

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 23rd, 2023



Jesus is known in the Breaking of the Bread

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

140 Russell Avenue
St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 1W1
Church: 905-685-8294
www.christlutheransc.ca

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday—9 a.m. – 12 noon

Bulletin Announcements: Please send to secretary@christlutheransc.ca.

Deadline for submission is Thursday at 9 a.m.

Pastor:	Pastor Todd Hoeffs	(289-362-0113)	pastortoddhoeffs@gmail.com
Parish Assistant:	Louise Gondosch	(905-329-8579)	parish.assistant@christlutheransc.ca
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Secretary:	Pat Kimpel		secretary@christlutheransc.ca
Facebook:	Lisa Gall		www.facebook.com/ChristLutheranChurchSC
Bulletin by email:	Judy Mason		chairman.outreach@christlutheransc.ca

A recording of Sunday's service will be uploaded to YouTube at:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpING_TKT19c_OIBbMqGwLw

Prayer: O Almighty and eternal God, now that You have assured us of the completion of our redemption through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus, give us the will to show forth in our lives what we profess with our lips; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

DAILY SCRIPTURE MEDITATIONS:

Monday: Eph. 2: 4-10	Wednesday: John 21: 15-19	Friday: John 18: 1-9
Tuesday: Matt. 26: 31-35	Thursday: 1 Pet. 5: 1-4	Saturday: Acts 20: 28-32

Musician: 10 a.m. – Mayumi Munoz
Reader: 10 a.m. – Paul Mason
Greeters: 10 a.m. – Gary & Wendy Kuenzel



April 2023 Worship Schedule

April 16 -2nd Easter Gospel Melodies Service of the Word
 April 23 - 3rd Easter Communion LSB Setting One
 April 30 - 4th Easter/Good Shepherd Sunday Morning Praise

EVENTS THIS WEEK:

Today: 9:10 am – Confirmation Class
 10:00 am – Worship Service - "Third Sunday in Easter with Communion"

Monday: 10-11 a.m. – Luther Manor Bible Study
 7:30 p.m. – Choir

Tuesday: 9:30 a.m. – Precious Moments

Thursday: 10:00 a.m. – SOUL

Saturday: 7:00 p.m. – Youth/Confirmand Games with Luther Manor

SUNDAY SCHOOL is held first two Sundays of the month.

PRECIOUS MOMENTS: If you or someone you know would benefit from friendly conversation, a time for kids to play & sing; hear a Bible story and make a craft - please join us Tuesdays in the nursery area from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Coffee and tea are always on.

LUTHER MANOR AGM: Wednesday, April 26 at 7:00 pm in the common room at Luther Manor. Luther Manor is a not-for-profit that offers quality, affordable housing to medically independent seniors. If you are interested in becoming a member of the corporation or serving on the Board of Directors, please speak to Mark McCumber or Don Fretz.

YOUTH & CONFIRMAND EVENTS: Saturday, April 29, 6:45 p.m. at the Church to prep for our Games Night at Luther Manor (7 pm). Let Louise know if you can make cookies, muffins or squares for this event. As always friends are welcome to join us! More information on these April events will be emailed or speak with Louise (905-329-8579)

WORSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING: Tuesday, May 2nd at 7:30 pm.



They may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified. Isaiah 61: 3

Where: Peace Lutheran Church, 60 Young St., Tillsonburg, ON

When: May 6th, 2023 beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Cost: Registration including morning coffee and lunch - **\$40.00**

Need assistance with registration: Call: Janice Buchner at

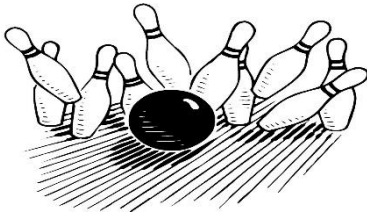
519-866-3754; OR Diana Grant at 905-431-9826

MARY MARTHA: *The following is our Mary Martha upcoming events:*

May 16th -- Bible Study—Sewing for Haiti

June 10th – Potluck

Please feel free to attend any or all of our Tuesday night events!



