

Opening Hymn

961 Hail Thee, Festival Day



Hail thee, fes - ti - val day! Blest day to be hal - lowed for - ev - er,



day when our ris - en Lord rose in the heav - ens to reign.



- 1 He who was nailed to the cross is rul - er and Lord of all peo - ple.
3 God the Al - might - y, the Lord, the rul - er of earth and the heav - ens,
5 Spir - it of life and of pow'r, now flow in us, fount of our be - ing,



All things cre - at - ed on earth sing to the glo - ry of God:
guard us from harm with - out; cleanse us from e - vil with - in:
light that en - light - ens us all, life that in all may a - bide:



- 2 Dai - ly the love - li - ness grows, a - dorned with the glo - ry of blos - som;
4 Je - sus, the health of the world, en - light - en our minds, great Re - deem - er,
6 Praise to the giv - er of good! O Lov - er and Au - thor of con - cord,



heav - en her gate - way un - bars, fling - ing her in - crease of light:
Son of the Fa - ther su - preme, on - ly - be - got - ten of God:
pour out your balm on our days; or - der our ways in your peace:

Text: tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978; Venantius Fortunatus, c. 530–609

Tune: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

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Stand

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Confession

CW 154

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



A - men.

Glory Be to God on High

CW 157



Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor - ship you, we glorify you,



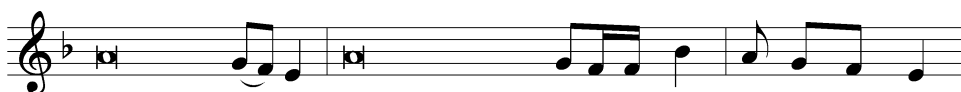
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world;



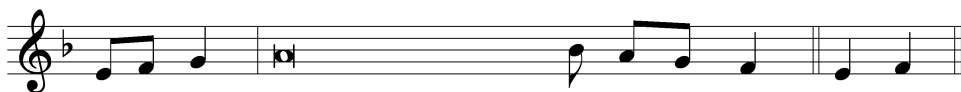
have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.



You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.



For you on-ly are holy; you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the



Ho - ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, as your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ascended into the heavens, so may we also ascend in heart and mind and continually dwell there with him, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Acts 1:1–11

¹ I wrote my first book, Theophilus, about everything Jesus began doing and teaching ² until the day he was taken up, after he had given instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. ³ After he had suffered, he presented himself alive to the apostles with many convincing proofs. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and told them things about the kingdom of God.

⁴ Once, when he was eating with them, he commanded them, “Do not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for what the Father promised, which you heard from me. ⁵ For John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

⁶ So when they were together with him, they asked, “Lord, is this the time when you are going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”

⁷ He said to them, “It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ 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.”

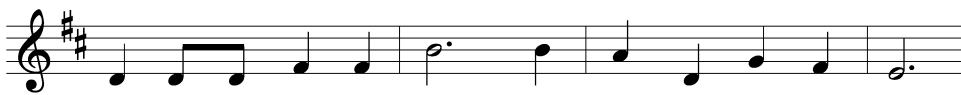
⁹ After he said these things, he was taken up while they were watching, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ They were looking intently into the sky as he went away. Suddenly, two men in white clothes stood beside them. ¹¹ They said, “Men of Galilee, why are you standing here looking up into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 47

All Peoples, Clap Your Hands



1 All peo - ples, clap your hands, and shout with joy and sing.
2 God has gone up on high, with shout and trum - pet voice;
3 No - bles from all the earth are joined with A - bram's seed;



The LORD Most High is to be feared; he is the earth's great King.
sing praise to God, our glo - rious King, sing praise to him, re - joice!
the rul - ers of the world are God's; he's lift - ed high in - deed!



He brings the na - tions down, sub - dues them in our sight;
For God is King of all. Sing praise with all your skill;
So to the Fa - ther raise, with his as - cend - ed Son,



he choos - es our in - her - it - ance; his love is Ja - cob's might.
he sits up - on his ho - ly throne and rules the na - tions still.
and Ho - ly Spir - it end - less praise, e - ter - nal Three in One.

Text: Christopher L. Webber

Tune: George J. Elvey

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Second Reading

Ephesians 4:7–16

⁷ But to each one of us grace was given, according to the measure of the gift from Christ. ⁸ That is why it says, “When he ascended on high, he took captivity captive and gave gifts to his people.” ⁹ Now what does it mean when it says “he ascended,” other than that he also had descended to the lower parts, namely, the earth? ¹⁰ He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things. ¹¹ He himself gave the apostles, as well as the prophets, as well as the evangelists, as well as the pastors and teachers, ¹² for the purpose of training the saints for the work of serving, in order to build up the body of Christ. ¹³ This is to continue until we all reach unity in the faith and knowledge of the Son of God, resulting in a mature man with a stature reaching to the measure of the fullness of Christ. ¹⁴ The goal is that we would no longer be little children, tossed by the waves and blown around by every wind of teaching, when people use tricks and invent clever ways to lead us astray. ¹⁵ Instead, speaking the truth in love, we would in all things grow up into Christ, who is the head. ¹⁶ From him the whole body, being joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows in accordance with Christ’s activity when he measured out each individual part. He causes the growth of the body so that it builds itself up in love.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 28:20



Refrain



Tone



Gospel

Luke 24:44-53

⁴⁴ He said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms.”

