

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

ASCENSION SUNDAY

MAY 29, 2022, 10:15 AM

YOU ARE VERY WELCOME TO OUR EUCHARIST SERVICE!
The entire service is printed below;
you'll need no books or other materials to follow along.

The Priest or Leader will say the items in regular type.
You are invited to say aloud the items printed in boldface.

PRELUDE

ALL PRAISE AND THANKS TO GOD MOST HIGH, HELMUT WALCHA

All stand and join in singing,

OPENING HYMN

THE HYMNAL 1982 #214

1 Hail the day that sees him rise, Al - le - lu - ia!
2 There the glo - rious tri - umph waits; Al - le - lu - ia!
*3 See! he lifts his hands a - bove; Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Lord be - yond our mor - tal sight, Al - le - lu - ia!

glo - rious to his na - tive skies; Al - le - lu - ia!
lift your heads, e - ter - nal gates! Al - le - lu - ia!
See! he shows the prints of love: Al - le - lu - ia!
raise our hearts to reach thy height, Al - le - lu - ia!

Christ, a - while to mor - tals given, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Wide un - fold the ra - diant scene; Al - le - lu - ia!
 Hark! his gra - cious lips be - stow, Al - le - lu - ia!
 there thy face un - cloud - ed see, Al - le - lu - ia!

en - ters now the high - est heaven! Al - le - lu - ia!
 take the King of glo - ry in! Al - le - lu - ia!
 bless - ings on his Church be - low. Al - le - lu - ia!
 find our heaven of heavens in thee. Al - le - lu - ia!

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THE OPENING ACCLAMATION & COLLECT FOR PURITY

Presider: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Presider: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

1. Glo - ry to you, _____ Lord
 God of our fa - thers; _____ you are wor - thy of praise;
 glo - ry to you. _____ 2. Glo - ry to you _____
 _ for the ra - di-ance of your ho - ly Name; _____ we will
 praise you and high-ly ex - alt you for ev - er. _____
 3. Glo - ry to you _____ in the splen - dor of your
 tem - ple; _____ on the throne of your ma - jes - ty, glo - ry to
 you. _____ 4. Glo - ry to you, seat - ed bet -
 ween the Cher - u - bim; _____ we will praise you and
 high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er. _____

Descant

5. Glo - ry to you, _____ be -
5. Glo - ry to you, _____ be - hold - ing the

hold - ing the depths; _____ in the high vault of
depths; _____ in the high vault of hea - ven, glo - ry to

hea - ven, 6. Glo - ry to you, _____
you. _____ 6. Glo - ry to you, _____ Fa - ther,

— Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; we will
Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; _____ we will praise you and

high - ly ex - alt you Glo - ry to you! _____
high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er. _____

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Almighty God, whose blessed Son our Savior Jesus Christ ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things: Mercifully give us faith to perceive that, according to his promise, he abides with his Church on earth, even to the end of the ages; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting.

All: Amen.

The People are seated for the lessons.

THE FIRST READING

ACTS 1:1-11

A reading from Acts of the Apostles.

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said,

"Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Psalm will be chanted by the choir.

THE PSALM

PSALM 93

- 1 The Lord is King;
he has put on splendid apparel; *
the Lord has put on his apparel
and girded himself with strength.
- 2 He has made the whole world so sure *
that it cannot be moved;
- 3 Ever since the world began, your throne has been established; *
you are from everlasting.
- 4 The waters have lifted up, O Lord,
the waters have lifted up their voice; *
the waters have lifted up their pounding waves.
- 5 Mightier than the sound of many waters,
mightier than the breakers of the sea, *
mightier is the Lord who dwells on high.
- 6 Your testimonies are very sure, *
and holiness adorns your house, O Lord,
for ever and for evermore.

THE SECOND READING

EPHESIANS 1:15-23

A reading from the Letter to the Ephesians.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that

