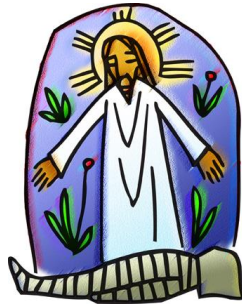


# St Stephen

a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
The Rev. Robert G. Schaefer, Pastor

Encouraging and strengthening faith in Jesus,  
and sharing the joy of God's love.



March 29, 2020

Fifth Sunday in Lent

10:15am

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## Holy Communion

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### INTRODUCTION to the Fifth Sunday in Lent

*In today's gospel Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. The prophet Ezekiel prophesies God breathing new life into dry bones. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection. In baptism we die with Christ that we might also be raised with him to new life. At the Easter Vigil we will welcome the newly baptized as we remember God's unfailing promise in our baptism.*



### Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

### CHOIR PRELUDE

### WELCOME

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*The assembly stands and turns to the font. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

In the name of the Father, and of the **+** Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*The presiding minister leads the following prayer of preparation:*

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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.  
**Amen.**

Brothers and sisters, during these great forty days of Lent, let us prepare ourselves to receive Christ in word and sacrament by confessing our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

I confess  
**to God Almighty,**  
**before the whole company of heaven,**  
**and to you, my brothers and sisters,**  
**that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed**  
**by my fault,**  
**by my own fault,**  
**by my own most grievous fault;**  
**wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me,**  
**forgive me all my sins,**  
**and bring me to everlasting life.**  
**Amen.**

The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, ✠ forgiveness, and remission of all your sins.  
**Amen.**

## GATHERING SONG:

## Christ, the Life of All the Living

ELW 339



1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of death, our foe,  
2 You have suf - fered great af - flic - tion and have borne it pa - tient - ly,  
3 Then, for all that bought my par - don, for the sor - rows deep and sore,



Christ, your - self for me once giv - ing to the dark - est depths of woe:  
e - ven death by cru - ci - fix - ion, ful - ly to a - tone for me;  
for the an - guish in the gar - den, I will thank you ev - er - more;



through your suf - f'ring, death, and mer - it life e - ter - nal I in - her - it.  
for you chose to be tor - ment - ed that my doom should be pre - vent - ed.  
thank you for the groan - ing, sigh - ing, for the bleed - ing and the dy - ing,



Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.  
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.  
for that last tri - um - phant cry, praise you ev - er - more on high.

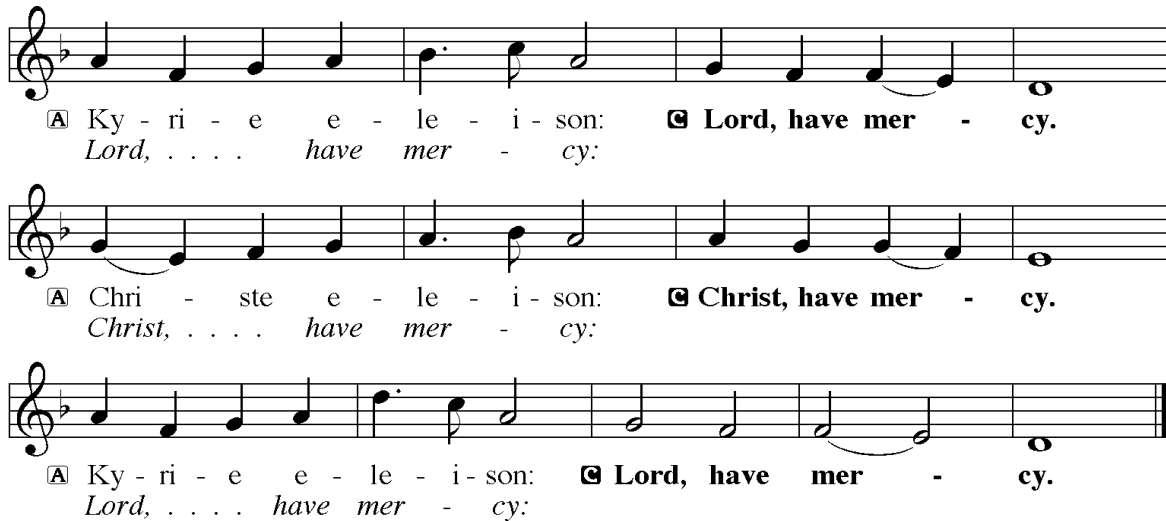
Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–1681; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
Music: JESU, MEINES LEBENS LEBEN, *Das grosse Cantional*, Darmstadt, 1687

## APOSTOLIC GREETING

**P:** Grace, mercy, and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, be with you all.

**C:** And also with you.

## KYRIE



**A** Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son:      **C** Lord, have mer - cy.  
*Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:*

**A** Chri - ste e - le - i - son:      **C** Christ, have mer - cy.  
*Christ, . . . . have mer - cy:*

**A** Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son:      **C** Lord, have mer - cy.  
*Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept, then the presiding minister leads the prayer.*

Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

*The assembly sits.*



## Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading and song.

