

**PRELUDE:** Prelude in C Major

J.S. Bach

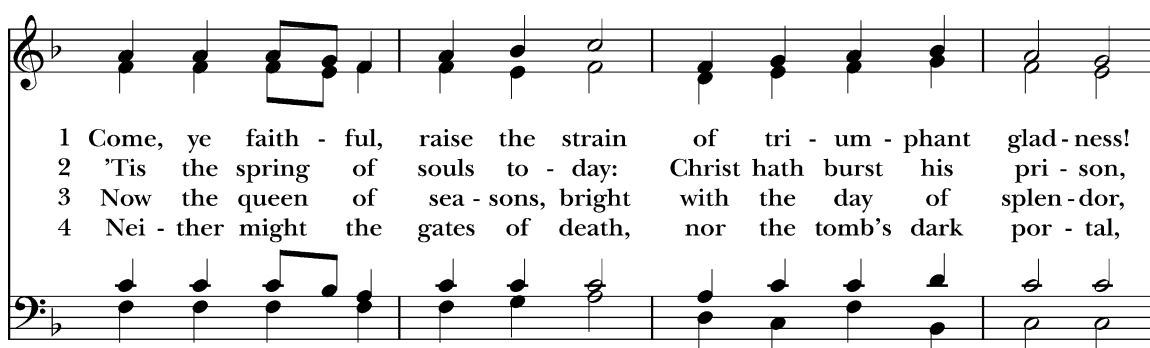
**PRESENTATION OF THE WORD**  
(The congregation's responses are in bold)  
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**CALL TO WORSHIP:** Alleluia, we sing your praises

Trad. South African

*The people, standing as able, through the Collect of the Day*

**HYMN 199:** Come, ye faithful, raise the strain



1 Come, ye faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant glad - ness!  
2 'Tis the spring of souls to - day: Christ hath burst his pri - son,  
3 Now the queen of sea - sons, bright with the day of splen - dor,  
4 Nei - ther might the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark por - tal,



God hath brought his Is - ra - el in - to joy from sad - ness:  
and from three days' sleep in death as a sun hath ris - en;  
with the roy - al feast of feasts, comes its joy to ren - der;  
nor the watch - ers, nor the seal hold thee as a mor - tal:



loosed from Pha - raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters,  
all the win - ter of our sins, long and dark, is fly - ing  
comes to glad Je - ru - sa - lem, who with true af - fec - tion  
but to - day a - midst thine own thou didst stand, be - stow - ing



led them with un - mois - tened foot through the Red Sea wa - ters.  
from his light, to whom we give laud and praise un - dy - ing.  
wel - comes in un - wear - ied strains Je - sus' re - sur - rec - tion.  
that thy peace which ev - er - more pass - eth hu - man know - ing.

Words: John of Damascus (8th cent.); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt. Music: *St. Kevin*, Arthur Seymour Sullivan (1842-1900).

**Presider** Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
**People** The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

*Sung in unison with the choir*

**GLORY TO GOD, S278: Gloria in Excelsis**



1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and  
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -  
might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we  
praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,  
on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;

5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -  
ceive our prayer. 6. For  
you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,  
7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the  
Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of  
God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

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**Presider** The Lord be with you.

**People** And also with you.

**Presider** Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*The people, seated through the Second Reading*

**FIRST READING:** Acts 5:27-32

Reader      A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

When the temple police had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

Reader      The Word of the Lord.

**People      Thanks be to God.**

*Sung in unison*

**RESPONSE:** Psalm 118:24-29, *Confitemini Domino*

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- 24 On this day the LORD has / acted; \*  
we will rejoice and be / glad in it.
- 25 Hosannah, LORD, ho- / sannah! \*  
LORD, send us now suc- / cess.
- 26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the / Lord; \*  
we bless you from the house of the / LORD.
- 27 God is the LORD; he has shined up- / on us; \*  
form a procession with branches up to the horns of the / altar.
- 28 "You are my God, and I will / thank you; \*  
you are my God, and I will ex- / alt you."
- 29 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is / good; \*  
his mercy endures for / ever.