the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

All stand and join in singing,

SEQUENCE HYMN

THE HYMNAL 1982 #215



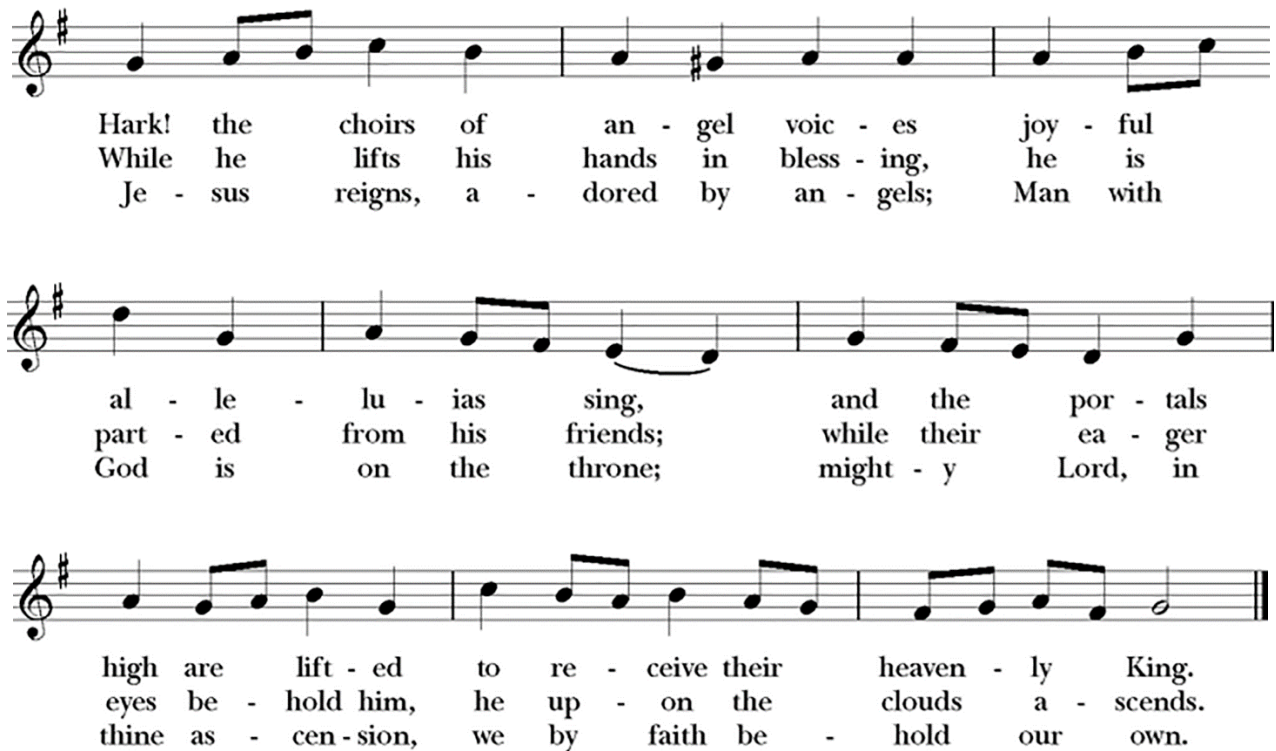
1 See the Con - queror mounts in tri - umph; see the King in
 2 He who on the cross did suf - fer, he who from the
 3 Thou hast raised our hu - man na - ture on the clouds to



roy - al state, rid - ing on the clouds, his
 grave a - rose, he has van - quished sin and
 God's right hand: there we sit in heaven - ly



char - iot, to his heaven - ly pal - ace gate!
 Sa - tan; he by death has spoiled his foes.
 plac - es, there with thee in glo - ry stand.



Hark! the choirs of an - gel voic - es joy - ful
 While he lifts his hands in bless - ing, he is
 Je - sus reigns, a - dored by an - gels; Man with
 al - le - lu - ias sing, and the por - tals
 part - ed from his friends; while their ea - ger
 God is on the throne; might - y Lord, in
 high are lift - ed to re - ceive their heaven - ly King.
 eyes be - hold him, he up - on the clouds a - scends.
 thine as - cen - sion, we by faith be - hold our own.

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The People remain standing for the Gospel,

THE GOSPEL

LUKE 24:44-53

The Gospeler introduces the Gospel and the People respond,

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, "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." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, 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, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

At the invitation of the Preacher, the People are seated.

THE HOMILY

THE REV. JERRY LASLEY

All stand as they are able.

THE NICENE CREED

**All: We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;**

he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The People stand as they are able during the prayers. The Leader and People pray responsively.

Leader: Friends, take heart: the presence of the Risen Christ is filling this place even as we pray. So let us boldly offer our prayers, saying, “Enlighten our hearts; *open our eyes.*”

Great God of Promise, you have blessed your Church with the presence of your Holy Spirit. Guide us as we go out to share the Good News. Abide with us forever, even to the end of the ages.

Silence.

Enlighten our hearts;

People: open our eyes.

Leader: Holy One, you have exalted your Son Jesus far above every earthly ruler and authority. May all things come under his gracious dominion. We pray that the violence and division of this world might be transformed by the power of Christ's love.

Silence.

Enlighten our hearts;

People: open our eyes.

