

**Easter 6  
May 5, 2024**

**Service of Holy Communion  
ELW — Setting 1**

**PRELUDE:**

Sara Johnson, organ

*Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing*

arr. Wilbur Held

*Beautiful Savior*

arr. Flor Peeters

GELOBT SEI GOTT (*Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!*)

arr. Andrew Gant

**RESURRECTION PROCLAMATION:** (Repeat 3 times)

**P** Christ is Risen. **C** **He is Risen indeed. Hallelujah!**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*The assembly stands.*

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

**C** **Amen.**

**P** God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

**P** Gracious God,

**C** **have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

**C** **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN** *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!* ELW #385

**GREETING:**

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C** **And also with you.**

## Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!

1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice and sing! Now is the tri - umph  
 2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; death's might - y stone is  
 3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that life which  
 4 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to - day with

of our king! To all the world glad news we bring:  
 rolled a - way; let all the earth re - joice and say:  
 can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:  
 one ac - cord, the life laid down, the life re - stored:

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: Cyril A. Alington, 1872-1955, alt.  
 Music: GELOBT SEI GOTT, Melchior Vulpus, 1570-1615  
 Text © 1952, ren. 1980 *Hymns Ancient & Modern*, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.  
 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

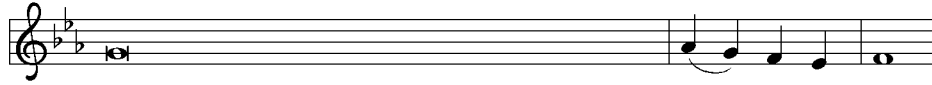
**KYRIE:**



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



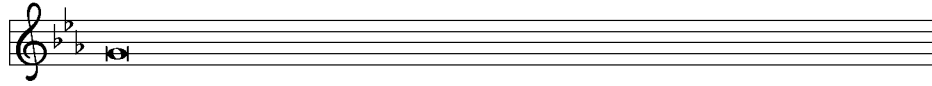
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



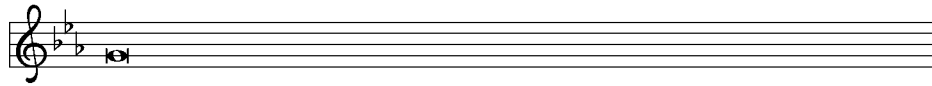
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

# CANTICLE OF PRAISE:


*Refrain*




This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.




Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and




blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.  
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:




Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and  
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to

*Refrain*




hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.  
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

*Refrain*



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

*A brief silence.*

**P** Let us pray.

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*The assembly is seated*

## FIRST READING: Acts 10:44-48

*While Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.*

<sup>44</sup>While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. <sup>45</sup>The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, <sup>46</sup>for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, <sup>47</sup>“Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” <sup>48</sup>So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

**Reader:** The word of the Lord.

**Response:** Thanks be to God.

## PSALM: Psalm 98

<sup>1</sup>Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done <sup>1</sup>marvelous things,  
whose right hand and holy arm have <sup>1</sup>won the victory.

<sup>2</sup>**O LORD, you have made <sup>1</sup>known your victory,  
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight <sup>1</sup>of the nations.**

<sup>3</sup>You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the <sup>1</sup>house of Israel;  
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory <sup>1</sup>of our God.

<sup>4</sup>**Shout with joy to the LORD, <sup>1</sup>all you lands;  
lift up your voice, re- <sup>1</sup>joice, and sing.**

<sup>5</sup>Sing to the LORD <sup>1</sup>with the harp,  
with the harp and the <sup>1</sup>voice of song.

<sup>6</sup>**With trumpets and the sound <sup>1</sup>of the horn  
shout with joy before the <sup>1</sup>king, the LORD.**

<sup>7</sup>Let the sea roar, and <sup>1</sup>all that fills it,  
the world and those who <sup>1</sup>dwell therein.

<sup>8</sup>**Let the rivers <sup>1</sup>clap their hands,  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to <sup>1</sup>judge the earth.**

<sup>9</sup>The LORD will judge the <sup>1</sup>world with righteousness  
and the peo- <sup>1</sup>ples with equity.