FAMILY DAY BOWLING: Saturday, June 3rd from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Sign-up sheet is at back of church. Please sign up asap so committee can make final details for location, etc. You can also email:

secretary@christlutheransc.ca



MARY MARTHA YARD SALE: Saturday, June 3, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm (in coordination with the Fitzgerald Neighbourhood Association. Please consider bringing in items for sale, volunteering to help and inviting friends to attend!



Seminary Golf Tournament: The Golf Tournament Registration for Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary in St. Catharines is now open. The event will be held on **Monday, June 5, 2023** at Conestoga Golf Club in Conestogo, Ontario (north of Waterloo). The \$125 per person registration fee includes lunch, green fees, golf cart, full dinner, and prizes. To register a foursome, go to: <https://concordia-seminary.ca/golf2023/> If you have questions, call the seminary at 905-688-2362. Deadline for registration is May 22, 2023.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: Mark your calendars for VBS. **In-person VBS** is being planned this summer **Monday, July 17 to Friday, July 21**. The program will run in the morning with an afternoon extended care for Grade 1-6. Registration forms and Volunteer forms are in narthex.

Last Sunday Attendance:		April 16, 2023		Attendance: 90	SOUL:
	Budget	Weekly Need	Last Sunday	Year To Date	+ or - (--)
Current:	297,841.00	5,840.02	1,678.90	73,961.97	(17,681.41)
LCC Missions	17,000.00	333.33	125.00	5,111.00	119.77
Property Improvement:			144.00	1,962.00	

FLOWERS have been placed on altar this morning to the glory of God by the Moskaluk family in loving memory of Susan Moskaluk.

Please Note: We need everyone's participation for completed 6 inch knitted or crocheted Granny Squares in any pattern or colour. In the narthex there is a white cube with yarn and hooks that you are welcome to take (or donate). There is another basket for completed squares. Once there are enough, we will make a caring squares blanket for whoever may be in need of a hug. *Lorraine, on behalf of the Caring Squares* (If you have any questions, call Lorraine at 905 964 5837)

GREETERS: A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board and we would ask that anyone who is interested in assisting for the coming year to please sign up. It is a wonderful opportunity to get to know everyone in the congregation.

LIFE UPDATES by Daniela Cruz: Last year during my second trimester of pregnancy I became very sick. From flu, cold, COVID all the way to pneumonia. Finally on Nov 7 2022, we went to the ER, and after spending many hours at the hospital, we were told I had a big tumour inside of my left lung. At first things got really scary—there were even talks of termination of the pregnancy. It was by far the worst week of my life. We were finally referred to a doctor, who ultimately supported our decision to wait for the end of pregnancy to proceed with any treatment for me. We were given a diagnosis: the tumour is a very rare cancer called Carcinoid. It is almost like winning the lottery in the worst way possible: very rare and not smoking or genetically related.

After a stressful end of pregnancy and the arrival of our beautiful and healthy baby Clarissa, my treatment started (I had my first imaging test 5 days after her arrival).

The treatment decision was to remove part or completely left lung, lymph nodes and go from there. The prognostics are very good ahead of my journey, but more exams will have to follow and surgery recovery. I write to you two days after my thoracotomy surgery. I do not recommend that you google it, but I will say that it is major, scary, and I feel very blessed to be here writing to you now. Many people have been praying, many people have been helping us and caring for us. There are no words to thank you all for everything. It has been a wild ride, with many ups and downs. But in the midst of it, I see God helping me. Clarissa and Eduardo are my blessings from heaven, my sister/friend/altogether Gigi Anderson has been my angel, helping us in all the practical stuff that we would not be able to do by ourselves. There have been so many more people, I can't name all, but thank you!

Thank you, thank you and thank you.

Prayers, food, cards, gifts to us and our baby, calls, texts and positive thoughts.

Psalm 23 1-3: *"The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, He refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake"*

From your sister in Christ, Daniela.