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ He said to them, “This is what is written and so it must be: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ Look, I am sending you what my Father promised. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

⁵⁰ He led them out as far as the vicinity of Bethany. He lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹ And while he was blessing them, he parted from them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵² So they worshipped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. ⁵³ They were continually in the temple courts, praising and blessing God. Amen.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Hymn of the Day

557 Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice



- 1 Dear Chris-tians, one and all, re - joi-ce, with ex - ul - ta - tion
- 2 Fast bound in Sa - tan's chains I lay; death brood-ed dark - ly
- 3 My own good works a - vailed me naught, no mer - it they at -
- 4 But God be - held my wretch-ed state be - fore the world's foun -



spring - ing, and, with u - nit - ed heart and voice and ho - ly
o'er me. Sin was my tor - ment night and day; in sin my
tain - ing; my will a - gainst God's judg - ment fought, no hope for
da - tion, and, mind - ful of his mer - cies great, he planned for



rap - ture sing - ing, pro - claim the won - ders God has done, how
moth - er bore me. Yet deep and deep - er still I fell; life
me re - main - ing. My fears in - creased till sheer de - spair left
my sal - va - tion. A fa - ther's heart he turned to me, sought



his right arm the vic - t'ry won. How dear - ly it has cost him!
had be - come a liv - ing hell, so firm - ly sin pos - sessed me.
on - ly death to be my share and hell to be my sen - tence.
my re - demp - tion fer - vent - ly; he gave his dear - est trea - sure.

- 5 He spoke to his beloved Son:
 “It’s time to have compassion.
Then go, bright jewel of my crown,
 and bring to all salvation.
From sin and sorrow set them free;
slay bitter death for them that they
 may live with you forever.”
- 6 The Son obeyed his Father’s will,
 was born of virgin mother,
and, God’s good pleasure to fulfill,
 he came to be my brother.
No garb of pomp or pow’r he wore;
a servant’s form like mine he bore
 to lead the devil captive.
- 7 To me he spoke, “Hold fast to me,
 I am your rock and castle.
Your ransom I myself will be;
 for you I strive and wrestle.
For I am yours, your friend divine,
and evermore you shall be mine;
 the foe shall not divide us.
- 8 “The foe will shed my precious blood,
 me of my life bereaving;
all this I suffer for your good;
 be steadfast and believing.
Life will from death the vict’ry win;
my innocence shall bear your sin,
 and you are blest forever.
- 9 “Now to my Father I depart,
 the Holy Spirit sending
and, heav’nly wisdom to impart,
 my help to you extending.
He will a source of comfort be,
teach you to know and follow me,
 and in all truth will guide you.
- 10 “What I on earth have lived and taught
 be all your life and teaching;
so shall my kingdom’s work be wrought
 and honored in your preaching.
Take care that no one’s man-made laws
should e’er destroy the gospel’s cause;
 this final word I leave you.”

“Mission Accomplished”

Stand

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 in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy Christian 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.**

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

Brief intercessory prayers may be added in a fitting place.

Ascended Lord, seated at the right hand of the Father, we rejoice in your rule. In wisdom you govern the kingdoms of this world. Bless all those in positions of authority. Lead them to confess that all power comes from you. Continue to work all things together for the good of your kingdom, and guard and protect us from all harm and danger.

When you ascended on high, you gave good gifts to us. We thank you for sending the apostles and evangelists to record your words and explain them in Scripture. Continue to provide pastors and teachers to guide and equip your people. Empower us to share your gospel with all nations.

Direct us always to you for grace that will help us in our time of need. As our High Priest, continue to intercede for us with the Father when we pray in your name. [Bear before the Father our individual petitions, as we especially pray for . . . *here name the cause of the petition.*]

Lord Jesus, as you humbled yourself even to death on the cross before you were exalted on high, lead us through all our trials in patient and humble faith until you lift us up on high where you have gone to prepare a place for us.

