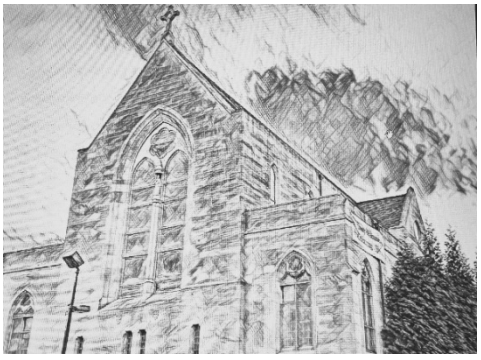
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Canton, Ohio

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 5, 2026
Holy Eucharist Rite II

Welcome to St. Paul's

Online and in-person services begin with music at 10:25 a.m.



St. Paul's Episcopal Church
425 Cleveland Ave SW
Canton OH 44702
(330) 455-0286

Website: www.stpaulscanton.org
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/stpaulscanton
e-mail: stpaulsoffice@att.net
We're on YouTube: StPaulsCanton

Our mission

St. Paul's is an exceptionally welcoming Episcopal community in downtown Canton, grounded in faith, and called by God's Love to minister to the world.

Easter Sunday
Holy Eucharist Rite II
Celebrants: The Revs. Joe and Kay Ashby

Readings and Psalm
Acts 10:34-43
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Colossians 3:1-4
John 20:1-18

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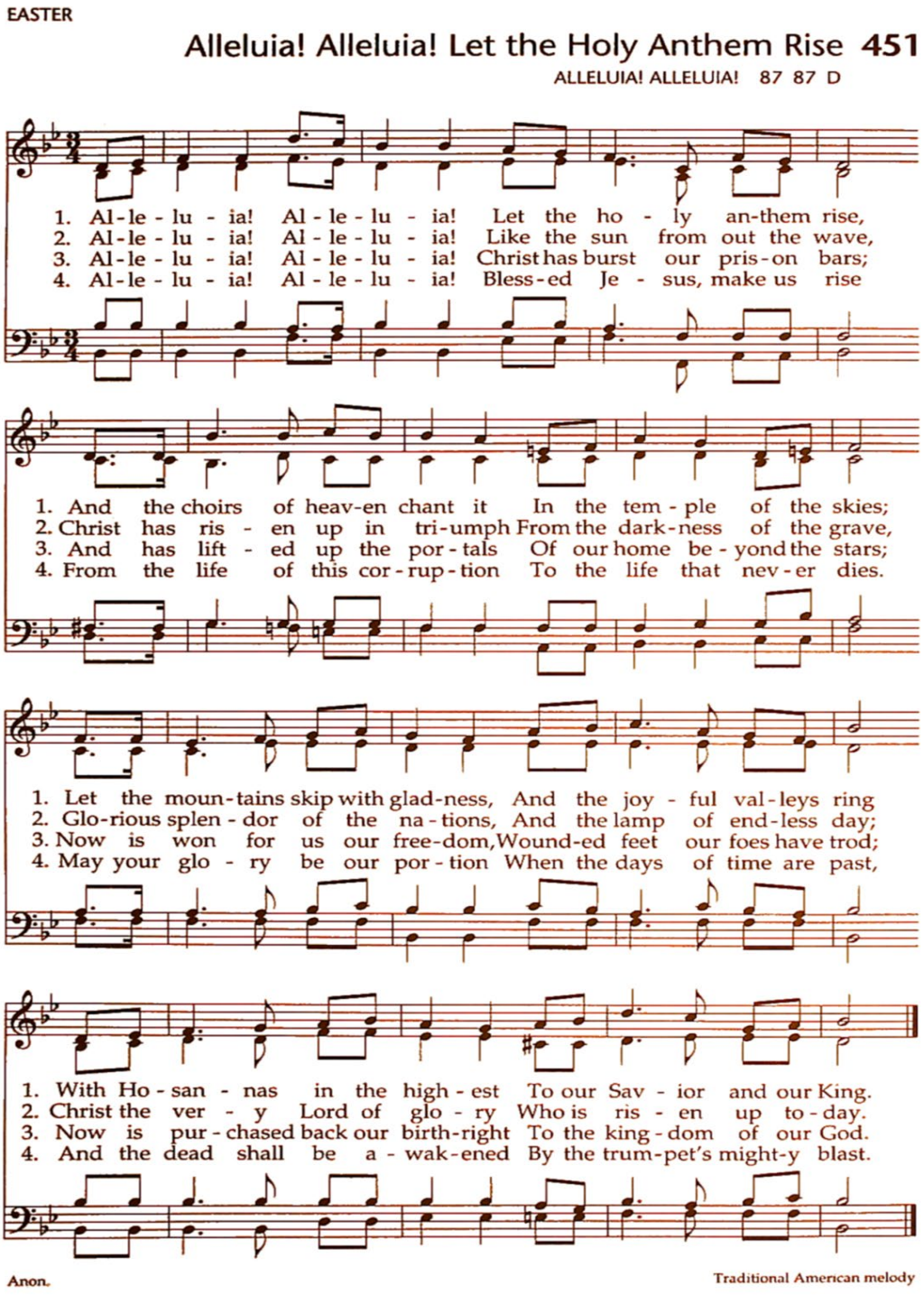
Prelude: *Intrada*, Grayston Ives