SEMINARY GUILD MEMBERSHIPS: "April is the time to renew your membership to or join the Seminary Guild for the first time. The Guild provides much-needed support to seminarians and their families especially through the pantry. If you would like to become a member, please see Gail Julie. Fees this year are \$10.00.

L.A.M.P. MISSION TEAM: If you are interested in joining a L.A.M.P mission team, please contact Pastor Jeff Swords at 905-931-3165. L.A.M.P. is a frontline mission experience through the sharing of Christ's love, Grace, and Promise of resurrection. Our team strives to demonstrate these same attributes through a VBS program, community presence, and friendship. Our assigned community is Kingfisher Lake in Northern Ontario. The date is either July 25th to Aug. 3rd or a shortened trip of July 28th to Aug. 3rd. We are asking for your support in various ways: by either joining our team, there is always room for your love, through prayer to combat Satan's disruption or through financial support, the cost per person is approximately \$1,500.

HOLY COMMUNION
LUTHERAN SERVICE BOOK SETTING ONE
THE 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER
April 23, 2023 + 10 AM Worship

FIRST HYMN:

“Christ The Lord Is Ris’n”

1 "Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day!" saints on earth and an - gels say.
2 Love's re - deem - ing work is done, fought the fight, the bat - tle won.
3 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Christ has burst the gates of hell.
4 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King! Where, O death, is now your sting?

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high; sing, O heav'ns, and earth, re - ply.
Lo, our sun's e - clipse is o'er; lo, he sets in blood no more.
Death in vain for - bids his rise; Christ has o - pened par - a - dise.
Once he died our souls to save; where your vic - to - ry, O grave?

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1791, abr., alt.
Tune: Pierre de Corbelle, d. 1221; adapt. Richard Redhead, 1820–1901;
setting: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
Text and music: public domain

ORIENTIS PARTIBUS
77 77

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<https://hymnary.org/page/fetch/CWH2021/433/low>

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS:

In the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

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

[Brief silence for reflection]

Let us then confess our sins to God our Father:

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 heart. We have not loved our neighbours 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.

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake, forgives you all of your sin. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

SPOKEN KYRIE:

Risen Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on us, hear us and give us Your peace. Amen.

THIS IS THE FEAST

(LSB Page 155)

Refrain

C 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
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
 5 For the Lamb _____ who was slain has be -

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
 gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

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:

Almighty and Gracious Father, You made the blessed disciples glad by the sight of the risen Lord Jesus Christ. By Your Word and Spirit, remind us that He is always with us in His Church through the Sacraments of grace, that we, too, may share in His glorious resurrection. For He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE WORD

The New Testament Reading: *Acts of the Apostles 2: 14a, 36-41*

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them... Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.' Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, 'Brothers,^[b] what should we do?' Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.' And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.' So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

The Epistle: *1 Peter 1:17-23*

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God. Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA VERSE

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel: *St. Luke 24:13-35*

The Holy Gospel, according to St. Luke, the 24th chapter:



☐ Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?" And they stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" And he said to them, "What things?" And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see." And he said to them,

"O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself. So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, but they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?" And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread. This is the Gospel of the Lord.



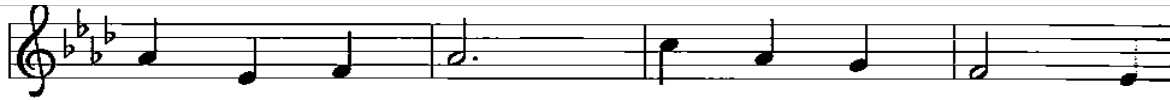
☐ Praise to You, O Christ.

THE NICENE CREED:

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by Whom all things were made. Who for us men and for our salvation came down from Heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man. And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and

was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, Whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

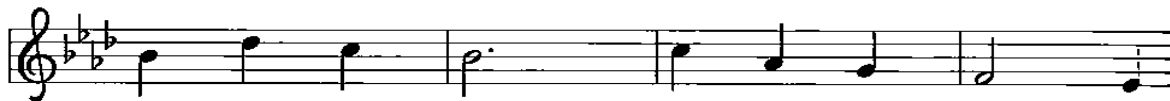
GOSPEL SONG: "Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen"



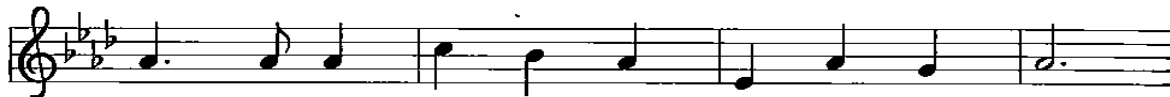
1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!
 2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter
 3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es:
 4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent
 5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er.