## SECOND READING: 1 John 5:1-6

*God's children believe that Jesus is the Messiah and love God by keeping God's commandments. Thus the world is conquered not through military might but through love and faith.*

<sup>1</sup>Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. <sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. <sup>3</sup>For the love of God is this, that we obey his command-

ments. And his commandments are not burdensome, <sup>4</sup>for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

<sup>6</sup>This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

**Reader:** The word of the Lord.

**Response:** Thanks be to God.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
*Repeat alleluia*  
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

### GOSPEL: John 15:9-17

**A** The holy gospel according to John.

**C** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead. Here, he repeats the most important of all his commands, that they love one another.*

[Jesus said:] <sup>9</sup>“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

<sup>12</sup>“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup>I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. <sup>17</sup>I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

*The gospel concludes:*

**P** The gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**SERMON:**

Pastor Karen Husby

*The assembly stands.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** *Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!*

ELW #383

**NICENE CREED:**

**C** 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:**

*The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.*

**A** Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

*A brief silence.*

Your Holy Spirit falls upon all who hear the word. Fill your church with the gifts of your Spirit and give understanding hearts to those who strengthen our commitments with our ecumenical and interreligious partners. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You speak and the face of the earth is renewed. Revive your creation, that habitats and every kind of living thing might flourish. Protect endangered species and help us to care for all your creatures. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your world is divided and the nations rage. Grant wisdom and vision to world leaders, that they may seek justice, peace, and the good of all. Strengthen international partnerships and cooperation. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

## Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!



- 1 Christ is ris-en! Shout Ho-san-na! Cel-e-brate this day of days!
- 2 Christ is ris-en! Raise your spir-its from the cav-erns of de-spair.
- 3 Christ is ris-en! Earth and heav-en nev-er-more shall be the same.



Christ is ris-en! Hush in won-der: all cre-a-tion is a-mazed.  
Walk with glad-ness in the morn-ing. See what love can do and dare.  
Break the bread of new cre-a-tion where the world is still in pain.



In the des-ert all-sur-round-ing, see, a spread-ing tree has grown.  
Drink the wine of res-ur-rec-tion, not a ser-vant, but a friend.  
Tell its grim, de-mon-ic chor-us: "Christ is ris-en! Get you gone!"



Heal-ing leaves of grace a-bound-ing bring a taste of love un-known.  
Je-sus is our strong com-pan-ion. Joy and peace shall nev-er end.  
God the First and Last is with us. Sing Ho-san-na, ev-'ry-one!

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: TURNBULL, Thomas Pavlechko, b. 1962

Text © 1986 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Music © 2006 Thomas Pavlechko, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.



Your children are in need. Comfort all those who suffer, especially those afflicted by anxiety, depression, and mental illness. Help us to be conduits of your love in our care for one another. Provide for those serving in our military, police and fire departments, and those in any need, especially, Linda Afdahl, Mark Allman, Dave & Mary Smith and those we lift up to you now, either out loud or silently before you... (pause). God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For students and teachers as they prepare for the end of the term. May your peace sustain them through the anxiety and stresses of this time. Remind them of your unfailing love, and that you hold them safe. May your loving hand guide them through their exams and lead them into a bright future. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your work is done in this place with our hands. Bless the ministries of this congregation, that we may embody your love for the world. Inspire those who plan and lead worship, council members, committee members, and volunteers. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Your blessed saints now rest in you. Give us thankful hearts for those who have gone before us. At the last, bring us all together around your heavenly banquet table. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

**P** Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**C** **And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words. The assembly is seated.*

## **OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY MUSIC:** Trinity Choir with Adam Stattner, drum, Bill Strecker, soloist  
*Jesu, Jesu* Tom Colvin/Dorothy & Tom Christopherson

*The assembly stands.*

**OFFERING SONG:** *Create in Me* ELW #186

## **PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS**

### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**P** Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

**C** **Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:

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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: '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.', and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'

## PREFACE:

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of', 'pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -', 'san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the', and 'name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.'