The Word of God

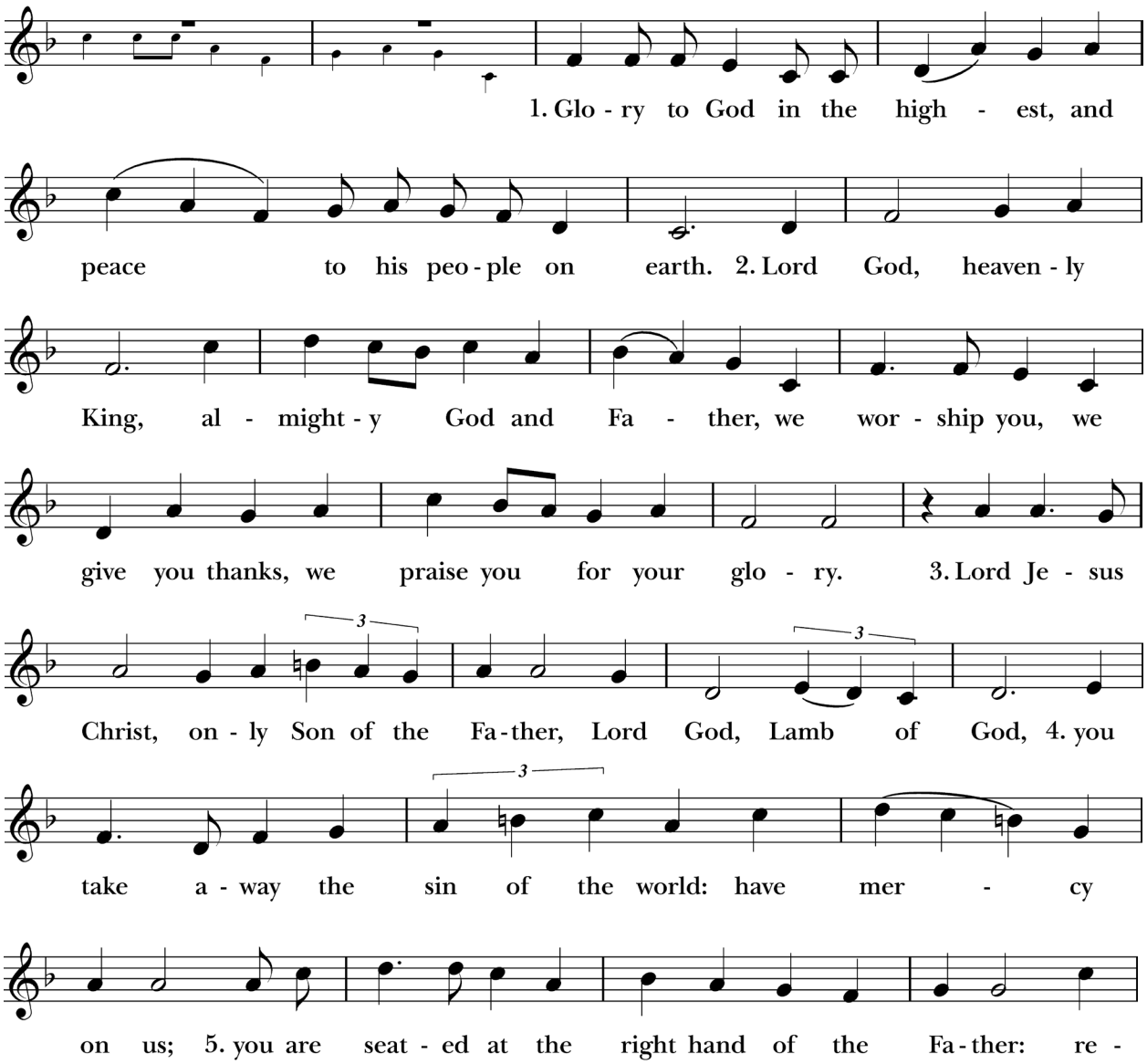
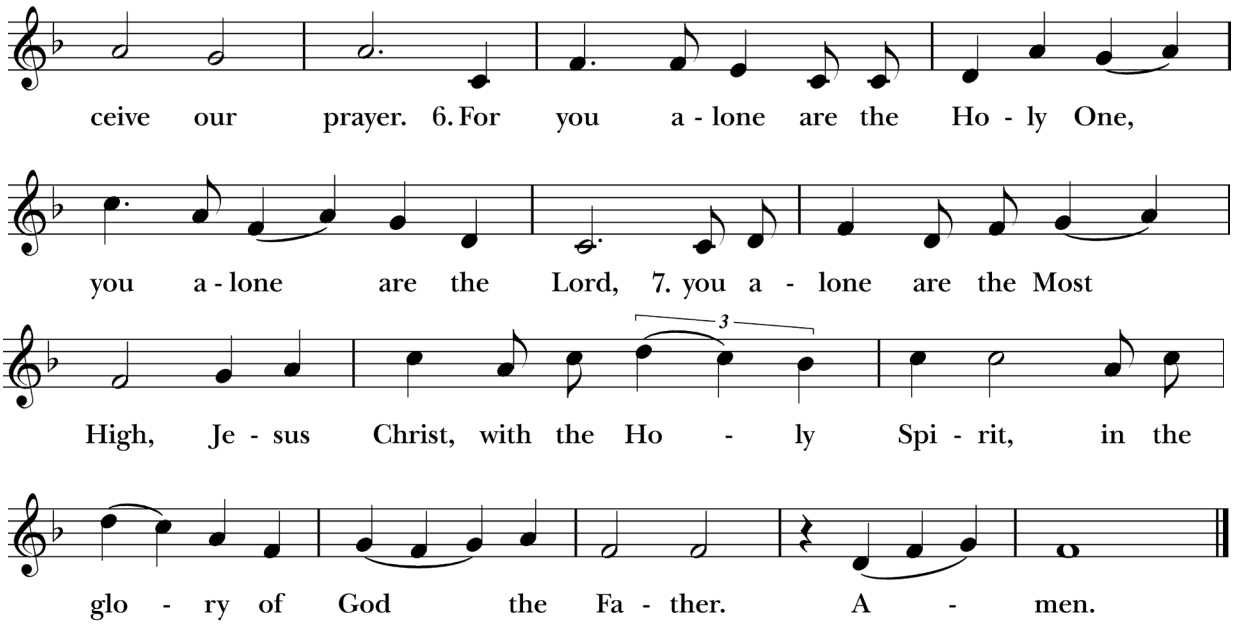
Entrance Hymn:

Opening Acclamation

Please remain standing

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Collect for Purity

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 Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

GLORIA: S280



Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

First Reading: Acts 10:34-43

Please be seated.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

34 Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and the other Gentiles]: "I truly understand that God
shows no partiality, 35 but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is
acceptable to him. 36 You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching
peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. 37 That message spread throughout Judea,
beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: 38 how God anointed Jesus of
Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and
healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. 39 We are witnesses to

all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; [40]but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, [41]not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. [42]He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. [43]All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow.