**SECOND READING:** Revelation 1:4-8

*Reader*      A reading from Revelation.

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

**People**      **Thanks be to God.**

The people, standing as able through the Gospel Reading

**HYMN 198:** Thou hallowed chosen morn of praise

1 Thou hal - lowed chos - en morn of praise, that best and great - est  
2 Come, let us taste the vine's new fruit, for heaven - ly joy pre -

shin - est: fair Eas - ter, queen of all the days, of  
par - ing; to - day the branch - es with the root of in

sea - sons, best, di - vin - est! Christ rose from death; and  
re - sur - rec - tion shar - ing: whom as true God our

we a - dore for ev - er and for ev - er - more.  
hymns a - dore for ev - er and for ev - er - more.

Words: John of Damascus (8th cent.); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt. Music: *Mach's mit mir, Gott*, melody from *Das ander Theil des andern newen Operis Geistlicher Deutscher Lieder*, 1605; adapt., att., and harm. Johann Hermann Schein (1586-1630).

**THE GOSPEL:** John 20:19-31

**Gospeller** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

**People** **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

**Gospeller** The Gospel of the Lord.

**People** **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*The people, seated*

**SERMON:** The Rev. E. Weston Mathews

*The people, standing as able through the Exchange of the Peace*

**THE NICENE CREED** *(In unison)*

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**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 people, standing, as able*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Leader Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

**People** *That we all may be one.*

Leader Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

**People** *That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

Leader We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

**People** *That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

Leader We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world; especially Glenn our Governor, Gerry our Representative, Tim and Mark our Senators, Donald our President, the justices and judges of the federal courts, Richard our delegate, Jennifer our Senator to the state legislature, and the justices and judges of the commonwealth courts.

**People** *That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Leader We pray for the St. Francis Creche School, the Diocese of Ezo including Bishop Isaac and Mama Nora, the Scouts, and the Recovery Community of St. Francis. We give thanks for the Rev. Dr. Nancy Searby, our new deacon, and for the Rev. Joy Warburton, our new Associate for Family Ministries. We pray also for Franciscans who are currently preparing for Holy Baptism, Confirmation, Reception into The Episcopal Church, and Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows. Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

**People** *That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Leader Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

**People** *That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Leader Give to the departed eternal rest; especially George Ditmore, father of Andrew Ditmore;

**People** *Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

Leader We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

**People** *May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

**Leader** Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. Open the hands of your people to reach out in love to those around the world who are in fear for their lives, who face turbulent conditions caused by us and by nature, and whose daily lives are made difficult by their circumstances: people in the United States of America, United States federal workers and veterans, people of Holy Family Church and Mills River, NC, Afghanistan, China, Gaza, Iran, Israel, Lebanon, the Palestinian Authority, Qatar, Russia, Ukraine, and the West Bank.

**People** *Hear our prayer.*

**Leader** We ask you to care for: Linda, Missy, Maria, James, Holly, Nan, Marlene, Betty, Dana, Luke, David, Barbara & Bill, Jeff Sr., Hugh Sr., Cathy, Lawrence, David, Jon, Jessica, Paula, Clara Sue, Grace, Debra, Taylor, Kelly & Alex, and Dut.

**People** *Hear our prayer.*

### **CONCLUDING COLLECT**

**Presider** Almighty and most merciful God, grant that by the indwelling of your Holy Spirit we may be enlightened and strengthened for your service; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **EXCHANGE OF THE PEACE**

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**Presider** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People** **And also with you.**

## CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

*Eucharist is an ongoing participation in and renewal of our Baptism. Come forward at the invitation of the ushers to share in this sacrament. For those not wishing to partake in this sacrament, we invite you to come forward for a blessing, by kneeling, folding your arms across your chest. **Gluten free host is available. Signify your desire for this form of bread by placing your right-hand palm down on top of your left.***