### FIRST READING: Ezekiel 37:1-14

A reading from Ezekiel.

<sup>1</sup>The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup>He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. <sup>3</sup>He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." <sup>4</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. <sup>5</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup>I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD."

<sup>7</sup>So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup>I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." <sup>10</sup>I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

<sup>11</sup>Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones

are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' <sup>12</sup>Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup>And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup>I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD."

L: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 130

<sup>1</sup>Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;

<sup>2</sup>**O LORD, hear my voice!**

**Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.**

<sup>3</sup>If you were to keep watch over sins, O LORD, who could stand?

<sup>4</sup>**Yet with you is forgiveness, in order that you may be feared.**

<sup>5</sup>I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits; in your word is my hope.

<sup>6</sup>**My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning, more than those who keep watch for the morning.**

<sup>7</sup>O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love; with the LORD there is plenteous redemption.

<sup>8</sup>**For the LORD shall redeem Israel from all their sins.**

## SECOND READING: Romans 8:6-11

A reading from Romans.

<sup>6</sup>To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup>For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, <sup>8</sup>and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

<sup>9</sup>But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. <sup>10</sup>But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup>If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

L: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

*After a brief silence, the assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

## **GOSPEL: John 11:1-45**

**P:** † The Holy Gospel, according John. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. <sup>2</sup>Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. <sup>3</sup>So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." <sup>4</sup>But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." <sup>5</sup>Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, <sup>6</sup>after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

<sup>7</sup>Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." <sup>8</sup>The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" <sup>9</sup>Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. <sup>10</sup>But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." <sup>11</sup>After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." <sup>12</sup>The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." <sup>13</sup>Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. <sup>14</sup>Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. <sup>15</sup>For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." <sup>16</sup>Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

<sup>17</sup>When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. <sup>18</sup>Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, <sup>19</sup>and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. <sup>20</sup>When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. <sup>21</sup>Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup>But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." <sup>23</sup>Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." <sup>24</sup>Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." <sup>25</sup>Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, <sup>26</sup>and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" <sup>27</sup>She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

<sup>28</sup>When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." <sup>29</sup>And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. <sup>30</sup>Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. <sup>31</sup>The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. <sup>32</sup>When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." <sup>33</sup>When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. <sup>34</sup>He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." <sup>35</sup>Jesus began to weep. <sup>36</sup>So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" <sup>37</sup>But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

<sup>38</sup>Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." <sup>40</sup>Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" <sup>41</sup>So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. <sup>42</sup>I knew that you always hear

me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.”<sup>43</sup> When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!”<sup>44</sup> The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”<sup>45</sup> Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## SERMON

*The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

## Jesus Is a Rock in a Weary Land

ELW 333

*Refrain – All*

Je - sus is a rock in a wea - ry land, a wea - ry land, a  
wea - ry land; my Je - sus is a rock in a  
wea - ry land, a shel - ter in the time of storm.

*Leader or All*

1 No one can do like Je - sus, not a  
2 When Je - sus was on earth, . . . . . the . .  
3 Yon - der comes my Sav - ior, him . .

mum - bling word he said; he went walk - ing down to Laz -  
flesh was ver - y weak; . . he took a towel and gird -  
whom I love so well; . . he has the palm of vic -

*Refrain*

- a - rus' grave, and he raised him from the dead.  
ed him - self and he washed his dis - ci - ples' feet.  
- to - ry and the keys of death and hell.

Text: African American spiritual  
Music: WEARY LAND, African American spiritual

## NICENE CREED

**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,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who 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**

A: Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world,  
and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

*After each petition:*

A: Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them  
to you; through Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### **PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*The assembly is seated.*



# MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## Anthem

*The Table is set.*

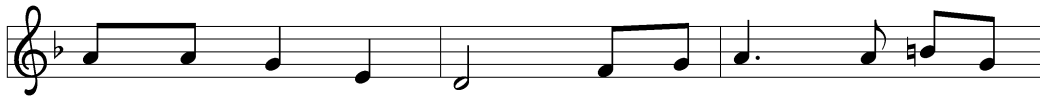
## OFFERING SONG:

### Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery (sts. 1-3, and Lent 5)

ELW 334



1 Tree of Life and awe - some mys - t'ry, in your  
 2 We re - mem - ber truth once spo - ken, love passed  
 3 Christ, you lead and we shall fol - low, stum - bling



death we are re - born; though you die in all of  
 on through act and word; ev - 'ry per - son lost and  
 though our steps may be; one with you in joy and



his - t'ry, still you rise with ev - 'ry morn, still you  
 bro - ken wears the bod - y of our Lord, wears the  
 sor - row, we the riv - er, you the sea, we the



rise with ev - 'ry morn.  
 bod - y of our Lord.  
 riv - er, you the sea.