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

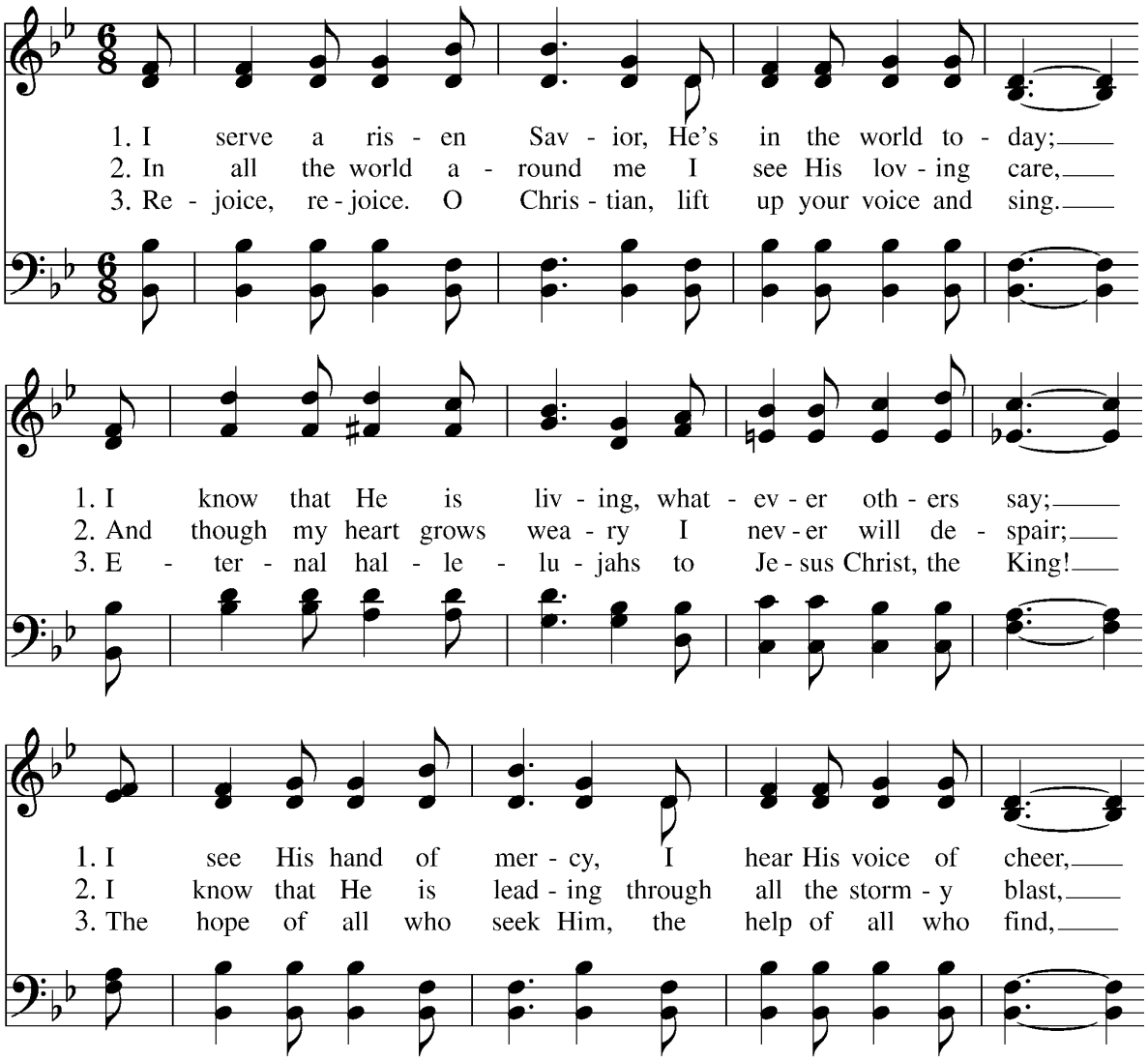
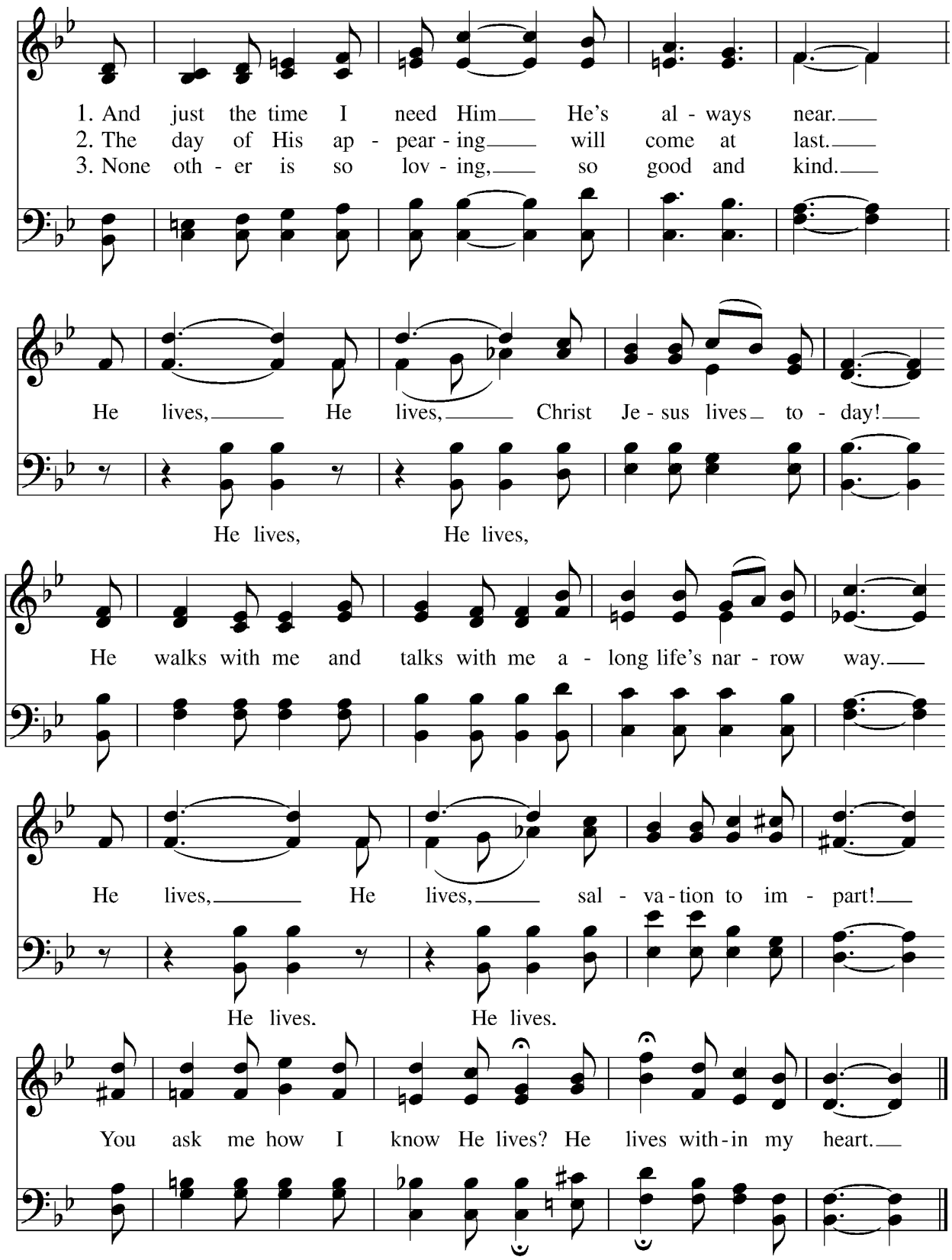
[1]Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; *
his mercy endures for ever.
[2]Let Israel now proclaim, *
"His mercy endures for ever."
[14]The Lord is my strength and my song, *
and he has become my salvation.
[15]There is a sound of exultation and victory *
in the tents of the righteous:
[16]"The right hand of the Lord has triumphed! *
the right hand of the Lord is exalted!
the right hand of the Lord has triumphed!"
[17]I shall not die, but live, *
and declare the works of the Lord.
[18]The Lord has punished me sorely, *
but he did not hand me over to death.
[19]Open for me the gates of righteousness; *
I will enter them;
I will offer thanks to the Lord.
[20]"This is the gate of the Lord; *
he who is righteous may enter."
[21]I will give thanks to you, for you answered me *
and have become my salvation.
[22]The same stone which the builders rejected *
has become the chief cornerstone.
[23]This is the Lord's doing, *
and it is marvelous in our eyes.
[24]On this day the Lord has acted; *
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Second Reading: 1 Colossians 3:1-4