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!

MESSAGE

OFFERTORY:

“Let The Vineyards”



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles - sing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

https://images.slideplayer.com/29/9491194/slides/slide_49.jpg

OFFERINGS *are received.*

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Our risen Lord Jesus revealed Himself in the breaking of the bread. Let us pray that we may be fed with the Bread of life. Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for the presence of your risen Son among us. Continue to send him by sending your word to convert hearts and minds to faith, as the hearts of the Emmaus travelers burned with renewed faith. Especially sustain us through the gift of Your Son's Body and Blood in the Breaking of the Bread at Your Table of grace in this place;

We pray, **Come, risen Lord and choose to be our Guest;**

Assist all those who are hungry or starving throughout the world. Bless all those who work to provide food for people everywhere, and lead all those who are given the responsibility to distribute food to do so honestly and fairly. We thank you for blessing us with your bountiful goodness, and help us all to share willingly of all which you have first given to us.

We pray, **Come, risen Lord and choose to be our Guest;**

We pray for all who hunger and thirst for righteousness and peace. Lead them all to your church where true righteousness and peace may be found. We pray that you will guide as your church to share the peace that you have given to us, and to help guide people who are lost and aching to you through Jesus Christ. We also pray for those who hunger for understanding. Reveal your word to them so that their eyes may be opened in faith.

We pray, **Come, risen Lord and choose to be our Guest;**

Move all pastors to exercise the ministry of forgiveness with compassion and mercy. And move sinners to seek and benefit from your forgiveness through them. Make us all ready to comfort one another with the good news of the gospel.

We pray, **Come, risen Lord and choose to be our Guest;**

Have mercy on those who live in areas where there is political or civil unrest, dear Father, especially in (*insert places/names*). Bring peace where there is war, and healing where there is hatred. And move us to help as we are able.

We pray, **Come, risen Lord and choose to be our Guest;**

Bless and protect all people who are sick and the dying and all who hunger for health. We pray for those who struggle with poor health in our community of faith, especially (*insert names here*). As you healed the crippled man in Jesus' name near the Beautiful Gate, bring your perfect healing to all who need it, and especially bring that ultimate healing of eternal life, through Jesus victory over death and hell.

We pray, **Come, risen Lord and choose to be our Guest;**

Father, in the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, you have swallowed up death for ever, and opened up the way for all people to sit with you at the feast of eternal life. Feed us now and always with the bread of life, our Lord Jesus Christ, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

THE SACRAMENT

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

Lift up your hearts! **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

It is truly good, right and joyful that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty and Everlasting God: but chiefly are we bound to praise You for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; for He is the very Paschal Lamb, Who was offered for us and has taken away the sins of the world. By His death He has destroyed death, and by His rising to life again He has restored to us everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and all the company of Heaven, we praise Your glorious name and join their un-ending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

(LSB Page 161)

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

THE LORD'S PRAYER: *Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name....*

WORDS OF OUR LORD:

Our Lord, Jesus Christ, on the night in which He was betrayed, took bread and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying: "Take, eat; This is My + Body which is given for you, this do, in remembrance of Me. In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying "Drink of it all of you, this cup is the New Testament in My + Blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

