fifth Sunday of Easter, 5A  
Pastor Karin Derenne



## GATHERING

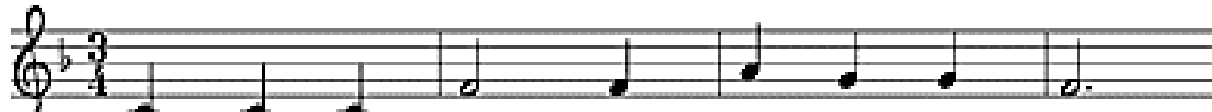
### Prelude

### Welcome


*Please rise in body or in spirit. The congregation is invited to say the **bold** words.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen!


**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**




*M - fu - ra - hi - ni, ha - le - lu - ya,*  
 1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia.  
 2 For three long days the grave did its worst  
 3 The an - gel said to them, "Do not fear.



*m - ko - mbo - zi a - me - fu - fu - ka,*  
 Re - joice and praise him, al - le - lu - ia.  
 un - til its strength by God was dis - persed.  
 You look for Je - sus who is not here.



*A - me - fu - fu - ka, ha - le - lu - ya,*  
 For our re - deem - er burst from the tomb,  
 He who gives life did death un - der - go,  
 See for your - selves the tomb is all bare.



*m - si - fu - ni sa - sa yu ha - i,*  
 e - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.  
 and in its con - quest his might did show.  
 On - ly the grave - clothes are ly - ing there."

*Refrain*



*Tu - mvi - mbi - e so - te kwa fu - ra - ha,*  
 Let us sing praise to him with end - less joy.



Ye - su a - me - to - ka ka - bu - ri - ni.  
Death's fear - ful sting he has come to de - stroy.



Ka - shi - nda ki - fo, ha - le - lu - ya;  
Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!



ha - le - lu - ya, Ye - su yu ha - i.  
Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

4 "Go spread the news: he's not in the grave.  
He has arisen this world to save.  
Jesus' redeeming labors are done.  
Even the battle with sin is won."  
*Refrain*

5 Christ has arisen to set us free.  
Alleluia, to him praises be.  
Jesus is living! Let us all sing;  
he reigns triumphant, heavenly king.  
*Refrain*

Text: Bernard Kyamanywa, b. 1938; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922

Music: MURAHINI, MALELUYA, Tanzanian traditional

Text © 1968 Lutheran Theological College, Makumira, Tanzania, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Tr. © 1977 Howard S. Olson, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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## Thanksgiving for Baptism

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation.  
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God,  
for in the beginning you created us in your image  
and planted us in a well-watered garden.  
In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched,  
and you gave us water from the rock.

**When we did not know the way,  
you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.  
At the cross, you watered us from Jesus' wounded side,  
and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.**

We praise you for your salvation through water,  
for the water in this font,  
and for all water everywhere.

**Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love.  
Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the life only you can give.**

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

## This Is the Feast

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,




al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb




who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

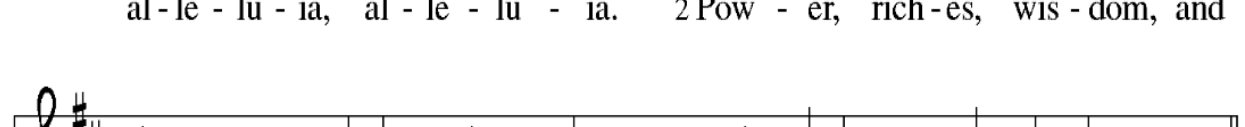
*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