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Colossus.

[1][Since] you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.[2]Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, [3]for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. [4]When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn: *He lives! (LEVAS 42)*

1. And just the time I need Him He's al - ways near.
2. The day of His ap - pear - ing will come at last.
3. None oth - er is so lov - ing, so good and kind.
He lives, He lives, Christ Je - sus lives to - day!
He lives, He lives,
He walks with me and talks with me a - long life's nar - row way.
He lives, He lives, sal - va - tion to im - part!
He lives. He lives.
You ask me how I know He lives? He lives with - in my heart.

Gospel: John 20:1-18

Please stand if able

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

[1]Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the
tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. [2]So she ran and went to
Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They
have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid
him." [3]Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. [4]The two were
running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. [5]He bent
down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. [6]Then
Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings
lying there, [7]and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen
wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. [8]Then the other disciple, who reached the
tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; [9]for as yet they did not understand the
scripture, that he must rise from the dead. [10]Then the disciples returned to their homes.
[11]But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the
tomb; [12]and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying,
one at the head and the other at the feet. [13]They said to her, "Woman, why are you
weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where
they have laid him." [14]When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing
there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. [15]Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you
weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to
him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take
him away." [16]Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew,
"Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). [17]Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because
I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am
ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.' " [18]Mary Magdalene
went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he
had said these things to her.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Renewal of Baptismal vows

Please stand if able

Celebrant Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?
People I renounce them.

Celebrant Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?
People I renounce them.
Celebrant Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?
People I renounce them.
Celebrant Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?
People I do.
Celebrant Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?
People I do.
Celebrant Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?
People I do.

Celebrant Let us renew our own baptismal covenant.

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?
People I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
People I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
People I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?
People I will, with God's help.
Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?
People I will, with God's help.
Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?
People I will, with God's help.
Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?
People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?
People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. Amen.

Thanksgiving over the Water
The Celebrant blesses the water, first saying
The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.

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

Celebrant We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.
We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water.
Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Celebrant will sprinkle the congregation with the baptismal waters.

The Prayers of the People

Please remain standing
In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.
Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble; for Mike Paynter, Richard Green, Robert Thornton, Johanna Middleton, Jude Schario, Linda Fogle, Peter Dench, Patricia Willford, Cara Warren, Alice Bolam, Molly and Nathan Weisel, Andrea, Marilyn Dickinson, Ed Denning, Doug Geissinger, Jackson, Gary, John Titmas, Holly Hillen, Bob Reiner, Frances Beacon, Vicki Simpkins, Brinley Wyczalek, Alayna Linquist, Ronnie Long and Debbie Schmiedlen.
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, and Anne, our Bishop, and for Joe and Kay Ashby and all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.
People may add their own thanksgivings
We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, especially Joe Retherford, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.
Silence
The People may add their own petitions
Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

We pray together now the Discernment Prayer for St. Paul's
O Lord our God,
May we, the parish of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, embrace your commandment of loving our neighbors as you have loved us while we discern who we are and how best to serve you.
We ask that you quiet our souls, so we may listen to you.
We ask that you grant us wisdom as we seek new leadership.
And lastly, we ask for the courage to follow wherever you lead us.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Celebrant: God who shines in the darkness,
receive these prayers and the prayers of our hearts,
in the name of the one who is your light,
Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Confession of Sin

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

Minister and People
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 our Savior 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.

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. *Amen*.

The Peace

All stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And also with you.
The People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Blessing of the DOK mite boxes to raise money for Episcopal Relief and Development's worldwide programs.

