

# **Amazing Grace Lutheran Church**

## **Sunday, April 14, 2024**

### **The Third Sunday of Easter**

*Christ is risen! Jesus is alive, and God has swallowed up death forever. The Easter season is a week of weeks, seven Sundays when we play in the mystery of Christ's presence, mostly through the Gospel of John. This season, we will hear stories of belonging. Like Russian nesting dolls, we abide in Christ and Christ abides in God. Alleluia!*

## **Prelude**

## **Welcome**

### **Call to Worship (Psalm 4)**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed, Alleluia!**

Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause.

**You set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.**

Let the light of your face shine upon us, O Lord.

**You have put gladness in my heart more than grain and wine abound.**

In peace I will find my rest;

**For you alone, O Lord, make me rest secure.**

### **Thanksgiving for Baptism**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
the wellspring of grace,  
our Easter and our joy.

**Amen.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Immersed in the promises of baptism,  
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

*Water may be poured into the font as the community gives thanks.*

We give you thanks, O God,

**for in the beginning**

**your voice thundered over the deep**

**and water became the essence of life.**

**Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.**

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.  
Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea  
into freedom's land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official  
entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John  
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection  
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,  
freeing us to live as Easter people.

**We rejoice with glad hearts,  
giving all honor and praise to you,  
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.  
Amen.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

## Gathering Hymn: Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!

**ELW 377**

*Verse 3: high voices, Verse 4: low voices*

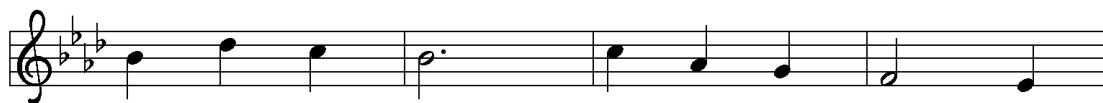
### Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!  
2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter  
3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;  
4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent:  
5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er,



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!  
tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;  
life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;  
death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.  
gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!  
break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:  
heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,  
Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!  
riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!  
 Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.  
 gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.  
 Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.  
 sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!

*Refrain*



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926  
 Music: David N. Johnson, 1922-1987  
 Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.  
 Music © 1969 *Contemporary Worship 1*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

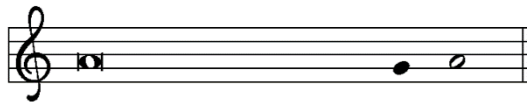
## Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## Kyrie:

## Setting 4



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



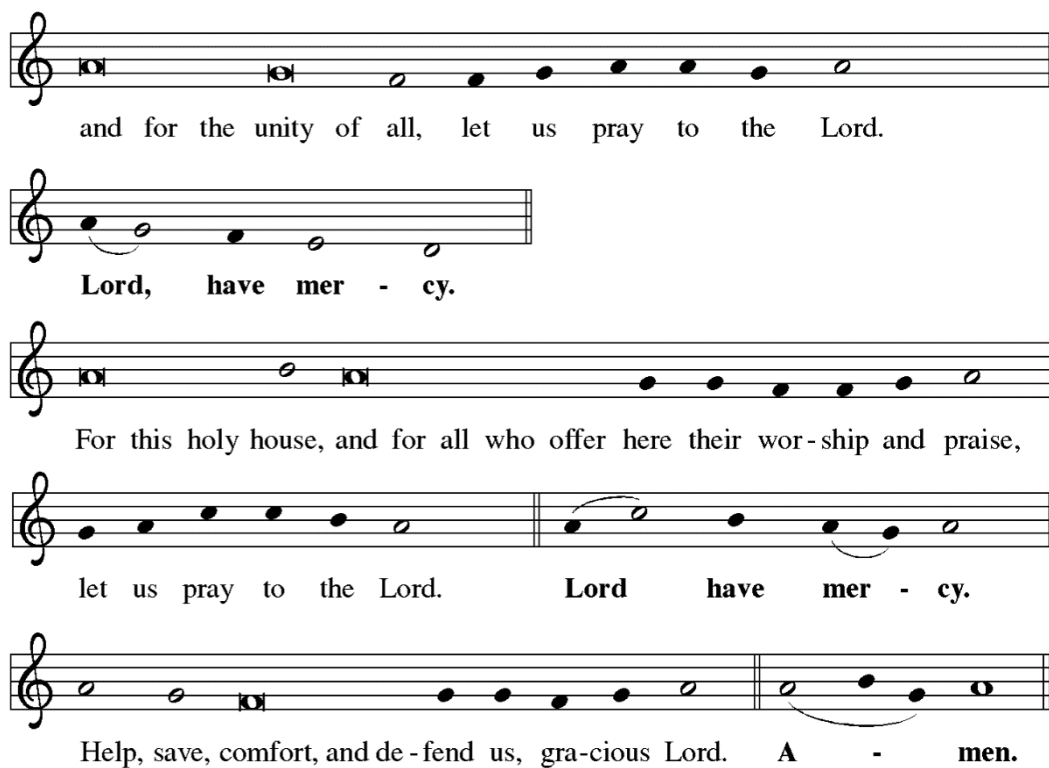
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