Leader: Creator God, give us ears to hear your voice in the crashing of the waves. Give us eyes to see your Spirit dance on the face of the deep.

Silence.

Enlighten our hearts;

People: open our eyes.

Leader: O God, you promise to be with us always and everywhere: speak to our lonely hearts; assure us with your presence. And then, Lord Christ, come to us again as you promised.

Silence.

Enlighten our hearts;

People: open our eyes.

Leader: Merciful God, your power is immeasurably great: heal those who are sick; fill the despairing with hope; and lift up the lowly.

We pray especially for Rachel, Mary, Carlton, Carol, Bill, Ken, Merrilyn, Mabelle, Dorothy, Mike, Lucinda, Barbara, Gwen, Ben, Nell, Pat, Bob & Marty.

The People add their petitions.

Silence.

Enlighten our hearts;

People: open our eyes.

Leader: Mighty God, you have opened the door to new and unending life through the resurrection of your Son, Jesus: Lift the dying and the dead into your holy presence and grant them peace.

We pray especially for the family of Rosemarie.

Silence.

Enlighten our hearts;

People: open our eyes.

The Priest adds a concluding Collect.

All: Amen.

All stand or kneel as they are able.

THE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Priest: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**All: Most merciful God,
we confess that 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 neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Priest: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

All: Amen.

Priest: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also with you.

Priest: Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty. For everything in heaven and on earth is yours. Yours, O Lord, is the kingdom, and you are exalted as head over all. *1 Chronicles 29:11*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

WITH A VOICE OF SINGING, SHAW

The offering plates are located near the entrance to the sanctuary. No plates will be passed, please place any offerings you have in a plate on your way into or out of the worship space. Thank you!

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

All stand or kneel as they are able.

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

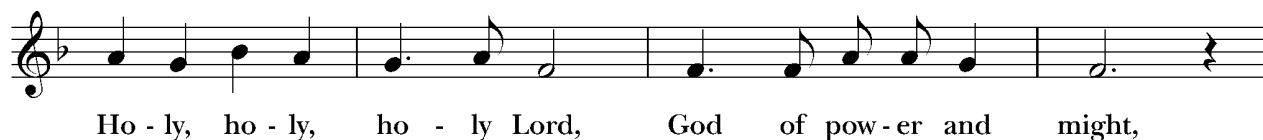
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Priest: All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

SANCTUS

THE HYMNAL 1982 #S-125



heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Priest: Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in

my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ’s coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

**All: Dying, you destroyed our death.
Rising, you restored our life.
Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

Priest: Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit’s power, may be a people of hope, justice and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with blessed Christopher and all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

All: Blessed are you now and for ever. Amen.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Priest: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Priest breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.

Priest: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Priest: 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.

All are invited to share in this sacred meal. This offering of the body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ is for you, a precious child of God.

At this time, if you are joining us in-person, please carefully form a single line in the middle aisle beginning with the front rows and working back as space allows.

The Priest will distribute communion wafers. A Lay Eucharistic Minister will distribute the wine from the common cup. Please drink from the common cup only – do not intinct (dip your bread)!

If you do not wish to receive either the wine or both the bread and wine, please cross your arms over your chest to indicate this and to receive a blessing.

1 The head that once was crowned with thorns is crowned with glo - ry now;
 2 The high - est place that heaven af - fords is his, is his by right,
 3 the joy of all who dwell a - bove, the joy of all be - low,
 4 To them the cross with all its shame, with all its grace is given;
 5 They suf - fer with their Lord be - low, they reign with him a - bove,

1 a roy - al di - a - dem a - dorns the might - y vic - tor's brow.
 2 the King of kings, and Lord of lords, and heaven's e - ter - nal Light;
 3 to whom he man - i - fests his love and grants his name to know.
 4 their name, an ev - er - last - ing name; their joy, the joy of heaven.
 5 their prof - it and their joy to know the mys - tery of his love.

6 The cross he bore is life and health,
 though shame and death to him:
 his people's hope, his people's wealth,
 their everlasting theme.

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All stand as they are able.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Presider: Let us pray.