Church Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

The Celebrant says
Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.
Psalm 50:14

Offertory Anthem *Thine be the Glory,* Alan Bullard

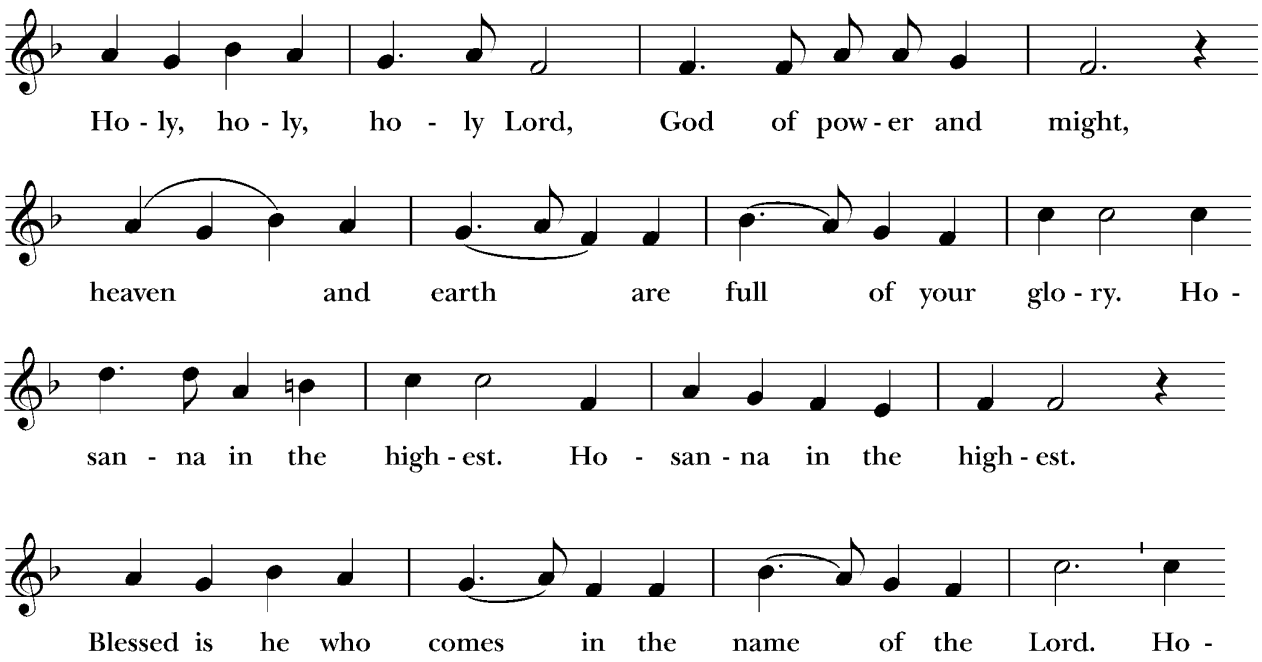
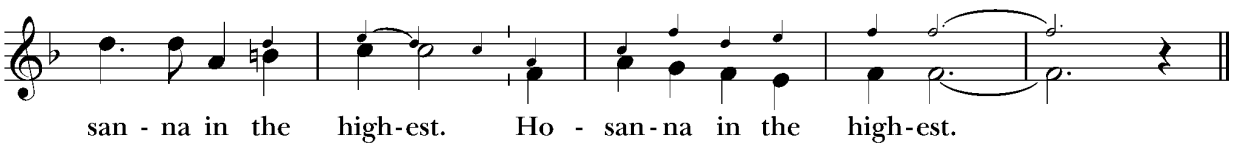
The Great Thanksgiving

The People remain standing.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People 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.

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 125 *Holy, Holy, Holy* (S125)



Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.
He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.
On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Celebrant and People
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,
Celebrant and People
We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.
All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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. *AMEN*.

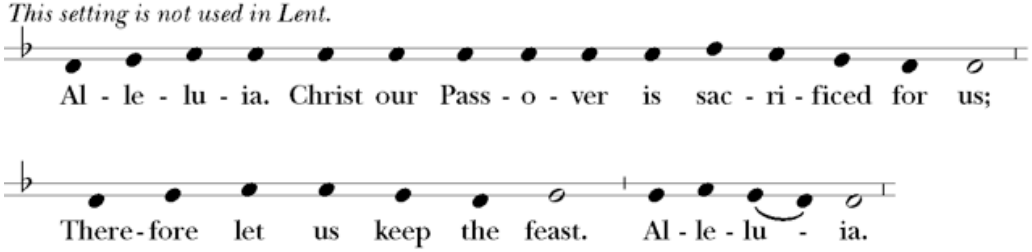
The Lord's Prayer

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,
forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM: S152

This setting is not used in Lent.



This setting may be sung full by all, or by the choir, or as a versicle and response.