*One of the following may be sung as a final stanza at the appropriate time.*

### Lent 5

God of all our fear and sorrow,  
 God who lives beyond our death,  
 hold us close through each tomorrow,  
 love as near as ev'ry breath.

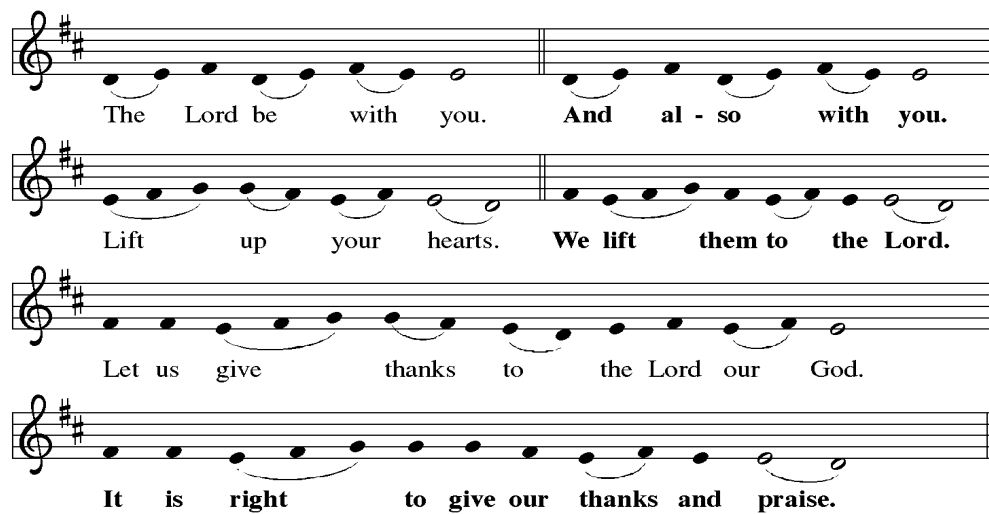
## OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray. God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

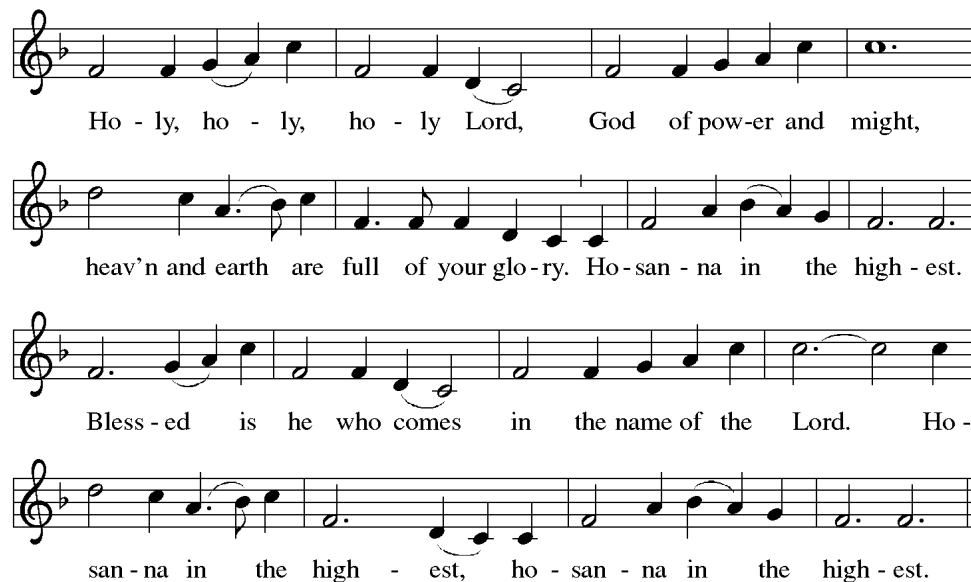
*The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.*





The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
heav'n 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The presiding minister continues to give thanks:*

Blessed are you, O God of the universe....With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life...Bless this feast to be the body and blood of Christ. Grace our table with your presence.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.... Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

... we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

**Amen**

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:  
**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.**

### Communion

*The bread is broken for the communion.*

P: Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Christ has prepared the feast. Come to the table where all are welcomed home.

