

# *Ascension of Our Lord*

*Sunday, May 22, 2022*

St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
215 N. Warren St.  
Orwigsburg, PA  
570-366-2316

[www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org](http://www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org)

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## GATHERING

**PRELUDE** "Fanfare on *You Servants of God*" T. Kendall

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Drawn by our joy in the Risen Lord, we gather in the name of the Father, and of the  
✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us now confess our sins.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

Almighty God,

**we cannot free ourselves from our desire to sin. We cannot keep sin out of every part of our lives. We wound our neighbors, our friends, and ourselves by what we do and what we fail to do. For the sake of Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord, have mercy on us. Cleanse us from our sins. Give us new hearts and minds. And raise us to new and abundant life, so that we never tire of serving in your holy name. Amen.**

Through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, your sins have been forgiven so that you are free to walk in newness of life. **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN** "You Servants of God"  
[See back of bulletin]

### **GREETING**

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

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.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

“He Is Lord” (Sing once quietly, then repeat loudly)

He is Lord, He is Lord! He is risen from the dead and He is  
Lord! Ev-'ry knee shall bow, ev-'ry tongue con - fess  
That Je - sus Christ is Lord.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, your only Son was taken up into heaven and in power intercedes for us. May we also come into your presence and live forever in your glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## WORD

### A Reading from Acts

[St. Luke writes:] <sup>1</sup>In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning <sup>2</sup>until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>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; <sup>5</sup>for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

<sup>6</sup>So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” <sup>7</sup>He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>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.”<sup>9</sup>When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.<sup>10</sup>While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them.<sup>11</sup>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.” (Acts 1:1-11)

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM 47 (Read responsively)**

<sup>1</sup>Clap your hands, all you peoples;  
shout to God with a cry of joy.

<sup>2</sup>**For the LORD Most High is to be feared;  
he is the great king over all the earth.**

<sup>3</sup>He subdues the peoples under us,  
and the nations under our feet.

<sup>4</sup>**He chooses our inheritance for us,  
the pride of Jacob whom he loves.**

<sup>5</sup>God has gone up with a shout,  
the LORD with the sound of the ram’s horn.

<sup>6</sup>**Sing praises to God, sing praises;  
sing praises to our king, sing praises.**

<sup>7</sup>For God is King of all the earth;  
sing praises with all your skill.

<sup>8</sup>**God reigns over the nations;  
God sits upon his holy throne.**

<sup>9</sup>The nobles of the peoples have gathered together  
with the people of the God of Abraham.

<sup>10</sup>**The rulers of the earth belong to God,  
and he is highly exalted.**

### **A Reading from Ephesians**

<sup>15</sup>I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason <sup>16</sup>I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup>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, <sup>18</sup>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, <sup>19</sup>and

what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. <sup>20</sup>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, <sup>21</sup>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. <sup>22</sup>And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, <sup>23</sup>which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all. (Ephesians 1:15-23)

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!

*Refrain*

Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!

Sing his prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!

## GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>44</sup>[Jesus said to the eleven and those with 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. <sup>49</sup>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.”

<sup>50</sup>Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. <sup>51</sup>While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. <sup>52</sup>And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; <sup>53</sup>and they were continually in the temple blessing God. (Luke 24:44-53)

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

### HYMN OF THE DAY

“Beautiful Savior”  
[See back of bulletin]

### THE NICENE CREED (Read in Unison)

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.

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Trusting God's promise of new life, we pray for the renewal of the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

Holy One, wash us in your Holy Spirit and make us witnesses to your resurrected life in this community. Let our fellowship be a sign of the presence of Christ. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Reveal your creative power at work in creation. Cleanse the air, land, and waters and keep us mindful of our obligation to protect what you have made good. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Turn all people toward you and your loving will for humanity. Unite us in mission for the sake of a world which is broken and hurting. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Comfort all who suffer in mind, body, or spirit. We especially pray for everyone on our prayer list, the people of Ukraine, and all those who risk their lives for the sake of others. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Inspire us through the music ministries of this congregation so that our very bodies bear witness to the continuing joy which you alone can give. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We rejoice in the memory of saints who have gone before us. As we wait to join them, daily enlighten our hearts, give us hope, and lead us in the way of wisdom. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