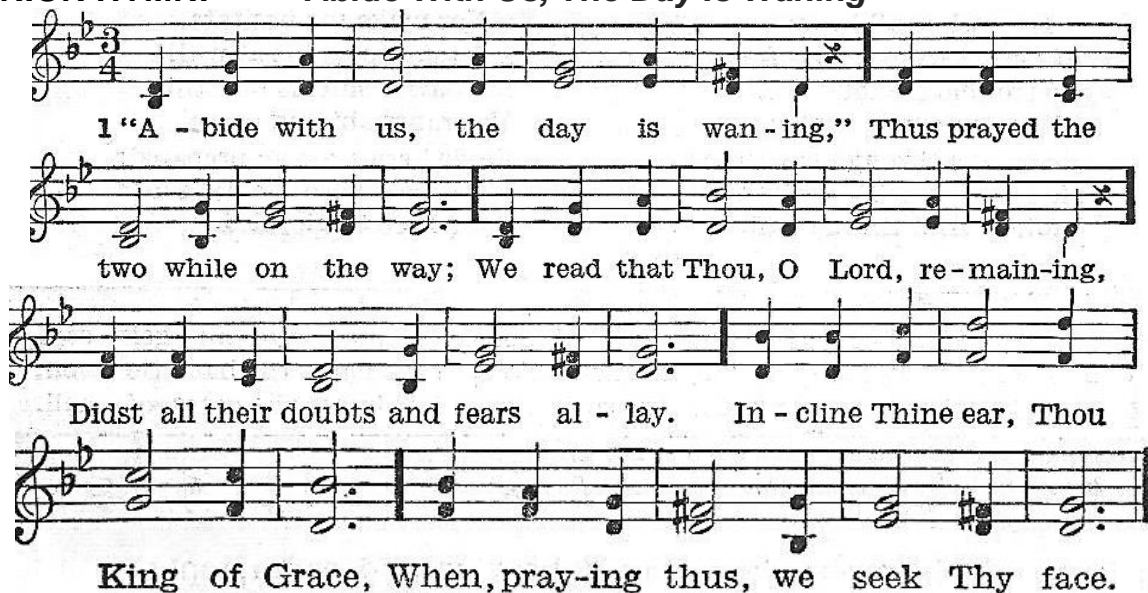
LAMB OF GOD

LSB tune # 163

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.

COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN: "Abide With Us, The Day Is Waning"



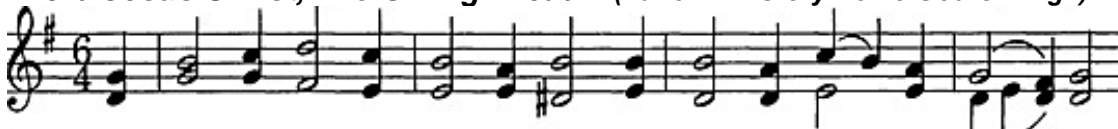
1 "A - bide with us, the day is wan - ing," Thus prayed the
two while on the way; We read that Thou, O Lord, re - main - ing,
Didst all their doubts and fears al - lay. In - cline Thine ear, Thou
King of Grace, When, pray - ing thus, we seek Thy face.

**3. Abide with us; with Heav'nly gladness,
illumine, Lord, our darkest day;
And when we cry in pain and sadness,
Oh be our Sol-ace, Strength and Stay.
Tell of Your cross, with Vic'try won,
when You did pray, "Thy will be done"!**

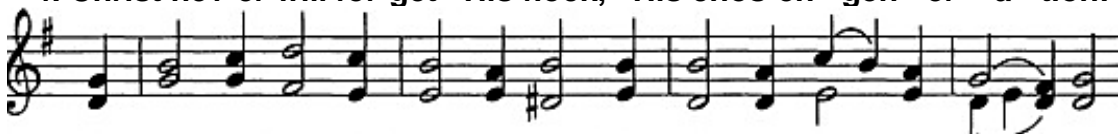
**5. When earthly help no more avails us,
to dine with us, Lord, please be nigh;
You do give strength that never fails us,
in You we grave and death defy!
When earth will one day fade from sight,
our eyes behold the realms of Light!**

Words: Caspar J. Boye, 1834, translated by Oluf Smeby, 1909; The Lutheran Hymnal, Music: George Neumark, 1640, WER NUR DEN LIEBEN; The Lutheran Hymnal, all public domain; © Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, MO, USA, 1941

"Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread" (Tune: "All Glory Be To God On High")



1. Lord Jes-us Christ life-giv-ing bread, May I in grace poss-ess You.
2. To past-ures green, Lord, safe-ly guide, To rest-ful wa-ters lead me;
3. O Bread of Heav'n, my soul's de-light, For full and free sal - va - tion;
4. Christ nev-er will for-get His flock, His chos-en gen - er - a - tion!