### Prayer for Spiritual Communion

*The assembly is seated.*

The body of Christ, given for you. *Response: Amen.*

The blood of Christ, shed for you. *Response: Amen.*

### Lamb of God



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
 you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
 e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

### Communion Song:

### I Am the Bread of Life

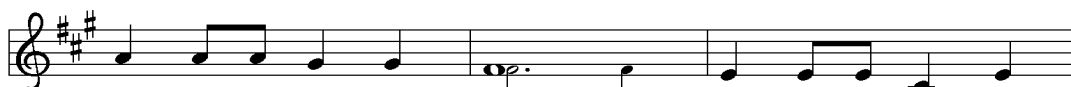
ELW 485



1 "I am the Bread of life. You who  
 2 "The bread that . . . I will give is my  
 3 "Un - less . . . you . . . eat of the  
 4 "I am the res - ur - rec - tion, . . .  
 5 Yes, Lord, . . . I be - lieve that . . .



come to me shall not the hun - ger, and who be -  
 flesh for the life of the world, . . . and if you  
 flesh of the Son of Man . . . and . . .  
 I . . . am the life. . . . If you be -  
 you . . . are the Christ, . . . the . . .



lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to  
eat . . . . of this bread, and you shall . . live for -  
drink . . . . of his blood, and drink . . . . of his  
lieve . . . . in . . . . me, e - ven . . though you  
Son . . . . of . . . . God, who . . . . have . . . .

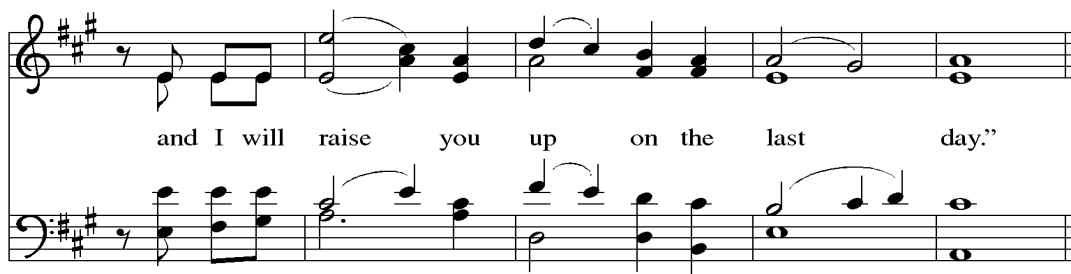


me un - less the Fa - ther beck - ons?"  
ev - er, . . . . you shall live for - ev - er."  
blood, you shall not have life with - in you."  
die, . . . . you shall live for - ev - er."  
come in - to . . . . the . . . . world. . . .

*Refrain*  
All



"And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up,



and I will raise you up on the last day."

Text: Suzanne Toolan, RSM, b. 1927, based on John 6  
Music: I AM THE BREAD, Suzanne Toolan, RSM  
Text and music © 1966, 1970, 1986, 1993 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.  
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## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray.

Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**



## Sending

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

**Announcements** (*The assembly is seated*)

## SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE AND BLESSING

*The assembly stands as the presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.*

P: Look down with compassion, O Lord, upon this your people; that, rightly observing this holy season, they may learn to know you more fully, and serve you with a more perfect will; through Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

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

## SENDING SONG:

## What Wondrous Love Is This

ELW 666



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
2 When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, when  
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to  
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this  
I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down  
God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,  
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,



that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my  
be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my  
who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will  
I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?  
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.  
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.  
on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.  
Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

## DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Remember the poor. **C: Thanks be to God.**

### IN OUR PRAYERS...

In our prayers today are these members of our homebound and others of our parish family in need of healing: Dolores Lauterberg, Jake Waldecki, Sera Butz, Harry Ambrose, George Arce, Laurel Blake, Dorothy Johnson, James Loggins, Don Schutt, Normagene Richardson, Mildred Grady, Carol Chmelynski, Jimmy Fennelli, Roy and Barbara Kaptain, Katie Paff, Bob Reinhold, and Shelley Amato.

### Prayers for Friends of the Parish

✠ Family traveling next weekend, Jojo, Daphne B., Jean Claud, Adrienne, Susan T. ✠ Those afflicted with coronavirus and those caring for them, Dieter, Jay & Maureen, Frank, Gail, Susan, Pat, Doris ✠ Diana, Julia, Iris.

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