*(The Pastor concludes):* We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God. Come near to us with your saving help, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

## **PEACE**

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

## OFFERING

**OFFERTORY (8:00 AM)**

"Easter Hymn"

C. Berry

**ANTHEM (10:30 AM)**

"I Will Sing Praise"\*

J. M. Martin

**OFFERTORY HYMN**

“At the Lamb’s High Feast”

1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to  
2 Praise we Christ, whose love di - vine gives his  
our vic - to - rious king, who has washed us in the tide  
sa - cred blood for wine, gives his bod - y for the feast—  
flow - ing from his wound - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Risen Lord, as you broke bread with the disciples on the shore, reveal yourself to us as you meet us in this simple meal. Nourish us so that we follow you, feed the hungry, comfort the weary, and share your message of abundant new life. **Amen.**

## MEAL

### **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

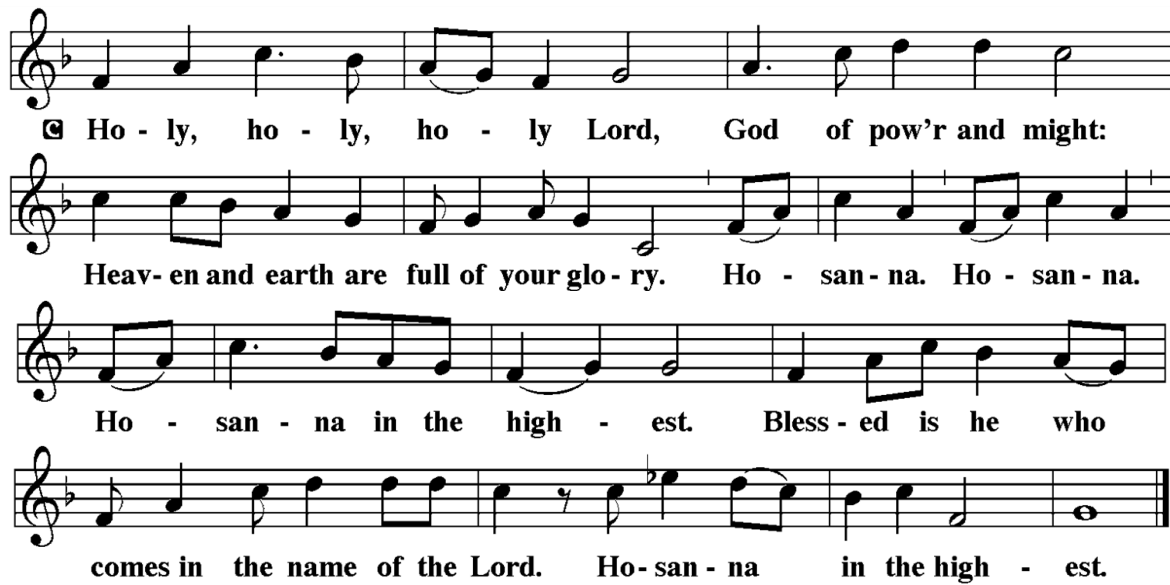
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and salutary that we should in all times and all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, Holy Father, almighty and ever-living God. But chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by his rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS



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.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER (read in unison)

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.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

