

Victorious

OUR ASCENDED LORD IS COMING SOON

The Seventh Sunday after Easter

Worship Series: *VICTORIOUS*

To the world he seemed like a defeated man: opposed and killed by his enemies, his followers scattered in fear. Yet three days after Jesus' death he rose victorious from the dead. Nothing would ever be the same. The rest of eternity is now a victory march for the risen Christ. During Easter, we should not think of ourselves as passive observers in Christ's victory. We are more than fans cheering for our favorite athlete! Rather, we are active participants in Christ's triumph. Just as his death was our death, so also his life is our life. Buried with Christ in baptism, our life is now hidden with him on high. The victory is ours, now and forever.

Easter is more than a day. It is an entire joyful season. The six solemn weeks of Lent are eclipsed by seven weeks of unbridled joy. These seven weeks correspond to the period of fifty days on the Jewish calendar between Passover and Pentecost. The Church reserves its highest praise for the Easter season. We do not merely watch from the sidelines as Christ marches in victory over sin, death, Satan, and hell. We join in the festal procession!

THEME OF THE DAY – Our Ascended Lord Is Coming Soon

Communion

We are celebrating the Lord's Supper today. Scripture tells us that we need to examine ourselves before we receive the Lord's Supper so that we do not take it in a harmful manner. (1 Cor. 11:27-29) For help in preparation see pages 293-295 in the front of the hymnal.

Visitors: Because we do not want you to receive the Lord's Supper in a harmful manner we ask that you do not come forward for the Lord's Supper today if you are not members of a WELS or ELS church. The pastor will be happy to share with you the Biblical basis for this practice.

Serving in Worship

Pastor

Andrew Frey

Organist/Pianist

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

Scripture Quotations: Wartburg Project. Holy Bible: Evangelical Heritage Version (EHV).

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Hymn: 890 Jerusalem the Golden

Please Stand

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

Amen.

Confession

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.



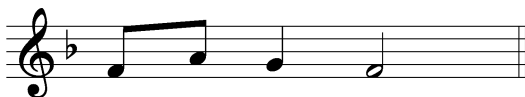
Lord, have mer - cy.

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.

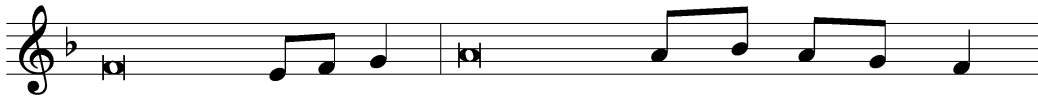


A - men.

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Glory Be to God

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,



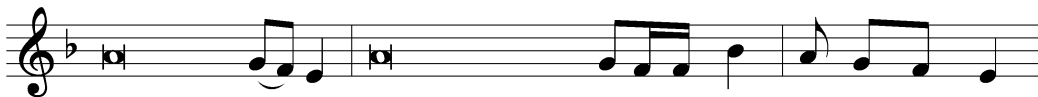
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



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;



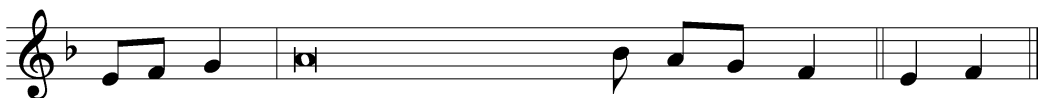
have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.



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, your Son our Savior was taken up in glory and intercedes for us at your right hand. Through your living and abiding Word, give us hearts to know him and faith to follow where he has gone; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Acts 16:6–10

⁶They went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, because they were prevented by the Holy Spirit from speaking the word in the province of Asia. ⁷When they went as far as Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them. ⁸So they passed by Mysia and went down to Troas. ⁹A vision appeared to Paul during the night. A Macedonian man was standing there, urging him, "Come over to Macedonia and help us!" ¹⁰As soon as he had seen the vision, we immediately made plans to proceed to Macedonia, because we concluded that God had called us to preach the good news to them.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

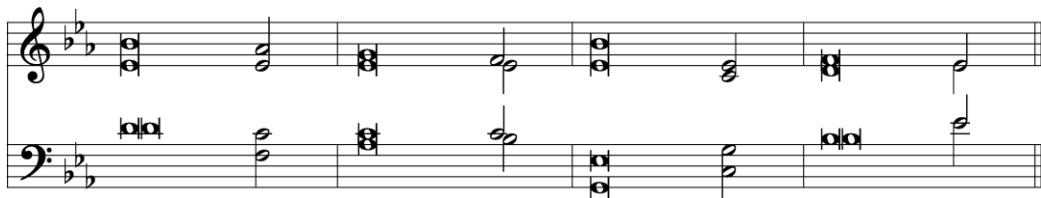
Psalm of the Day: 133A Oh, How Good and Pleasant It Is

Refrain





Tone



It is like precious oil poured on the / head,
 running down on the / beard,
 running down on Aaron's / beard,
 down on the collar of his / robe. *Refrain*

It is as if the dew of / Hermon
 were falling on Mount / Zion.
 For there the LORD bestows his / blessing,
 even life forever- / more.