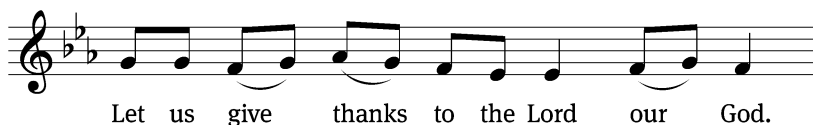
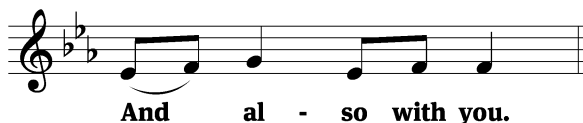
On this festival day, we join the angels in rejoicing that you completed the work of salvation and returned to your glory. With those who gazed up toward heaven, lift up our hearts as we await your return. Come quickly and redeem our bodies as you have redeemed our souls. We praise and bless you, our victorious Savior. Amen.

The Sacrament

Stand

Preface

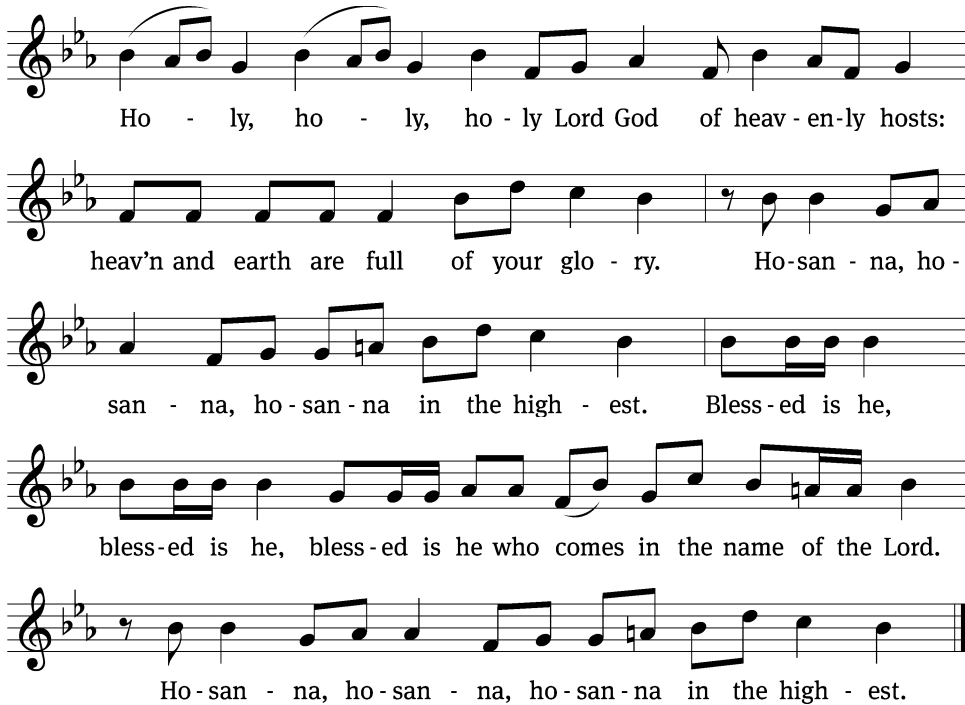
CW 165



It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who by his willing sacrifice on the cross took away the sins of the world and by his glorious resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

CW 167



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en-ly hosts:
heav'n 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,
bless-ed is he, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho-san - na, ho-san - na, ho-san - na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer

Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.

By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.

By his innocent death, he overcame hell.

By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

Amen.

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.

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed.... Do this in remembrance of me.”

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God

CW 169

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - men.

Be seated

To Our Guests, Regarding Communion:

Our Saviour Evangelical Lutheran Church practices “**Close Communion.**” Members in good standing of congregations of WELS and ELS may commune at our altar. All others are asked to meet with the pastor first before communing at our altar.



Distribution Hymn

472 A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing *sts. 1-4*



1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New songs through-
 2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band up - on the
 3 To them the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why stand and
 4 "You see him now, as - cend - ing high up to the



out the world shall ring: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Mount of Ol - ives stand, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 gaze up - on the sky?" Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 por - tals of the sky." Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Christ, by a road be - fore un - trod, as - cends un -
 and with his fol - low - ers they see their Lord as -
 "This is the Sav - ior," thus they say. "This is his
 "Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall see re - turn - ing



to the throne of God. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 cend in maj - es - ty. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 glo - rious tri - umph day." Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 in great maj - es - ty." Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



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

Text: tr. composite; The Venerable Bede, 673-735, abr. Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, Köln, 1623; Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift.
We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our
love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who
lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
Amen.

Closing Hymn

472 A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing *sts. 5-6*

5 Be now our joy on earth, O Lord, and be our
6 O ris - en Christ, as - cend - ed Lord, all praise to
fu - ture great re - ward. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
you let earth ac - cord. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Then, throned with you for - ev - er, we shall praise your
You are, while end - less a - ges run, with Fa - ther
name e - ter - nal - ly. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
and with Spir - it one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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