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE:**

**P** Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**C** **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

**Come Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

**Come Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

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

**C** **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.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

**P** The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

*The assembly is seated.*

**LAMB OF GOD:**

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

**COMMUNION HYMNS:**

*I Come with Joy*  
*Beautiful Savior*  
*Jesus Loves Me!*

ELW #482  
ELW #838  
ELW #595

*The assembly stands.*

**TABLE BLESSING**

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**C** Amen

## I Come with Joy



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and  
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are  
3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion  
4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er  
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in  
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in  
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and  
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -  
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.  
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.  
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.  
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.  
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

Text © 1971, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

## Beautiful Savior

1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,  
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,  
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,  
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,

Son of God and Son of Man!  
 robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;  
 bright the spar - kling stars on high;  
 Son of God and Son of Man!

Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,  
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,  
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er  
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,

light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.  
 than all the an - gels in the sky.  
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

## Jesus Loves Me!

1 Je - sus loves me! this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so;  
2 Je - sus loves me! he who died heav - en's gates to o - pen wide;  
3 Je - sus loves me! he will stay close be - side me all the way;

The first system of music consists of a treble and bass staff in G major (one sharp). The treble staff contains the melody, and the bass staff contains a simple harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

lit - tle ones to him be - long, they are weak, but he is strong.  
he will wash a - way my sin, let his lit - tle child come in.  
when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high.

The second system of music continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

*Refrain*

Yes, Je - sus loves me, yes, Je - sus loves me,

The refrain section is marked with the word 'Refrain' in italics. It features a treble and bass staff with a melody in the treble and accompaniment in the bass. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

yes, Je - sus loves me, the Bi - ble tells me so.

The final system of music concludes the piece with the same melody and accompaniment as the previous systems. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

## SONG AFTER COMMUNION:

### Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let  
ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - jice and bear the name of Christ.  
Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with  
shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980  
Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927  
Text and music © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

**A** Shepherd God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

**C Amen.**

*Silence for reflection. The assembly is seated.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BLESSING

**P** Alleluia! Christ is Risen!  
**C** **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**  
**P** The God of resurrection power,  
The Christ of unending joy,  
And the spirit of Easter hope  
Bless you now and always.  
**C** **Amen.**