Let me with Ho-ly Food be fed, in hun-ger I add - ress You.
Your tab - le well for me pro-vide, Your wound-ed hand now feed me.
I come with prayer be-fore Your sight; re-ceive Your in - vit - a - tion.
He is our Ref-uge and our Rock, Our peace and true sal - va - tion!



Pre - pare me well for You, O Lord, And, hum - bly by my
 Though wear - y, bro - ken, tired, and weak Re - fuge in You a -
 Your right - eous - ness, Lord, co - ver me, That I may dine most
 As with a gen - tle, car - ing hand, He leads His own, His



prayer im - plored; Give me Your grace and mer - cy.
 - lone I seek, to share Your cup of heal - ing.
 Wor - thi - ly, as - sured of Your full wel - come.
 Cho - sen band, to God all praise and glo - ry.

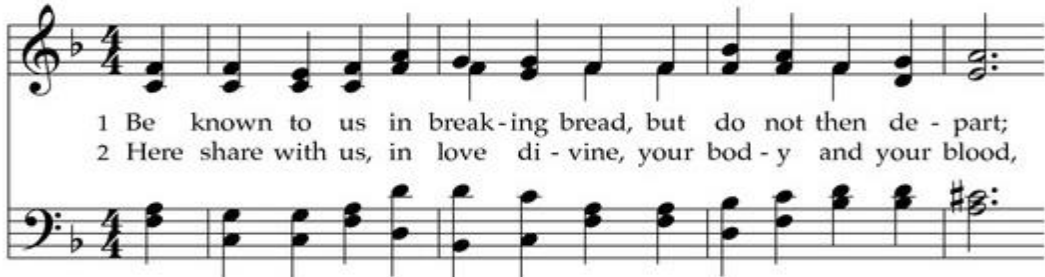
Words: Johann Rist, 1607-1667, Music: Nicolaus Decius, 1485-1546; ALLEIIN GOTT IN DER HOH

-12-

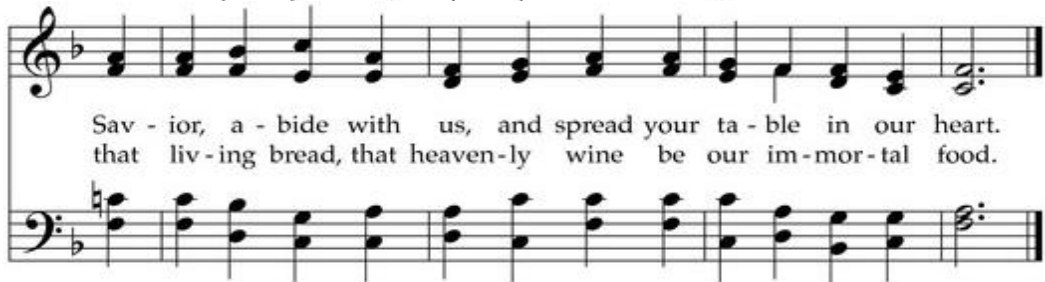
(All Glory Be To God On High)

“Be Known To Us”

[www. Hymnary.org](http://www.Hymnary.org)

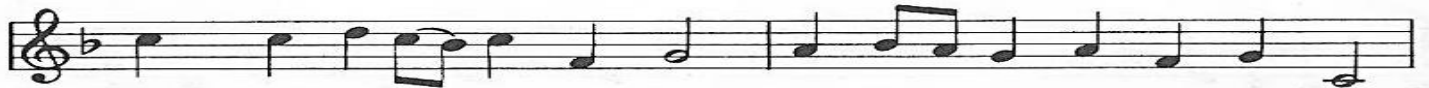


1 Be known to us in break - ing bread, but do not then de - part;
 2 Here share with us, in love di - vine, your bod - y and your blood,



Sav - ior, a - bide with us, and spread your ta - ble in our heart.
 that liv - ing bread, that heaven - ly wine be our im - mor - tal food.