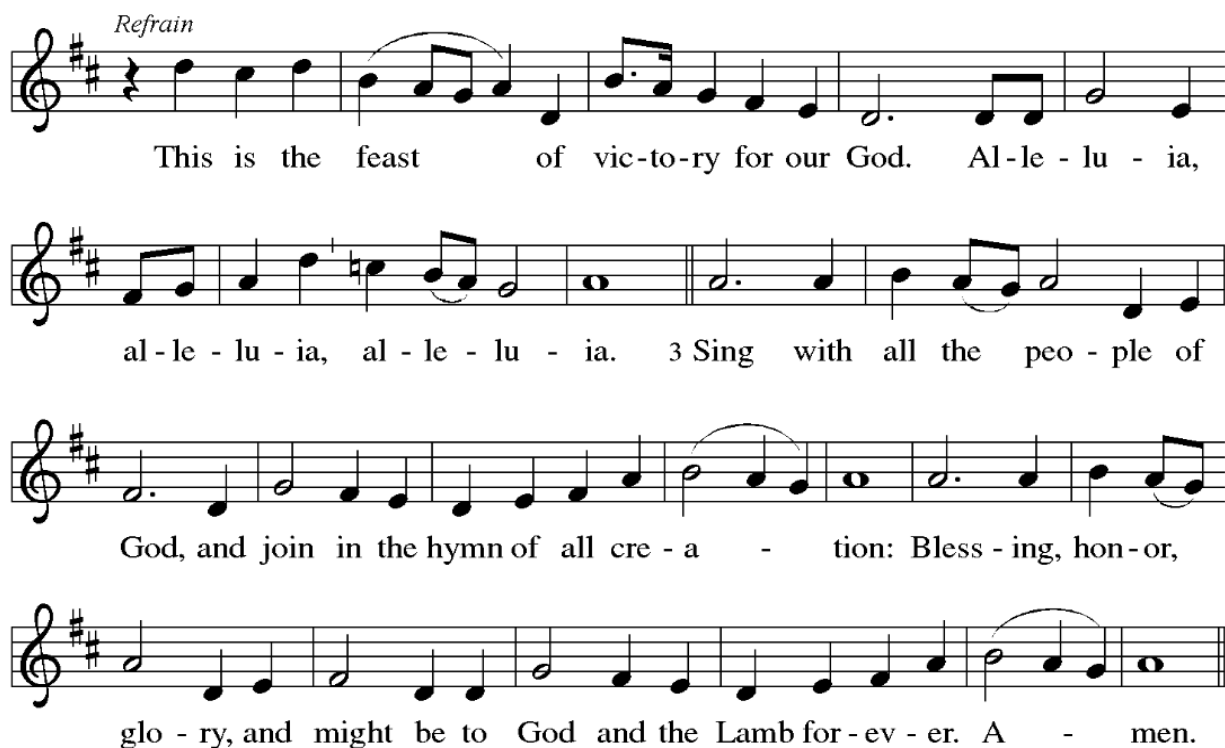


al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,  
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of  
 God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon-or,  
 glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,  
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was  
 slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.  
 Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Prayer of the Day

The Lord is with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray, Almighty God, **your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**  
**Amen.**

Choir

*In Christ Alone*

## WORD

### First Lesson: Acts 7: 55-60

<sup>55</sup>Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup>"Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" <sup>57</sup>But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. <sup>58</sup>Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup>While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." <sup>60</sup>Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

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

### **Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16** (read responsively by verse)

<sup>1</sup>In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup>**Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.**

<sup>3</sup>Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

<sup>4</sup>**Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, for you are my tower of strength.**

<sup>5</sup>Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth.

<sup>15</sup>**My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.**

<sup>16</sup>Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love."

## Second Lesson: 1 Peter 2:2-10

<sup>2</sup>Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—<sup>3</sup>if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

<sup>4</sup>Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and <sup>5</sup>like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup>For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

<sup>7</sup>To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner," <sup>8</sup>and "A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. <sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

<sup>10</sup>Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

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

### The Word for All Ages

#### Gospel Acclamation

#### *Alleluia*





## **Gospel: John 14:1-14**

The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup>“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. <sup>4</sup>And you know the way to the place where I am going.” <sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” <sup>6</sup>Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup>If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

<sup>8</sup>Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” <sup>9</sup>Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? <sup>10</sup>Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. <sup>11</sup>Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. <sup>12</sup>Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup>I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup>If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

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

## **Sermon**



- 1 You are the way; to you a - lone from sin and death we flee;
- 2 You are the truth; your word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;
- 3 You are the life; the rend - ing tomb pro - claims your con - qu'ring arm;
- 4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,



all those who search for God, you find and by your grace set free.  
you on - ly can in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.  
and those who put their trust in you not death nor hell shall harm.  
that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

Text: George W. Doane, 1799–1859, alt.

