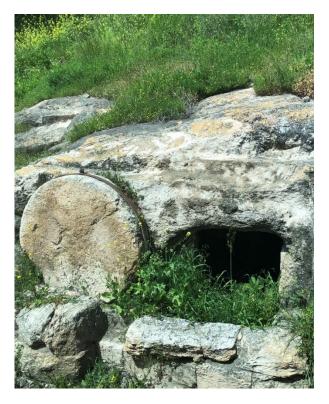
April 7, 2024 2ND Sunday of Easter



I am the Resurrection and the Life.

11:00 AM

TODAY'S MINISTERS

Celebrant The Rev. Kevin Antlitz, Assistant Rector

> *Preacher* The Rev. Jess Bennett, Curate

Assisting Priest The Rev. Cn. Jonathan Millard, Rector

Cover Art Photo by Marilyn Chislaghi. Used by permission.

Attention Parents

Room 105 is available for nursing mothers. Our nursery is available 15 mins prior to the service for infants – 3 yrs (Rooms 101 & 102). Parents who would like them to receive Communion are invited to pick them up at the Peace. After the Children's Talk, children 4 yrs – 5th grade may process to our Kids' Church program in the Children's Chapel (Hunt Rooms). They will be brought back after the Peace.

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

AT CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

A Worshipping Community; Equipping God's People; Sharing Christ's Healing with a Broken World

THE ORDER FOR A SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE PRELUDE

"Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring" Catherine Crotty, piano

Please stand at the sound of the chimes

THE ENTRANCE HYMN

"He Is Risen, He Is Risen!"

vv 1-2, 4

Blue Hymnal #180

 He is risen, he is risen!
 Tell it out with joyful voice: he has burst his three days' prison; let the whole wide earth rejoice: death is conquered, we are free, Christ has won the victory.

2) Come, ye sad and fearful-hearted, with glad smile and radiant brow! Death's long shadows have departed; Jesus' woes are over now, and the passion that he bore sin and pain can vex no more.

4) He is risen, he is risen! He hath opened heaven's gate: we are free from sin's dark prison, risen to a holier state; and a brighter Easter beam on our longing eyes shall stream.

THE ACCLAMATION

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

by J.S. Bach

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant and People

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.

THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

The Celebrant prays

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets. *Matthew* 22:37-40

HYMN OF GLORY

"All Glory Be to God on High"

Blue Hymnal #421

 All glory be to God on high, and peace on earth from heaven, and God's good will unfailingly be to all peo-ple given.
 We bless, we worship you, we raise for your great glory thanks and praise, O God, Almighty Father.

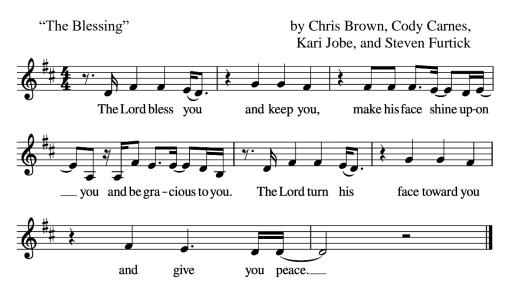
2) O Lamb of God, Lord Jesus Christ, whom God the Father gave us, who for the world was sacrificed upon the cross to save us; and, as you sit at God's right hand and we for judgment there must stand, have mercy, Lord, upon us.

3) You only are the Holy One, who came for our salvation, and only you are God's true Son, who was before creation. You only, Christ, as Lord we own and, with the Spirit, you alone share in the Father's glory.

THE CHILDREN'S TALK The Rev. Jess Bennett

Children through 5th grade are invited to come forward. Afterwards, parents may bring infants – age 3 to the nursery (Rooms 101 and 102). Children age 4 – 5th grade are invited to process to our Kids' Church program in the Children's Chapel (Hunt Rooms). They will be brought back after the Peace.

The People stand and sing as the Children process.



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THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

The Celebrant continues

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 are seated.

THE LESSONS

THE FIRST READING Acts 3

3 ¹One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, at three o'clock in the afternoon. ²And a man lame from birth was being carried in. People would lay him daily at the gate of the temple called the Beautiful Gate so that he could ask for alms from those entering the temple. ³When he saw Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked them for alms. ⁴Peter looked intently at him, as did John, and said, "Look at us." ⁵And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them. ⁶But Peter said, "I have no silver or gold, but what I have I give you; in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, stand up and walk." ⁷And he took him by the right hand and raised him up; and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. ⁸Jumping up, he stood and began to walk, and he entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. ⁹All the people saw him walking and praising God, ¹⁰and they recognized him as the one who used to sit and ask for alms at the Beautiful Gate of the temple; and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

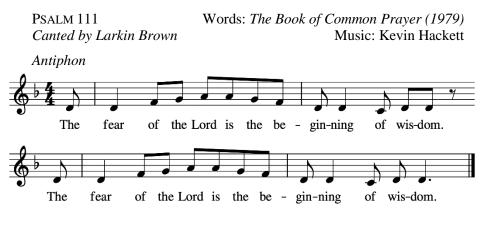
¹¹While he clung to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's Portico, utterly astonished. ¹²When Peter saw it, he addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