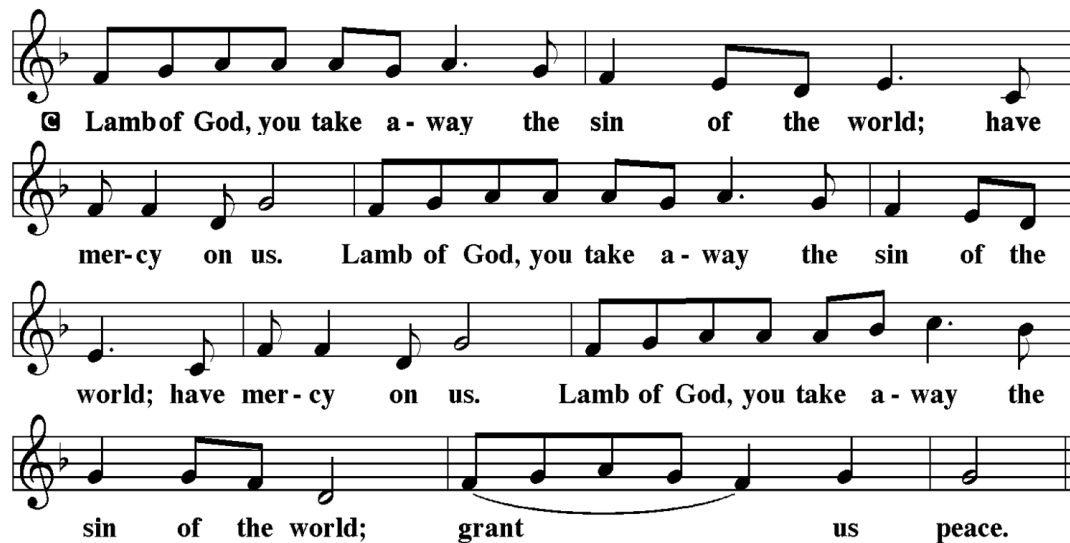
Christ is risen from the dead. All are welcome at his table.

**Alleluia! Let us come to the feast.**

### INSTRUCTIONS

*All who are baptized and seek forgiveness of their sins and the promise of eternal life in Jesus Christ, are welcomed to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We share the Sacrament by intinction, that is, by allowing communicants to dip a wafer of bread (the Body of Christ) into a chalice of wine (the Blood of Christ) before they consume it. Those who are unable to come forward may receive the Sacrament as they sit in their pews. If you (or your child) would like to receive a blessing rather than the Sacrament, please come forward and say, "A blessing," or cross your arms over your chest.*

## AGNUS DEI



♩ 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 HYMN** "A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing"  
[See back of bulletin]

## TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Living God, you have greeted us in our brokenness and nourished us with the body of Christ, broken for our sake. Risen to new life with you, send us now to bear your healing love into the wounded world, in the name of our risen Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **SENDING**

### **BLESSING**

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN**      “Crown Him with Many Crowns”  
[See back of bulletin]

### **THE DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

You are the body of Christ. Go now in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **POSTLUDE**

"Christ Is Alive"

M. McDonald

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**Introduction to the Day:** In today’s readings, the risen Christ ascends into heaven and his followers are assured that the Spirit will empower them to be witnesses throughout the earth. The disciples are told to not gaze up into heaven to look for Jesus (Acts 1:11); we find his presence among us as we proclaim the word and share the Easter feast. We, too, long for the Spirit to enliven our faith and invigorate our mission.

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**Altar flowers** are presented in memory of John A. Lengel by James Lengel and family.

**Chancel flowers** are presented in honor of all veterans by Stu and Danielle Richards.

\*“**I Will Sing Praise**” is presented in honor of “The Joy Builders” by the Rev. David Kistler, Chaplain, Hamburg Center. (1995) Additional copies of this anthem were purchased by Kathie Frantz and Sue Schenck in memory of fellow alto, Linda Doyle. (2019)

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**SERVING THIS SUNDAY (5/22/22)**

**8:00 AM**

GREETER: Pastor Mike; LECTOR: Connie Teter

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Connie Teter

**10:30 AM**

GREETER: Greg Sklar; USHER: Karen Shoener; LECTOR: Leslie Guldin

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Evan Davis

ALTAR GUILD: Kathy Miller and Connie Teter

COUNTERS: Connie Teter, Joanne Emerich, and Barb Sterner

**SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (5/29/22)**

**8:00 AM**

GREETER: Pastor Mike; LECTOR: Kay Weidensaul

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Kay Weidensaul

**10:30 AM**

GREETER: Wayne Lutsey; USHERS: Jeff Ritschel and Barb Sterner

LECTOR: Jason Swick; COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Sue Schenck