Music: DUNDEE, *Psalter*, Edinburgh, 1615

## Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

and he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

### **Prayers of the People**

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

God of life, strengthen your church to proclaim your gospel even in times of trouble. As we remember Stephen, we give thanks for diaconal ministry. Bless all deacons and strengthen them for their bridge-building ministry between church and world. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Creating God, you show your steadfast love through mighty waters, towering mountains, verdant fields, and arid deserts. Protect the earth's diverse habitats from the forces of pollution, erosion, extinction, and global warming. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Mighty God, your Spirit guides us into all truth. Give wisdom to world and local leaders and organizations as they begin, build, or renew relationships. Strengthen leaders and aid organizations in areas needing to be rebuilt following conflict, unrest, or natural disaster. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Loving God, you make your home among us. Abide with refugees, those experiencing homelessness, those fleeing war and poverty, and all who question if there is a home in your heart. We pray for all who are sick. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Assuring God, you accompany your people amid uncertainty and change. Uphold people in this community who have recently moved, changed jobs or schools, retired, or are going through transitions of any kind. Lead us in your ways. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

For what else do the people of God pray?

Renewing God, you gather the saints at your heavenly banquet. We give you thanks for the care shown us by those who have gone before us. Grant confidence and comfort for all awaiting the place you have prepared. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.  
**Amen.**

### **Peace**

The peace of the risen Christ be with you always,  
**And also with you.**

# Offering Hymn

For the Fruit of All Creation

Cranberry #679



1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.  
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.  
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.  
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.  
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,  
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,  
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.  
 in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.  
 most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional

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## MEAL

### Offering Prayer

We give because we are abundantly blessed. We are given more than we need, so we can give to those in need. We give joyfully and humbly, knowing we are simply following the way Jesus gave himself to us.

Let us pray, Merciful God,  
**our ordinary gifts seem small for such a celebration,  
but you make of them an abundance,  
just as you do with our lives.  
Feed us again at this table  
for service in your name,  
in the strength of the risen Christ.  
Amen.**

### Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also, with you.**  
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

O God triune, how majestic  
is your name in all the earth.  
Over the eons your merciful might  
evolved our home, a fragile tree of life.  
Here by your wisdom  
are both life and death,  
growth and decay,  
the nest and the hunt,  
sunshine and storm,  
darkness and light.  
Sustained by these wonders,  
we creatures of dust join in the ancient song:  
**The earth is full of your glory.**

O God triune, you took on our flesh in Jesus our healer.  
In Christ you bring life from death;  
we remember his cross,  
we laud his resurrection.  
Broken like bread, he enlivens our body.

Outpoured like wine, he fills the earth with goodness.  
Receiving this mystery,  
we mortals sing our song:  
**The earth is full of your glory.**

We praise you for the heart of Jesus,  
so filled with your love for this earth.

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.

Gathered around this table,  
we your children unite in this song:  
**The earth is full of your glory.**

O God triune, you create the worlds,  
you uphold the living, you embrace the dead.  
Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.  
Strengthen us for our journey with this meal,  
the body and blood of Christ.  
Give us a future that trusts in you and cares for your earth.  
Empowered by your promises, we rise from our deaths  
to praise you again: **The earth is full of your glory. Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