¹⁷"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out, ²⁰so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Messiah appointed for you, that is, Jesus, ²¹who must remain in heaven until the time of universal restoration that God announced long ago through his holy prophets. *Continued*

²²"Moses said, 'The Lord your God will raise up for you from your own people a prophet like me. You must listen to whatever he tells you. ²³And it will be that everyone who does not listen to that prophet will be utterly rooted out of the people.' ²⁴And all the prophets, as many as have spoken, from Samuel and those after him, also predicted these days. ²⁵You are the descendants of the prophets and of the covenant that God gave to your ancestors, saying to Abraham, 'And in your descendants all the families of the earth shall be blessed.' ²⁶When God raised up his servant, he sent him first to you, to bless you by turning each of you from your wicked ways."

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

Please stand and join in singing the Antiphon to our psalm.



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¹Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,

in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

²Great are the deeds of the LORD!

they are studied by all who delight in them. Antiphon

³ His work is full of majesty and splendor, and his righteousness endures for ever.
⁴ He makes his marvelous works to be remembered; the LORD is gracious and full of compassion.
⁵ He gives food to those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant.

⁶ He has shown his people the power of his works in giving them the lands of the nations.	Antiphon
⁷ The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice;	
all his commandments are sure.	
⁸ They stand fast for ever and ever,	
because they are done in truth and equity.	Antiphon
 ⁹ He sent redemption to his people; he commanded his covenant for ever; holy and awesome is his Name. ¹⁰ The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; Those who act accordingly have a good understanding; His praise endures for ever. Antiphon 	
Please remain standing and join in singing, turning as the cros	s passes.

SEQUENCE HYMN "Now the Green Blade Riseth" vv 1-2 Blue Hymnal #204

1) Now the green blade riseth from the buried grain, wheat that in dark earth many days has lain; Love lives again, that with the dead has been: Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

2) In the grave they laid him, Love whom hate had slain, thinking that never he would wake again, laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen: Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

vv. 3 and 4 will be sung after the reading.

THE GOSPEL John 20:19-31

Assisting PriestThe Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to JohnPeopleGlory to you, Lord Christ.

20 ¹⁹When 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." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." ²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So 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."

²⁶A 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." ²⁷Then 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." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But 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.

Assisting PriestThe Gospel of the Lord.PeoplePraise to you, Lord Christ.

"Now the Green Blade Riseth" (continued)

Blue Hymnal #204

3) Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain, he that for three days in the grave had lain, quick from the dead my risen Lord is seen: Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

4) When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain, thy touch can call us back to life again, fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been: Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

THE SERMON The Rev. Jess Bennett

THE NICENE CREED

Celebrant Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed: Celebrant and People We believe in one God. the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, visible and invisible. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only-begotten 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 from the Holy Spirit and 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, 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.

Please kneel as you are able.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

After each peti	tion
Intercessor	Lord, in your mercy,
People	Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant concludes

Heavenly Father, grant these our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SIN

Assisting Priest Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

A brief silence will be kept.

Assisting Priest 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 your Son 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.

Celebrant

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please stand.

THE PEACE

CelebrantThe peace of the Lord be always with you.PeopleAnd with your spirit.

The Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Parents who would like their infant -3 year olds to receive Communion are invited to pick them up at this time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OFFERTORY

The Celebrant says a sentence of Scripture.

The People stand and sing while the offering plates are passed and the Table is prepared.

OFFERTORY SONG "What a Beautiful Name"

Music Supplement p. 50

2) You were the Word at the beginning, one with God, the Lord Most High; your hidden glory in creation, now revealed in you, our Christ.

Refrain 1 What a BEAUTIFUL Name it is.
What a BEAUTIFUL Name it is, the Name of Jesus Christ, my King.
What a BEAUTIFUL Name it is, nothing compares to this.
What a BEAUTIFUL Name it is, the Name of Jesus.

2) You didn't want heaven without us, so Jesus, you brought heaven down.

My sin was great—your love was greater.

What could separate us now?

Refrain 2 What a WONDERFUL Name it is...

Continued

Bridge Death could not hold you, the veil tore before you, you silence the boast of sin and grave.
The heavens are roaring the praise of your glory for you are raised to life again.
You have no rival, you have no equal, now and forever, God, you reign.
Yours is the kingdom, yours is the glory, yours is the Name above all names.

Refrain 3 What a POWERFUL Name it is.What a POWERFUL Name it is, the Name of Jesus Christ, my King.What a POWERFUL Name it is, nothing can stand against.What a POWERFUL Name it is, the Name of Jesus.

The People sing while the offerings are brought forward.

DOXOLOGY Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here below. Praise him above, ye heav'nly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

THE SURSUM CORDA

Celebrant	The Lord be with you.
People	And with your spirit.
Celebrant	Lift up your hearts.
People	We lift them up to the Lord.
Celebrant	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People	It is right to give him thanks and praise.