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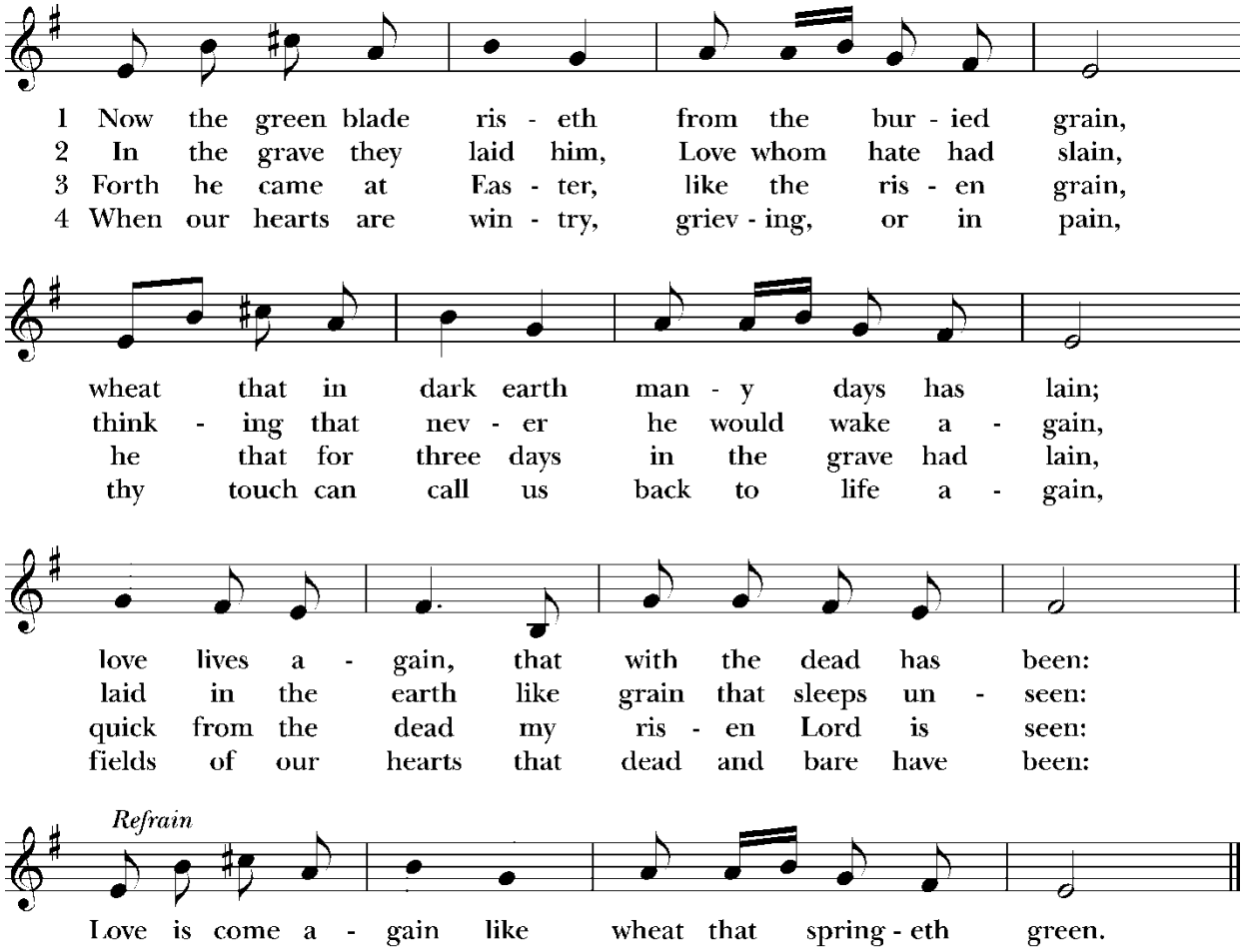
Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Spiritual Communion

Celebrant: Please join us in praying with our siblings in Christ who are with us online and receiving communion spiritually.

Dearest Lord Jesus, we believe that you are truly present in the Sacrament of the Eucharist. We love you above all things and long for you in our souls. Since we are not altogether in our church today to receive the bread and wine made holy, we ask you to come spiritually into our hearts. Fill us with your light and nourish us all with your word and Spirit. Amen.

*****All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please tell the clergy if you need gluten-free bread. If you come to the communion station for a blessing instead, please cross your arms on your chest. If you are interested in being baptized, please contact the Priest of the parish.*****

Communion Hymn: *Now the Green Blade Riseth* (Noel nouvelet) (H204)