## Communion Hymns

### Hymn

*Now We Join in Celebration*

**Cranberry #462**



- 1 Now we join in cel - e - bra - tion at our Sav - ior's in - vi - ta - tion,
- 2 Lord, as round this feast we gath - er, fill our hearts with ho - ly rap - ture!
- 3 Lord, we share in this com - mu - nion as one fam - 'ly of God's chil - dren,



dressed no more in spir - it som - ber, clothed in - stead in joy and won - der;  
For this bread and cup of bless - ing are for us the sure pos - sess - ing  
rec - on - ciled through you, our broth - er, one in you with God our Fa - ther.



for the Lord of all ex - is - tence, put - ting off di - vine tran - scen - dence,  
of your lov - ing deed on Cal - v'ry, of your liv - ing self, our vic - t'ry,  
Give us grace to live for oth - ers, serv - ing all, both friends and strang - ers,



stoops a - gain in love to meet us, with his ver - y life to feed us.  
pledge of your un - fail - ing pres - ence, fore - taste here of heav' n - ly glad - ness.  
seek - ing jus - tice, love, and mer - cy till you come in fi - nal glo - ry.

Text: Joel W. Lundeen, 1918–1990

Music: SCHMÜCKE DICH, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

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## Hymn

## As the Grains of Wheat

## Cranberry #465

*Refrain*




As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were




gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from



all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.



1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,  
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when



*Refrain*

may we share the pres - ence of your love.  
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: AS THE GRAINS, Marty Haugen

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**SENDING**  
**Announcements**

**Benediction**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead  
raise you to new life, fill you with hope,  
and turn your mourning into dancing.

Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Hymn

## Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing

Cranberry #389



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands  
 2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant  
 3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,  
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the  
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with  
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,  
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet  
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the  
 this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.  
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.  
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.  
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.  
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: TRURO, T. Williams, *Psalmody Evangelica*, 1789

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**Dismissal**

Christ is risen, just as he said.

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!****Postlude**

### **Worship Assistants**

Assisting Minister:	Linda Grunewald
Reader:	Christin Jaworski
Altar Guild:	Kathy Long
Communion Assist:	Sheila Greenwood
Ushers:	Jerry Boettcher & Dave Hansen
Video Tech:	Yvonne Pamperin

### **The Bethel Weekly**

**Thank You:** Thank you Pastor Karin Derenne for filling in for this service while Pastor Kim is in recovery.

**We extend our sympathy:** to Lorraine Hansen's family, her funeral service was this past Tuesday.

**Fellowship Hour:** Thank you to Dave and Mary Hansen for providing Fellowship Hour today. Please if you are able to help on a future date, May through August sign up in the hallway.

**Pastor's Recovery:** As you know Pastor's surgery went well and she is on the mend. She will return on a part-time basis. For pastoral emergencies please call pastor first. If not available Pastor Jennifer of Good Shepherd in Howard may be called 920-737-8202.

**Salvation Army Senior Lunch Meal Prep:** Monday, May 15th. Sign-up is in the hallway.

**Memorial Day Remembrance:** Memorial Day is right around the corner. This is the day we honor the men and women who died while serving their country. Many gave some---and some gave all. Lets honor these Veterans and remember them always. Please share with us the names of those to be remembered at Worship on Sunday, May 28th. Call Bethel Lutheran Church 920-494-3737 and leave the name and branch of service with the Administrative Assistant Deb. Example: Donald D. Sigl-Army. Veterans Day is in November, we would also like a list of living Veterans within this membership so they can be honored for their service. Thank you and God Bless our Veterans.

**Bike Blessing & Tune-up:** Bethel's 2nd Annual Bike Blessing & Tune-up will be held on Sunday, June 11th. Worship will be at 9am in the parking lot with the celebrations happening afterwards. Bring your bike for a free tune-up and a

blessing for this season on the road. If you have a yard sign from last year, please bring it to the office as soon as possible so it can be updated with the proper information. Yard signs will be available mid-May.

**Landscape Edging Donations:** Donation cards available in hallway for those who would like to remember a loved one through a donation for the landscape edging.

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