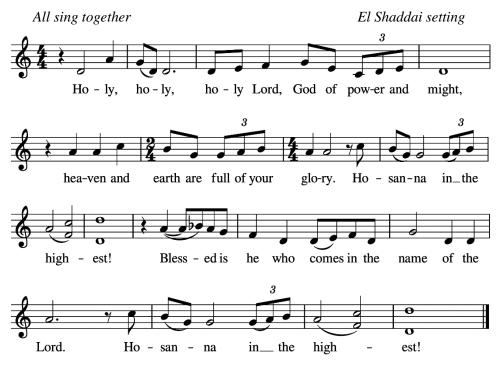
The Celebrant continues

It is right, our duty and our joy, 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 offered for us, and has taken away the sin of the world; who by his death has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again has won for us everlasting life.

Old Hundredth

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:





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THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

The People may kneel or remain standing.

The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my Body which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for 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 in remembrance of me."

All sing together King of Glory setting Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will Christ has died. christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain, will come a - gain.

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face. 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

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

Celebrant and People

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.

THE FRACTION

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread.

Celebrant	Alleluia. Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed,
	once for all upon the cross.
People	Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia

THE MINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

The Celebrant gives this invitation

The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

THE AGNUS DEI All sing together Elohim setting 3 of Lamb God, you take а way the sin of the world: 2. 1. σ σ have mer-cy us grant us, grant us your on_ peace.

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The People are seated.

All baptized Christians are invited to come forward to receive the bread and wine. Inform the Bread Bearer if you need a gluten-free wafer.

Please cup your hands so that the Bread Bearer may place a wine-dipped wafer into your hands.

If for any reason you are not receiving today, you are invited to come forward to receive a blessing. Simply cross your arms over your chest and the Minister will know to give you a blessing instead of the bread and wine.

COMMUNION MUSIC

"O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing"

Blue Hymnal #493

1) O for a thousand tongues to sing my dear Redeemer's praise, the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!

2) My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim and spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy Name.

3) Jesus! the Name that charms our fears and bids our sorrows cease; 'tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.

4) He speaks; and, listening to his voice, new life the dead receive, the mournful broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe.

5) Hear him, ye deaf; ye voiceless ones, your loosened tongues employ; ye blind, behold, your Savior comes; and leap, ye lame, for joy!

6) Glory to God and praise and love be now and ever given by saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heaven.

"O Come to the Altar"

Music Supplement p. 24

 Are you hurting and broken within, overwhelmed by the weight of your sin? Jesus is calling. Have you come to the end of yourself; do you thirst for a drink from the well? Jesus is calling.

Refrain O come to the altar; the Father's arms are open wide. Forgiveness was bought with the precious blood of Jesus Christ.

2) Leave behind your regrets and mistakes. Come today, there's no reason to wait. Jesus is calling. Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy; from the ashes a new life is born. Jesus is calling. *Refrain*

Bridge Oh what a Savior, isn't he wonderful. Sing alleluia, Christ is risen! Bow down before him for he is Lord of all. Sing alleluia, Christ is risen! Repeat

3) Bear your cross as you wait for the crown. Tell the world of the treasure you've found. *Refrain*

"Our Great God"

Music Supplement p. 32

 Eternal God, unchanging, mysterious and unknown; your boundless love, unfailing, in grace and mercy shown.
 Bright seraphim in ceaseless flight around your glorious throne; they raise their voices day and night in praise to you alone. *Continued*

Refrain	Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!
	Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!

2) Lord, we are weak and frail, helpless in the storm.Surround us with your angels, hold us in your arms.Our cold and ruthless enemy, his pleasure is our harm.Rise up, O Lord, and he will flee before our sovereign God. *Refrain*

3) Let ev'ry creature in the sea and ev'ry flying bird, let ev'ry mountain, ev'ry field and valley of the earth, let all the moons and all the stars in all the universe sing praises to the living God who rules them with his word. *Refrain*

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

The People may stand or kneel

Celebrant and People

Heavenly Father, 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.

THE BLESSING

The Celebrant gives this blessing

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Please stand and join in singing.

THE EXIT HYMN

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

1) Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love; hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee, praising thee, their sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away; giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

2) All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heav'n reflect thy rays, stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise. field and forest, vale and mountain, blooming meadow, flashing sea, chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.

3) Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest, wellspring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest! Thou our Father, Christ our Brother: all who live in love are thine; teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

4) Mortals, join the mighty chorus, which the morning stars began; Father love is reigning o'er us, brother love binds man to man. Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife, joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE POSTLUDE

"Ode to Joy" Heidi Mayhew, organ arr. Callahan

Thank you for worshipping with us! Please join us after the service downstairs in the New Catacombs for Hospitality Hour.

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" Words: Henry Van Dyke, 1907 Music: Ode to Joy, Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)



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WELCOME!

To learn more about what is going on at Ascension and to register for events, scan the QR code below.





Church of the Ascension

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