All: God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may

proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

THE BLESSING

The Priest blesses the People and the People respond,

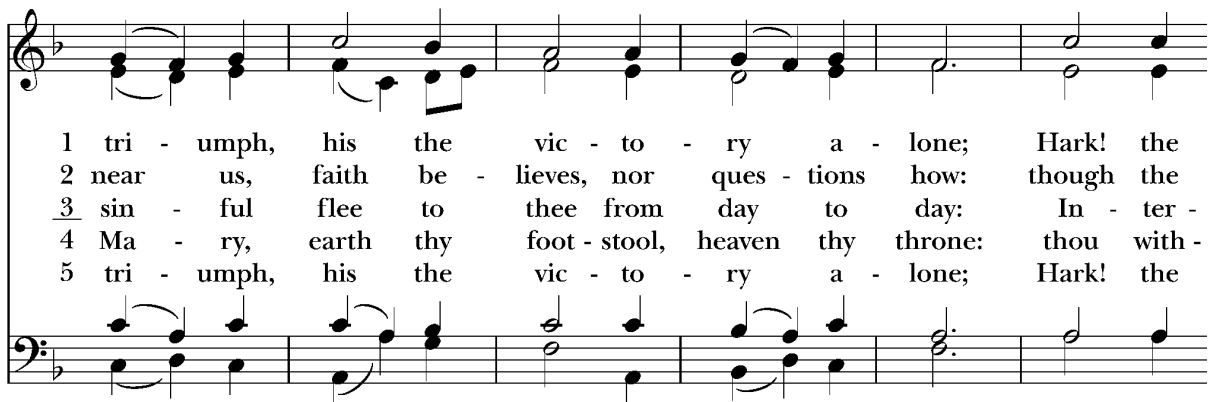
People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

THE HYMNAL 1982 #460

1 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the
*2 Al - le - lu - ia! not as or - phans are we
3 Al - le - lu - ia! bread of Hea - ven, Thou on
4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, thee the
*5 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the

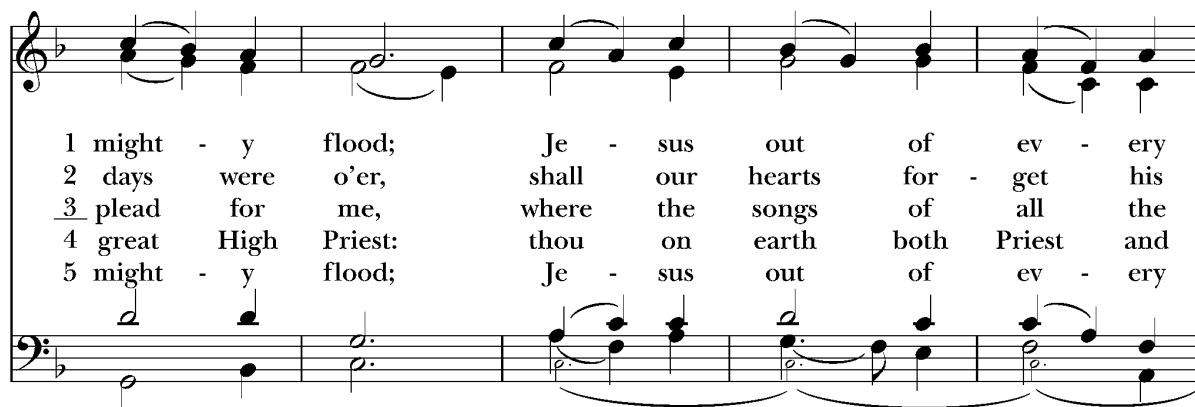
1 scep - ter, his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the
2 left in sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is
3 earth our food, our stay! Al - le - lu - ia! here the
4 Lord of lords we own: Al - le - lu - ia! born of
5 scep - ter, his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the



1 tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone; Hark! the
 2 near us, faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how: though the
 3 sin - ful flee to thee from day to day: In - ter -
 4 Ma - ry, earth thy foot - stool, heaven thy throne: thou with -
 5 tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone; Hark! the



1 songs of peace - ful Zi - on thun - der like a
 2 cloud from sight re - ceived him, when the for - ty
 3 ces - sor, friend of sin - ners, earth's Re - deem - er,
 4 in the veil hast en - tered, robed in flesh, our
 5 songs of ho - ly Zi - on thun - der like a



1 might - y flood; Je - sus out of ev - ery
 2 days were o'er, shall our hearts for - get his
 3 plead for me, where the songs of all the
 4 great High Priest: thou on earth both Priest and
 5 might - y flood; Je - sus out of ev - ery

1 na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.
 2 prom - ise, "I am with you ev - er - more"?
 3 sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
 4 Vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.
 5 na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.

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THE DISMISSAL

Presider: Alleluia, Alleluia. Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

POSTLUDE

TOCCATA, EUGENE GIGOUT

JOIN US FOLLOWING THIS SERVICE FOR COFFEE HOUR IN OUR FELLOWSHIP HALL!

*****PLEASE BE MINDFUL OF CONVERSATIONS BEFORE & AFTER THE SERVICE!
 OTHERS ARE TRYING TO PRAY!**

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