ALTAR GUILD: Kathy Miller and Connie Teter

COUNTERS: Connie Teter, Glenda Bright, and Barb Sterner

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**THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S**

Sunday, May 22	8:00 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
	9:15 AM	Adult Forum
	10:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
Monday, May 23	10:00 AM	Rainbow Friends
Wednesday, May 25	6:00 PM	Bell Choir
	7:00 PM	Chancel Choir
Friday, May 27	9:00 AM	STiC SRT Walk in Landingville
Saturday, May 28	5:30 PM	Worship
Sunday, May 29	8:00 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
	9:15 AM	Adult Forum
	10:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion

# GERANIUM ORDER SHEET

We plan to decorate the church with red geraniums on Pentecost Sunday, June 5. The deadline to place an order is **TODAY, May 22**, and the cost of each geranium is \$4.00. Checks may be made payable to St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

Please place your order and payment in the basket on the table under the bulletin board in the Gathering Room. Envelopes are available for your use.

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If you wish to dedicate your flowers, please fill out the information below:

In honor of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

In memory of:


\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Total # of Geraniums: \_\_\_\_\_

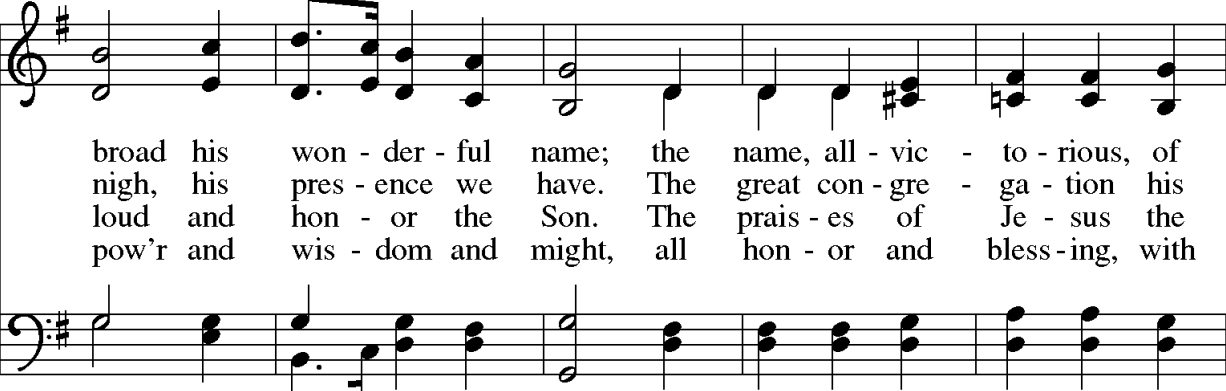
Total amount enclosed: \$\_\_\_\_\_

# GATHERING HYMN

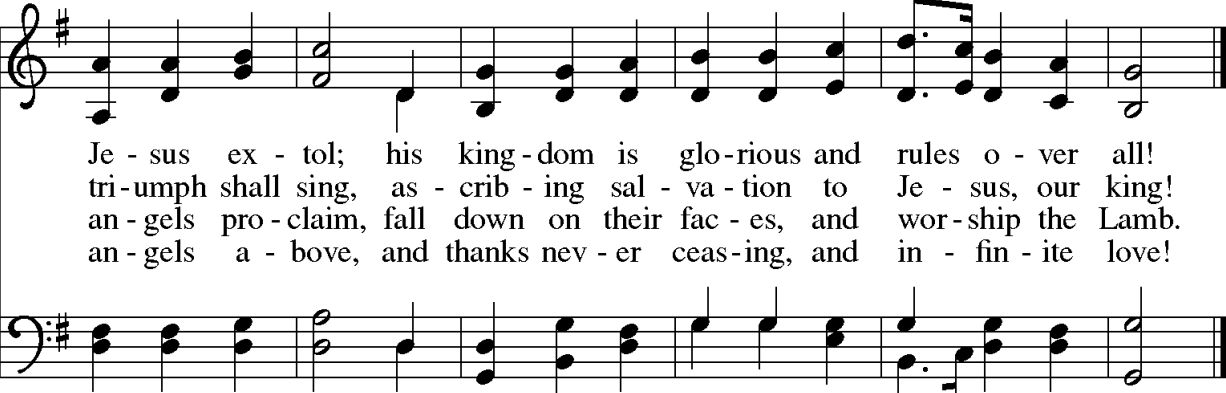
## “You Servants of God”