*The people, seated, the alms plates are passed by the usher*

**CHORAL OFFERTORY: If Ye Love Me**

Thomas Tallis

*The people, standing as able through the Fraction*

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (Eucharistic Prayer B)**

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The musical notation is presented in four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notation uses a simplified system of dots for notes and horizontal lines for stems, with lyrics written below. The first staff is for the Celebrant and the People, with lyrics: "The Lord be with you. And al - so with you." The second staff is for the Celebrant and the People, with lyrics: "Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord." The third staff is for the Celebrant, with lyrics: "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." The fourth staff is for the People, with lyrics: "It is right to give him thanks and praise." The notation includes various musical symbols such as beams, slurs, and a fermata over the final note of the fourth staff.

*Celebrant*                      *People*  
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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

*Celebrant*  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People*  
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

**Presider** It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**SANCTUS: S 128**



Ho - ly, ho - ly,  
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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.

Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

*Presider* We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

*Presider* And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with blessed Francis of Assisi and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.



*Spoken*

*Presider* And now, 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.

**FRACTION: S 152**

Cantor      Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

People      There-fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

**COMMUNION INVITATION**

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Presider      The Gifts of God for the People of God. Behold what you are. Become what you receive.

*The people come forward as directed to receive communion.*

**HYMN 339: Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness**

1 Deck thy - self, my soul, with glad - ness, leave the  
2 Sun, who all my life dost bright - en; Light, who  
3 Je - sus, Bread of Life, I pray thee, let me

gloom - y haunts of sad - ness, come in - to the day - light's  
dost my soul en - light - en; Joy, the best that an - y  
glad - ly here o - bey thee; nev - er to my hurt in -

splen - dor, there with joy thy prais - es ren - der  
know - eth; Fount, whence all my be - ing flow - eth:  
vit - ed, be thy love with love re - quit - ed;

un - to him whose grace un - bound - ed hath this  
at thy feet I cry, my Ma - ker, let me  
from this ban - quet let me mea - sure, Lord, how

won-drous ban - quet found - ed— high o'er all the heavens he  
be a fit par - ta - ker of this bless - ed food from  
vast and deep its trea - sure; through the gifts thou here dost

reign - eth, yet to dwell with thee he deign - eth.  
hea - ven, for our good, thy glo - ry, giv - en.  
give me, as thy guest in heaven re - ceive me.

Words: Johann Franck (1618-1677); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt. Music: *Schmücke dich*, melody Johann Crüger (1598-1662); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906.

*The people, standing through the Dismissal*

**POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER**

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*Presider* Let us pray.

**Almighty and everliving God,  
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food  
of the most precious Body and Blood  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;  
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries  
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,  
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.  
And now, Father, send us out  
to do the work you have given us to do,  
to love and serve you  
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.  
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

**BLESSING**

**Paraphrase of Henri-Frédéric Amiel**

*Presider* Life is short and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who are traveling the journey with us. So be swift to love, and make haste to be kind. And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**



## HYMN 182: Christ is alive! Let Christians sing

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. His cross stands  
2 Christ is - a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant  
3 Not throned a - bove, re - mote - ly high, un - touched, un -  
4 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war where co - lor,  
5 Christ is a - live! His Spi - rit burns through this and

1 emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with  
2 years in Pal - es - tine, he comes to claim the  
3 moved by hu - man pains, but dai - ly, in the  
4 scorn or wealth di - vide, he suf - fers still, yet  
5 ev - ery fu - ture age, till all cre - a - tion

1 prais - es ring. His love in death shall nev - er die.  
2 here and now and con - quer ev - ery place and time.  
3 midst of life, our Sa - vior with the Fa - ther reigns.  
4 loves the more, and lives, though ev - er cru - ci - fied.  
5 lives and learns his joy, his jus - tice, love, and praise.

Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936), rev. Copyright © 1975 by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: *Truro*, melody from *Psalmody Evangelica, Part II*, 1789; harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872), alt.

## DISMISSAL

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**Leader** Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
**People** Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

## POSTLUDE: Prelude in G Major

J.S. Bach

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