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

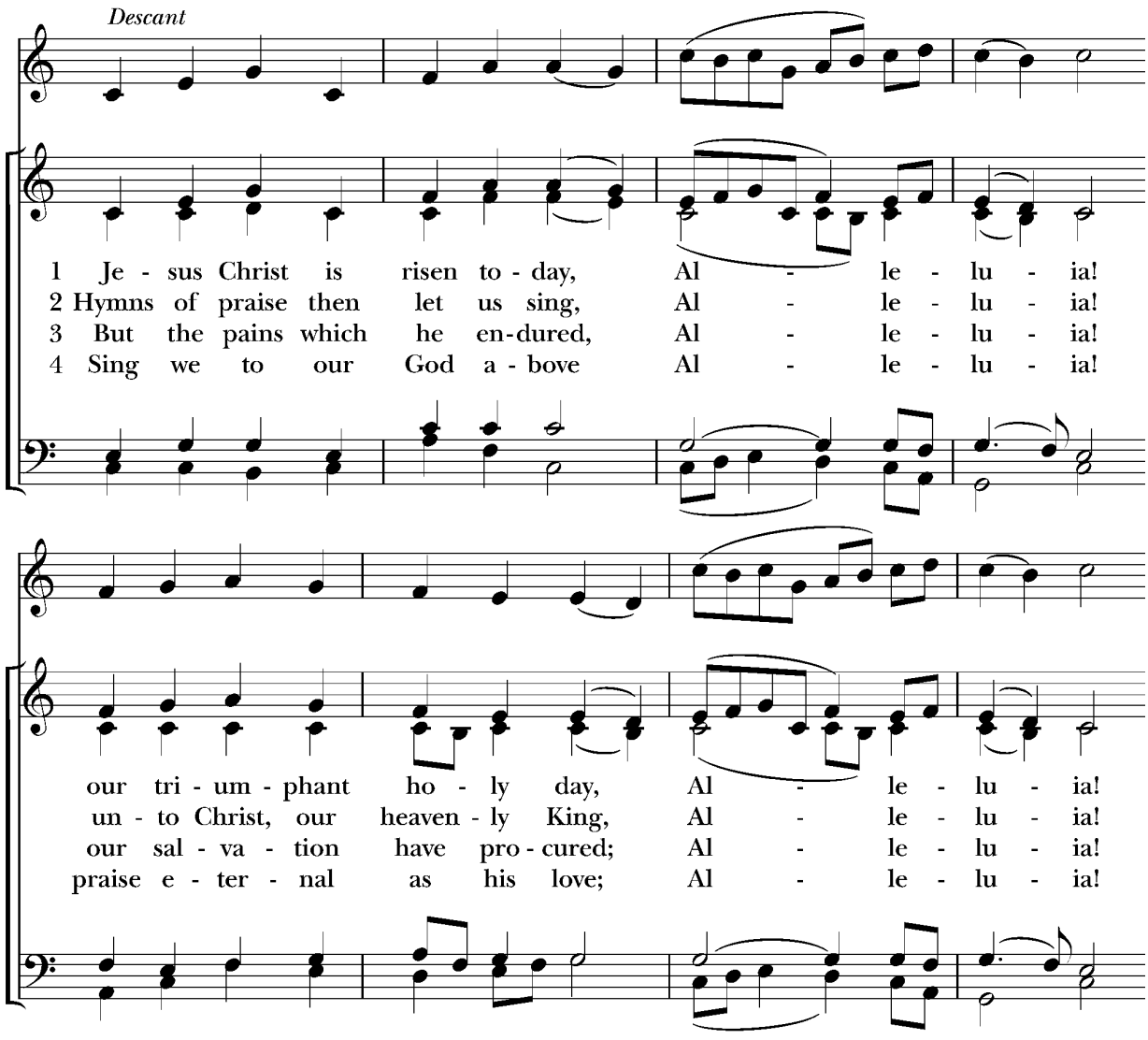
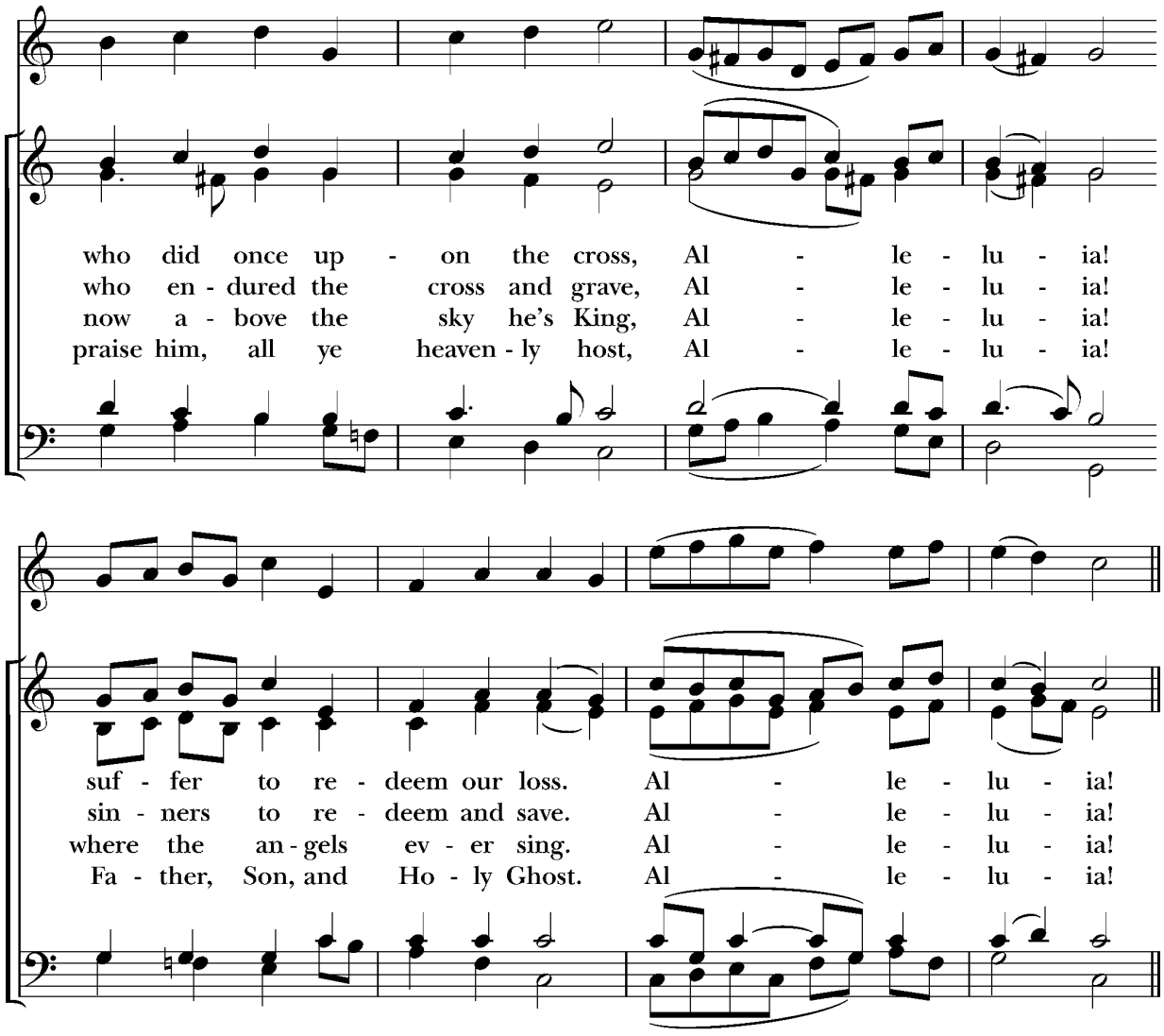
Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,

and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. ***Amen.***

Recessional Hymn: *Jesus Christ is Risen Today (H 207)*

Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ, Alleluia, Alleluia!

People Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Postlude: *Fanfare,* Jaques Nicolas Lemmens

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

A heartfelt thanks to all of you for the flowers donated to once again ensure St. Paul's is bursting with Easter joy!

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Easter Flower Memorials and Honors

Karen and David Swope
In Memory of our parents Jack & Velma Merrin, John and JoAnn Swope and family members who have passed.

Carol Sutek
In Memory of Ed Sutek and loved ones

Shirley Brown
In Memory of Donald Brown and loved ones

MaryLou and Donald Stauffer
In Memory of loved ones

Kelli Green
In Memory of Kathleen Green

Robert Vail
To The Glory of God

Peggy & Ron Neidig
In Memory of Martha and Karl Neidig, Eileen and Bill Lee, Linda Brown
To The Glory of God, Christopher Moore

Marianne Arnold
In Memory of Lee Arnold

Valerie Frear
In Memory of Clayton Frear

Barbara and Rick Anderson
In memory of Max G. and Mary Alyce Brokaw, and Dick L. and Betty Anderson.