1 You ser - vants of God, your Mas - ter pro - claim, and pub - lish a -  
2 As - cend - ed on high, al - might - y to save, yet still he is  
3 Sal - va - tion to God who sits on the throne! Let all cry a -  
4 Then let us a - dore and give him his right, all glo - ry and



broad his won - der - ful name; the name, all - vic - to - rious, of  
nigh, his pres - ence we have. The great con - gre - ga - tion his  
loud and hon - or the Son. The prais - es of Je - sus the  
pow'r and wis - dom and might, all hon - or and bless - ing, with



Je - sus ex - tol; his king - dom is glo - rious and rules o - ver all!  
tri - umph shall sing, as - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus, our king!  
an - gels pro - claim, fall down on their fac - es, and wor - ship the Lamb.  
an - gels a - bove, and thanks nev - er ceas - ing, and in - fin - ite love!

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### CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2022 GRADUATES

We invite all recent graduates and their families to join us at our 9:30 a.m. service on Sunday, June 5, as we celebrate their accomplishments and send our prayers and best wishes for their future. Following our service, our Evangelism Committee will host light refreshments and fellowship in the gathering place. Please join us!

# HYMN OF THE DAY

## “Beautiful Savior”

1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,  
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,  
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,  
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,

Son of God and Son of Man!  
 robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;  
 bright the spar - kling stars on high;  
 Son of God and Son of Man!

Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,  
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,  
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er,  
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,

light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.  
 than all the an - gels in the sky.  
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

# COMMUNION HYMN "A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing"



1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New hymns through-out the world shall  
2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band up - on the Mount of Ol - ives  
3 To whom the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why stand and gaze up - on the  
4 "You see him now, as - cend - ing high up to the por - tals of the  
5 O ris - en Christ, as - cend - ed Lord, all praise to you let earth ac -



ring: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ, by a road be - fore un -  
stand, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! and with his faith - ful fol - l'wers  
sky?" Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! "This is the Sav - ior!" thus they  
sky." Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! "Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall  
cord: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! You are, while end - less ag - es



trod, as - cends un - to the throne of God.  
see their Lord as - cend in maj - es - ty.  
say, "this is his glo - rious tri - umph day!" Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
see re - turn - ing in great maj - es - ty."  
run, with Fa - ther and with Spir - it one.



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

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## SUMMER 2022 - FELLOWSHIP TABLE

On Sunday, June 5, our fellowship table will return following the 9:30 a.m. worship service. Our Evangelism Committee will sponsor this table as we celebrate the accomplishments of our many recent graduates.

Beginning Sunday, June 12, committees, groups, families, or individuals can sponsor a table to provide light refreshments for a fellowship hour following the 9:30 a.m. worship service during the summer months.

Our Social Media Committee will sponsor our final fellowship table on August 28, as we bless our students, teachers, school personnel, and their families during our annual "Blessing of the Backpacks" event.

Please consider sponsoring a fellowship table. A sign-up sheet is located in the gathering room.

# SENDING HYMN

## “Crown Him with Many Crowns”

1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;  
 2 Crown him the vir - gin's Son, the God in - car - nate born,  
 3 Crown him the Lord of love— be - hold his hands and side,  
 4 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave  
 5 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time,

hark, how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.  
 whose arm those crim - son tro - phies won which now his brow a - dorn;  
 rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.  
 and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.  
 cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fab - ly sub - lime.

A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
 fruit of the mys - tic rose, yet of that rose the stem,  
 No an - gels in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,  
 His glo - ries now we sing, who died and rose on high,  
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;

and hail him as thy match - less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
 the root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, the babe of Beth - le - hem.  
 but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys - ter - ies so bright.  
 who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.  
 thy praise and glo - ry shall not fail through - out e - ter - ni - ty.