POST COMMUNION HYMN: “Thank The Lord” (LSB Page 164)



☪ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev - 'ry - one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud - ly bear his name.



He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER: Let us pray: Almighty God, Who has given Your Son, Jesus Christ, as a Sacrifice for sin and the True Example of a godly life, give us grace that as we have received Him in the Holy Communion Feast we may daily abide in Him, hearing and believing His Holy Word and living out our days in peace and joy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favour, + and give you peace. **Amen.**

LAST HYMN: "He Arose"

Robert Lowry

Robert Lowry

Low in the grave He lay, Je - sus my Sav - ior!
 Vain - ly they watch His bed, Je - sus my Sav - ior!
 Death can - not keep his prey, Je - sus my Sav - ior!

5 Wait - ing the com - ing day, Je - sus my Lord!
 Vain - ly they seal the dead, Je - sus my Lord!
 He tore the bars a - way, Je - sus my Lord!

9 Up from the grave He a - rose, With a might - y tri - umph o'er His

12 foes; He a - rose a Vic - tor from the dark do - main, And He

15 lives for - ev - er with His saints to reign, He a - rose! He a -

18 rose! Hal - le - lu - jah! Christ a - rose!

REV. TODD HOEFFS

EASTER 3

Luke 24:13-35

“Heavenly Heartburn”

April 23, 2023

It's hard to imagine that there was ever a time or era When we WOULD NOT know about something. Media and News outlets run 24/7 on every screen imaginable. Even if you only use your iPad or laptop once a week searching the internet, whatever you search or view, you leave a technological fingerprint behind. If I'm shopping for something on Amazon, no matter what it is, I can go look on my Facebook thread and see the exact item I was searching for 1 minute earlier. Amazing what PEOPLE & COMPANIES can KNOW about us. It's almost as if we can't escape knowing or being known! Even if we try to escape being known We will always have our Lord knowing us so well and always finds us Especially when we want to remain hidden. Risen Jesus joins 2 men journeying 7 kms from Emmaus—Walking as One Who doesn't know what the entire city of Jerusalem know. Cleopas and his companion walk back home from the Passover celebration. The tragedy of Good Friday dashed their high hopes. Cleopas is Joseph's father, and the companion is believed to be his son. So Jesus' uncle and cousin. They're trying to put all the tragedy behind them, wondering if they'll ever get their lives back to anything that resembles normal. Someone accompanies them, and they don't recognize Him. This is all out of context. Jesus died in a cruel horrific manner and was buried. It's all over. Hopes and fears of all the years collapse. Things taken out of context can often be difficult to discern. Even in grief and depression family members can be unrecognizable. Jesus usually spoke to crowds or at least to large groups of people. Few engaged with Him one-on-one. And He died. What's even worse this unknown traveller has no idea what's happened. Jesus always asks questions to draw the creative faith out of people. Cleopas and his companion believe, but their belief is shrouded in the cloak of fear. Fear has turned inward to depression and hopelessness. And they do not get the facts correct of Jesus. A mighty One, yes, Prophet, sure, but more than that. All based in Scripture, but not based in relationship. God is a rescuer. Sending the Messiah, Whom the religious leaders killed. But we had hoped that He'd redeem Israel. We know what that means. They mean it as physical redemption from Caesar and Herod. Sin, death, Satan, no ton their radar. We had hoped. They had great expectations. Just like everyone else. While they may be Jesus' family, His true family are those who believe in Him. Who have faith and life in Him. Imagine being yelled at by Jesus?! That must've shaken the fear away. Slow of heart is another way of saying dense or dull. The Greek word refers to a dull blade in dire need of sharpening. [They ain't the sharpest knives in the drawer!] Divine scolding coming from the crucified, risen and glorified, heavenly yet real body. Fear not the one that kills the body but can destroy the soul. Jesus is rescuing their soul and the soul of Israel and the soul of every nation of the globe. Rescuing their soul not by overthrowing the political structures But overthrowing the source of all evil, Which is human sin and rebellion. Rebellion, which Jesus dutifully overcame with obedient sacrificial suffering. Cleopas and his companion know their Bible so to speak. They no doubt spent time in Temple and synagogue.