**SENDING HYMN:**            *Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing*

ELW #389

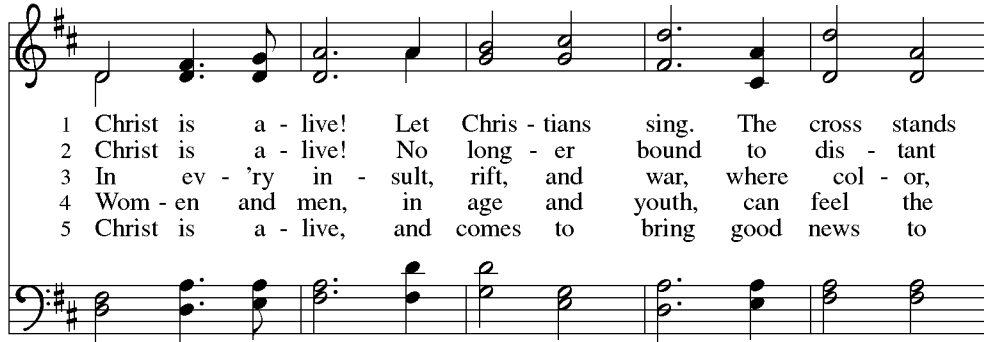
**DISMISSAL**

**A**     Alleluia! Go in peace. Growing in Grace,  
**C**     **Sharing Christ's Love. Alleluia!**


**POSTLUDE:**            *Christ ist erstanden (Christ is Arisen)*

*J. K. F. Fischer*

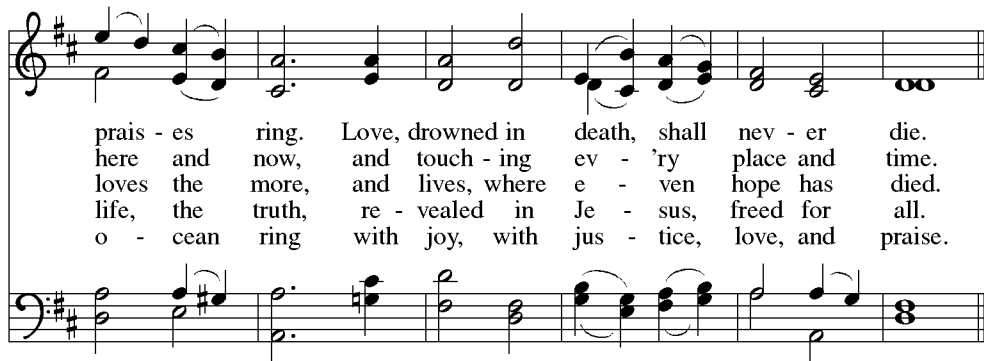
## Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands  
2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant  
3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,  
4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the  
5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with  
years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing  
scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet  
Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the  
this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.  
here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.  
loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.  
life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.  
o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: TRURO, T. Williams, *Psalmody Evangelica*, 1789

Text © 1975, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

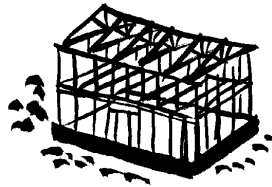
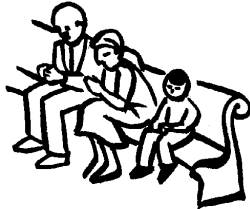
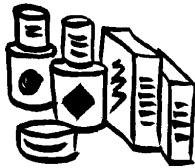
Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

# Send

## Ways to love

Congregations of people everywhere share Jesus' love in all kinds of ways. Offerings are given, food and clothing collected, quilts are made, prayers said, and homes are built.

Circle all the ways your congregation shares Jesus' love.



How else does your congregation share Jesus' love?  
Draw a picture of it here.



*Jesus, thank you for loving  
us so we can love too!*

*Amen*

## This week

Love a neighbor by surprising them with a plate of home-made cookies!

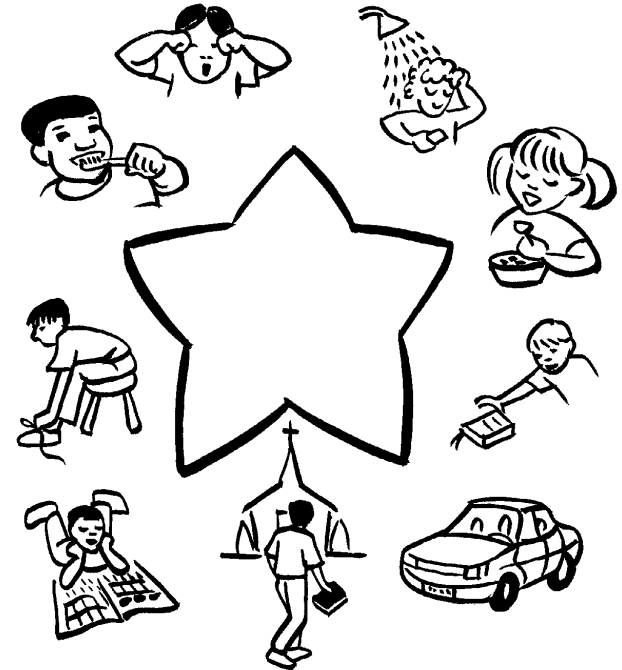
# Kids Celebrate

Sixth Sunday of Easter



## gather

**Welcome to worship.** Today is the sixth Sunday of Easter. All of us get ready for worship in different ways, and our families celebrate Sundays differently. What did you do to get ready for church this morning? What will you do after church?



**Draw a heart around everything you did this morning to get ready for worship, and inside the star, draw a picture of something your family usually does together after worship.**

## Jesus' new commandment

John 15:9-17

Jesus and his friends, the disciples, did everything together. They ate, played, worked, and cared for others. Jesus was a wonderful teacher, and he taught them many things about God. One day when Jesus was with his friends, he gave them a new commandment. This is what Jesus said.