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

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,

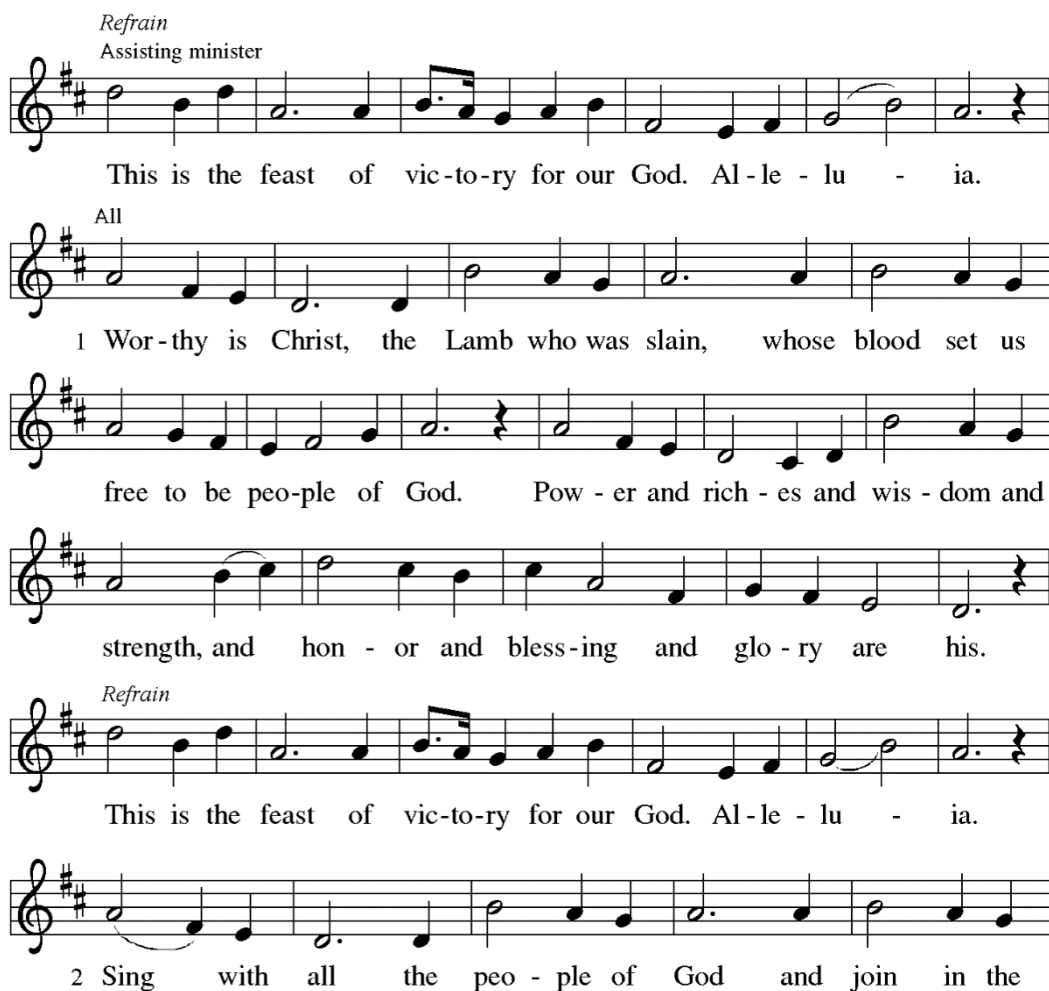
let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