Serena Thurin
In Memory of loved ones

David Rotthoff
In Memory of loved ones

Marcia and Rick Enslen
In Memory of loved ones

M.L Schultze and Richard Senften
In Memory of Rita and Dick Senften and Betty Schultze

Joe and Kay Ashby
In Memory of the Rev. Margo Maris

Tammy and Joe Patterson
In Memory of Joseph Weidenhamer

Nancy Suba
In Memory of Janet Cassler and Mr. and Mrs. H.O. Klingstedt

Beth and Mike Paynter
In Memory of: Norm and Elizabeth Lewis

TODAY'S SERVERS:
Celebrant: The Revs. Kay and Joe Ashby
Greeters: David Lewis
Crucifer/Thurifer: Douglas Colmery and Karl Roshong
Eucharistic Minister/Torch Bearer: Demetrius Carrothers, Nancy Suba and David Rotthoff
Video: David Lewis
Altar Guild: Barb Anderson and Susan Phillips
Lector: M.L. Schultze
Counters: David Swope and Peggy Neidig

Happy April Birthdays
Sarah Highman 04/01
Samantha Papadeonise 4/05
Vicky Simpkins 4/09
Matthew Johnson 4/10
Haley Miller 04/11
Doug Colmery 4/13
Carol Sutek 04/13
Jon Coventry 04/18

Happy April Anniversary
Marcia and Rick Enslen 04/08

Bless you for sharing your blessings

For the 40 days of Lent, we literally counted our blessings, slipping loose change and more into mite boxes as we added up the wealth – from shoes to windows to clean water – that are an almost unconscious part of our lives. We also shared cards, apologies, thank yous and smiles as part of our daily discipline.

All of it was part of the Daughters of the King Gift for Life Lenten campaign to buy goats for Episcopal Relief and Development worldwide efforts. The campaign also included bake sales. Each goat costs about $80 and we believe we've funded a pretty nice herd of them.

Today wraps up the campaign with a blessing of the boxes. But the DOK isn't done yet. To thank the parish, they're planning a homemade bread day on April 26th.

The new Archbishop of Canterbury's Easter letter: 'In a wounded world, we are called to be … people who live not in fear, but in hope; not in despair, but in the promise of new life.'

"Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit" (John 12:24).

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,
Christ is risen! Alleluia.
At Easter the Church proclaims the truth at the very heart of our faith: Christ has conquered death, and through him new life has begun. The resurrection of Jesus is not only an event remembered; it is a living reality that shapes our hope, our witness, and our shared calling as Christians. It gives us confidence – deep, unshakeable confidence – in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
This hope is not abstract. We proclaim it in a world marked by deep suffering and conflict. We think of those living amid war and violence – across the Middle East, in Ukraine, in Sudan, and in so many other places of conflict – and of the churches of the Holy Land, bearing faithful witness under immense strain. We remember all who are displaced, oppressed, or forgotten, and we renew our calling as Christians to stand with the marginalised and to serve those most in need.
In such a world, the mystery of Easter speaks with particular depth. Writing from prison, Dietrich Bonhoeffer reflected that "only a suffering God can help." These words give us pause. They remind us that in Jesus Christ, God does not stand distant from human pain, but enters into it, bears it, and transforms it. The cross stands firm while the world changes. Empires rise and fall, cultures shift, and societies transform, yet the love of God revealed in Christ crucified and risen remains constant.
The cross and the empty tomb together tell us that suffering and death do not have the final word. Suffering and pain are penultimate; ultimate is the loving embrace of God in glory. Easter proclaims that even in the darkest places, God is at work bringing life.
At Lambeth Palace, the signs of spring offer a quiet echo of this mystery. The gardens are beginning to blossom again – what seemed dormant is now filled with colour and promise. In the courtyard, the magnolia has put on a breathtaking display, its blossoms both radiant and fleeting, a reminder of beauty held in time. Even the magnolia I recently planted has begun to flourish, a small but hopeful sign of life taking root. Yet the deeper truth to which all this points is found in the words of Jesus: "Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies… it bears much fruit." The pattern of death and new life lies at the heart of the Gospel.
Easter invites each of us to entrust ourselves anew to this mystery. What in our lives, our churches, and our relationships must be surrendered so that God may bring renewal? The resurrection assures us that no act of faithful surrender is ever wasted. In the Christian East, the icon of the resurrection expresses this hope with profound beauty. Christ stands upon the broken gates of Hades, reaching down to

raise Adam and Eve, and with them the whole human family. It is a vision not only of victory, but of joy: humanity lifted into the life of the triune God.
This is a hope we share across our churches. For those engaged in the work of Christian unity, the resurrection is our common foundation and calling. Our divisions, though real, do not define the final reality of the Church. The risen Christ continues to draw us to himself and to one another, and in him we find both the courage and the confidence to walk together.
Often, this work unfolds quietly – in prayer, in friendship, in hospitality, in shared witness. Yet these small and faithful acts are seeds of a greater harvest, signs of the deeper unity we already share in Christ.
Easter calls us to live from this hope: to trust in the victory of Christ, to stand alongside those who suffer, and to bear witness with renewed confidence to the Gospel. In a wounded world, we are called to be people of resurrection – people who live not in fear, but in hope; not in despair, but in the promise of new life.
As we celebrate this holy season, may the joy of Easter renew our faith, strengthen our fellowship, and deepen our commitment to one another in Christ. And may we walk together, with confidence and hope, toward that ultimate fulfilment, when all things are made new and all creation is gathered into the loving embrace of God.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.
The Most Reverend Dame Sarah Mullally
Archbishop of Canterbury

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
We Believe God Loves You, No Exceptions

As Episcopalians, we believe in and follow the teachings of Jesus Christ, whose life, death, and resurrection saved the world. We believe in a loving, liberating, and life-giving God.

THE Episcopal CHURCH

The Episcopal Church embraces a legacy of inclusion, aspiring to tell and exemplify God's love for every human being; people of all genders and sexual orientations serve as bishops, priests, and deacons in our church. Laypeople and clergy work together in leadership and governance.

As our presiding bishop, the Most Rev. Sean Rowe, said in his sermon during his ceremonial installation, "In God's kingdom, immigrants and refugees, transgender people, the poor and the marginalized are not at the edges, fearful and alone. They are at the center of the Gospel story."