They may know a lot of Bible facts, They do not see Jesus as the Messiah of the Old Testament. And God could only be accessed with lamb's blood and festivals. Until Jesus. He comes to us as ONE OF US though unknown and unwanted. He redeems weak humanity with His own weakened human body. This is the biggest threat to evil. Now evil is destroyed. Sin has a remedy Heaven is open. All the world is redeemed through Jesus' shed blood. NOW we HAVE hope. One by one Jesus opens up the entire Scripture to them Through the relationship He creates From Genesis and Exodus to the Psalms and Prophets Giving of His own self, the true living Bible, the Resurrected Word. Word wrapped in flesh connecting all the dots of faith Makes their faith fan into flame and burn with Holy Fire. And as if that isn't enough, Something else happens that make them recognize Him. They see Him. But seeing turns to understanding. Facts are created to strengthen faith with this divine encounter. Not until they recline at their dinner table Do they really SEE WHO JESUS IS. Only when He takes bread, held with hands that are still nail scarred, Prays, blesses it and shares this bread with them – Bread which is now the bread of the New Passover the night of His betrayal –His Body -- Are then their eyes OPEN! The Risen Christ is seen as they share Bread, the breaking of the Bread, Gospel writer Luke's term for Holy Communion. In Jesus, they enter into Communion with Him and with each other! After Cleopas and son reach out to Jesus and offer him the hospitality of a place to stay. Walking, Word, Welcome and Meal. That's the key you see, extending arms, reaching out with helping hands. With active welcome and genuine caring love Jesus is recognized as the Risen Lord. The real redeemer. Even though He didn't prevent the Good Friday tragedy. He never said he would. His only promise is filling up the voids with his presence. And that He does. And notice: Jesus doesn't disappear, other than from physical sight. More like, He's hidden again. He's not gone, but unseen. He never leaves us but comes to us in the way He's promised. Jesus comes and nourishes them and is hidden from sight so that He can come to you, to me, to all people.... And the pattern of ministry in the church continues...as Cleopas tells the 11 disciples and they share their Easter experiences! This is why Mary Magdalene must not cling to Him in an earthly way When encountering Him at the empty tomb. She can only touch Him in this new way, In the sharing of the Holy Meal and the living out a Gospel life. As soon as Jesus **reaches out** to her personally, speaks her name, she recognizes him. If you want to meet the Risen Christ then look for him when you extend your arms, or when someone extends their arms to you, or when you see the other in their woundedness. The way we can meet Christ in the sanctuary, gathered around the altar, is when we first meet Christ out in the world. Extended arms will say more than all our words. There's a holy connection between Holy Communion and communing with the hurting and hopeless in the world. Don't be surprised that you may encounter folks who wonder "what things went on that day in Jerusalem" in our little worlds. The message of Christ has not always been made clear to people. It's been misinterpreted, used for evil, forgotten, buried, thrown away, landed among indifferent ears. But the Gospel of Christ crucified and risen for the life of the WHOLE world transforms every life it touches. The road to Emmaus where ordinary people walk and talk and live, and where after a simple act of love, this is where we meet the Risen Christ. . . not amid the perfect and all together and happy looking, but amid the ordinary, and yes, amid those who are wounded. Why should we ever be surprised that we would best find Christ in the ordinary?

After all, Jesus surrounded himself with ordinary people from his humble birth in a stable to the cross on Calvary.

The Risen Christ is right here, Right inside of you,
And around the corner.

May our Lord help us share and live the Word, as we walk, as we welcome, not as printed words on the page of the Bible to speak,

But a Word embodied by Jesus Whom we embody by our faith and life.

For this our hearts do burn.

Amen.