## Canticle: This is the Feast

## Setting 4

*Refrain*  
Assisting minister



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

All

1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us

free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and

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

*Refrain*

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

2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the

hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and

might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain

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

## Prayer of the Day

Holy and righteous God,

**you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

## First Reading: Acts 3:12-19

*After healing a man unable to walk, Peter preaches to the people, describing how God's promises to Israel have been fulfilled in Jesus. Through the proclamation of Christ's death and resurrection, God is offering them forgiveness and restoration in Jesus' name.*

<sup>12</sup>[Peter] addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?<sup>13</sup>The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. <sup>14</sup>But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, <sup>15</sup>and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. <sup>16</sup>And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

<sup>17</sup>"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. <sup>18</sup>In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. <sup>19</sup>Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

## **Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-7**

*God has loved us in order to make us children of God. Though we do not yet know the full details of our future existence, we trust that God will reveal it just as God revealed Jesus to take away our sins.*

<sup>1</sup>See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

<sup>4</sup>Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup>You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. <sup>6</sup>No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. <sup>7</sup>Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

## **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Our hearts burn within us

**While you open to us the scriptures.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

## **Gospel Reading: Luke 24:36b-48**

<sup>36b</sup>Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, "Peace be with you." <sup>37</sup>They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. <sup>38</sup>He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup>Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." <sup>40</sup>And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup>While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" <sup>42</sup>They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup>and he took it and ate in their presence.

<sup>44</sup>Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things."

The Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ!**

Hymn of the Day: Touch That Soothes and Heals

ACS 939

Touch That Soothes and Heals  
*See My Hands and Feet*



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



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



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

*Refrain*



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



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



ones I died to save.”

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953  
Music: CIVILITY, Gregg DeMey, b. 1972  
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Music © 2008 Re:Create Music, admin. Faith Alive Christian Resources

**Confession of Faith**

Living together in trust and hope, let us confess our faith.

**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 Intercession**

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

*A brief silence.*

O God our holy one, you feed our deepest hungers. As we share the holy meal that is the body and blood of Jesus given for us, lead us to share all that we have, and find, in generosity, abundant life. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

O God our creator, you bring forth all life on earth. Calm storms, bring water to parched places, and protect the climate, that this planet would sustain life in all its variety. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

O God our savior, you offer wisdom and guidance beyond all human knowledge. Instruct lawmakers, judges, and elected officials to make decisions grounded in your justice and care for all people. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

O God our elder, you care for all your children. Encourage those who are in times of transition, facing the loss of old ways and routines and anticipating change. Guide those who journey in grief, hope, and uncertainty. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

O God our center, you bring all people together in you. Help us to remember our identity and purpose in our ministry as we join together to serve the world around us. Move us to love our neighbors as ourselves and to share in beloved community. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*



O God our resting place, your Son Jesus promised that we are held in your love forever. We remember our beloved who have died. As we remember and share their love, comfort those who mourn. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

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

## Peace

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

## Offering

AGLC gives in the style of our Tanzanian partners. You may place any gift in the basket as you come forward for communion. If you don't have a physical gift to share, you are encouraged to dip your hand in the basket as a reminder that God uses you to do God's work in the world.

## Offering Song: Christ is Living (Verse 1 & 3)

**ACS 934**

### Christ Is Living



*1 ¡Cris - to vi - ve, fue - ra el llan - to, los la - men - tos y el pe - sar!*  
1 Christ is liv - ing! Gone with sor - row! Tears and ter - ror, be no more.  
2 For if Christ is not a - ris - en there is noth - ing to be - lieve.  
3 Death is swal - lowed up in vic - t'ry; sin has lost its poi - son sting.



*Ni la muer - te ni el se - pul - cro lo han po - di - do su - je - tar.*  
Death and grave, you now are noth - ing; Christ is free of ev - 'ry pow'r.  
Je - sus' prom - ise is ac - comp - lished: "Since I live, you too shall live."  
Life will blos - som from the grain sown, Christ the first fruits of the spring.



*No bus - quéis en - tre los muer - tos al que siem - pre ha de vi - vir.*  
Why then seek the liv - ing Sav - ior in the haunts of death and fear?  
Dust we are, to dust re - turn - ing, but in Christ we are re - stored.  
For the sure - ness of sal - va - tion let us sing, "Thanks be to God!"