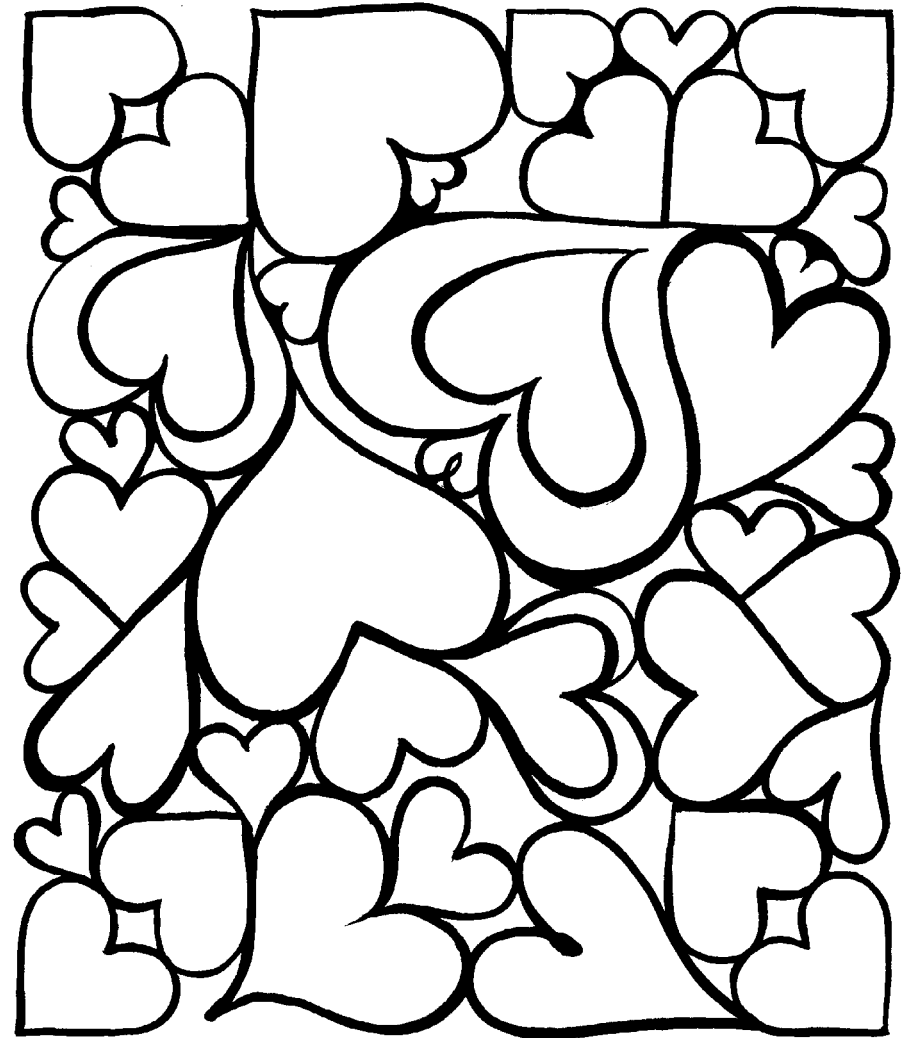
**Color in the boxes with hearts, and discover Jesus' new commandment.**

♥	L	♥	O	V	♥	E	♥	♥
♥	♥	O	N	♥	E	♥	♥	♥
A	N	♥	O	T	H	♥	E	R
♥	♥	A	♥	♥	♥	S	♥	♥
♥	♥	♥	I	♥	♥	♥	♥	♥
H	♥	A	♥	♥	V	E	♥	♥
L	O	♥	♥	V	E	♥	D	♥
♥	♥	♥	Y	♥	O	♥	U	♥

## Hearts the same

We can love because Jesus loves us!

**Find and color 12 hearts that are the same.**



Choose one thing that your family will do together every Sunday. Maybe you'll make pizza, play games, or take a walk....Enjoy your time with each other.