The Lamb who was slain has begun to reign,  
For Christ is risen!  
**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

## Sung Words of Institution



3. So, we thank You for \_ the wine \_ and for the bread; \_ For we  
see the life \_ You gave \_ and the blood You \_ shed. And we re -  
-mem - ber Your won - drous \_ love, You gave Your bod - y, You shed Your \_  
blood; And we re - mem - ber Your won - drous \_  
love, You gave Your bod - y, You shed Your \_ blood.

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## Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,**

**your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,**

**now and forever. Amen.**

## Invitation

*Amazing Grace Lutheran Church practices open communion. Whether you are a member of AGLC or not, you are invited to the table that is set by Christ for you.*

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

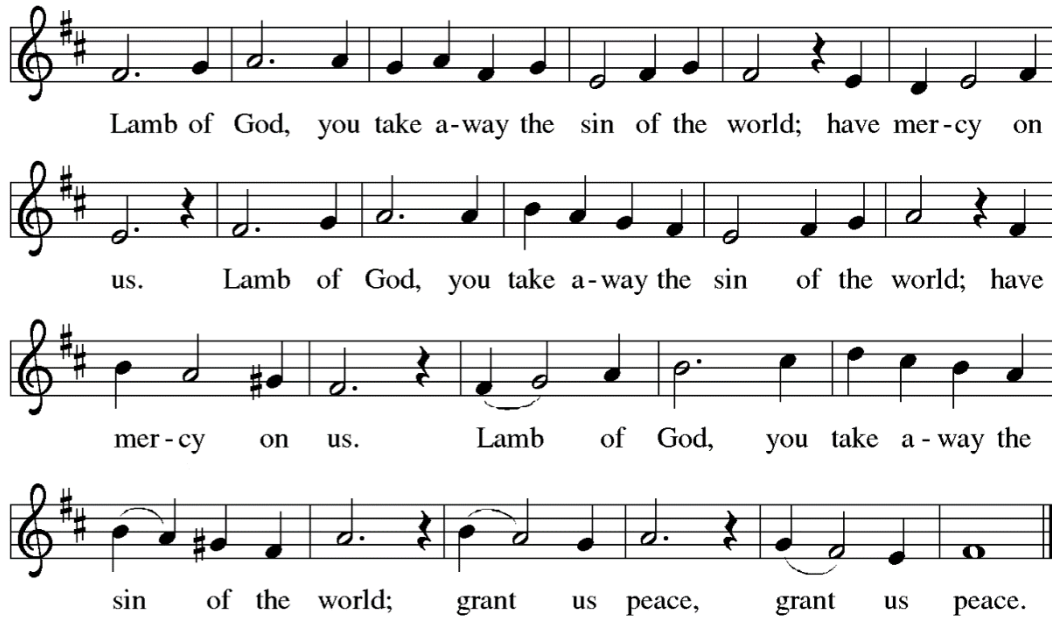
## Distribution

P: The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*The wine used in worship is alcohol-free. Gluten-free bread is available upon request.*

**Communion Songs: Lamb of God**

**Setting 4**



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

**As We Gather At Your Table  
Around You Lord Jesus  
At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing**

**ELW 522  
ELW 468  
ELW 362**

**Prayer after Communion**

Shepherding God,  
**you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us  
forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant  
mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.**  
**Amen.**

**Announcements**

**Benediction**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**  
The God of resurrection power,  
the Christ of unending joy,  
and the Spirit of Easter hope  
✠ bless you now and always.  
**Amen.**

**Sending Hymn: The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done**

**ELW 366**

# The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done



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



- 1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done; now is the vic - tor's
- 2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst; Je - sus their le - gions
- 3 The three sad days have quick - ly sped, Christ ris - es glo - rious
- 4 Christ closed the yawn - ing gates of hell; the bars from heav'n's high
- 5 Lord, by the stripes which wound-ed you, from death's sting free your



tri - umph won! Now be the song of praise be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!  
has dis - persed. Let shouts of ho - ly joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!  
from the dead. All glo - ry to our ris - en head! Al - le - lu - ia!  
por - tals fell. Let hymns of praise his tri - umph tell. Al - le - lu - ia!  
ser - vants too, that we may live and sing to you. Al - le - lu - ia!

*After the final stanza*



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

Text: *Symphonia Sirenun*, Köln, 1695; tr. Francis Pott, 1832–1909

Music: VICTORY, Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, 1525–1594; arr. William H. Monk, 1823–1889

## Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad!

**Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

## Postlude