**Glory be to the Father and to the / Son
 and to the Holy / Spirit,
 as it was in the be- / ginning,
 is now, and will be forever. A- / men. *Refrain***

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Second Reading

Revelation 22:12–17, 20

¹²Look, I am coming soon and my reward is with me, to repay each one according to what he has done. ¹³I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. ¹⁴Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the Tree of Life and so that they may enter through the gates into the city. ¹⁵Outside are the dogs, that is, the sorcerers, the

adulterers, the murderers, the idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices falsehood.

¹⁶I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the bright Morning Star.

¹⁷The Spirit and the bride say, "Come." And let the one who hears this say, "Come." And let the one who is thirsty come. Let the one who wants the water of life take it as a gift.

²⁰The one who testifies about these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

John 14:18



Refrain



Tone



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Gospel

John 17:20–26

²⁰"I am praying not only for them, but also for those who believe in me through their message. ²¹May they all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I am in you. May they also be one in us, so that the world may believe that you sent me. ²²I have given them the glory you gave me, so that they may be one, as we are one: ²³I in them, and

you in me. May they become completely one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.

²⁴“Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am so that they may see my glory—the glory you gave me because you loved me before the world’s foundation. ²⁵Righteous Father, the world did not know you, but I knew you, and these men knew that you sent me. ²⁶I made your name known to them and will continue to make it known, so that the love you have for me may be in them and that I may be in them.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Hymn of the Day: 446 Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense

Sermon

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

Father in heaven, you make human beings to be the crown of your creation. We are all your children, but we are all unique. You form us by your power, but in your wisdom you make us different from one another. You give us our bodies; you bestow our intelligence; you provide our family and home; you place us in your world according to your wisdom and will.

We thank you, Lord, that you have made us what we are and put us where we live.

As we share the bond of humanity, Lord, so we share the curse of sin. We confess that we are not better than our ancestors or contemporaries. Our iniquities are not less than theirs, and their fate is rightly ours. We deserve the common destiny of hell in payment for the sin we inherit and the sins we commit.

We implore you, Lord, to put aside your anger and free us from the punishment we deserve.

You sent the Son you loved. He came in a body like ours. He ate as we eat, slept as we sleep, wept as we weep, and died as we die. But he did not sin as we sin. You accepted his perfect life and innocent death as the atoning sacrifice for our sins and, when he died, you raised him to life as the assurance that you have justified us forever.

We adore you, Lord! You have forgiven our sins and restored us as your children.

We are all members of your human family, O Father, but now, by the power of the gospel and the working of your Spirit, you have made us members of your spiritual family. We who are different are now one in Christ. We who come from many nations and many cultures are joined in one fellowship, one communion, one holy Church.

We rejoice, O Lord, in the Savior we share, in the culture of the Church, and in the hope of eternal life.

Help us face the truth that we do not always rejoice in our unity as we know we should. Too often we are unwilling to walk on the path our brothers and sisters walk. We are impatient with their perspectives, taken up with our own traditions, and insensitive to their dreams and fears. Sometimes unwittingly, but sometimes willingly, we think, speak, and act from bigotry and prejudice.

Forgive us, Lord, for our supposed superiority, our insensitivity, and our failure to love all your children.

We remember, O Father, all those who dreamed and labored to achieve a better life for all. Empower us that we may dream and labor, too, and that we may do it reflecting your love. As servants of Christ, lead us to proclaim the truth that sets all people free from the guilt and control of sin. As citizens of this nation, lead us to live the principle that all people are equal under our nation's laws. Help us to be lights for the gospel, but also make us lights that expose racism and show the way to compassion and tolerance.

Give power to your gospel, Lord, and give freedom to our land.

Give wisdom and patience to the medical communities that serve the diseased, the wounded, and the disturbed. Grant treatment and healing according to your will. Pour out your compassion on all the hurting in our society.

Move us to help our brothers and sisters in need.

Special Intercessions

We walk together on one road, eternal Father, the road that leads to life with your Son. Let him walk with us now, we pray. Give us his life to imitate, his love to share, his passion to heal, and his power to succeed. When this life ends, bring us to the place where we will be free at last and sing his praises in the eternal language of heaven.

May all the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you!

Offering

Hymn: 487 Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

sts. 1, 4

- 1 Lo! He comes with clouds descending,
once for ev'ry sinner slain;
thousand thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Christ reveals his endless reign.
- 4 Yea, amen, let all adore thee
high on thine eternal throne;
Savior, take the pow'r and glory,
claim the kingdom as thine own.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Thou shalt reign, and thou alone!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt. Text: Public domain

THE SACRAMENT

Preface

CW 165

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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

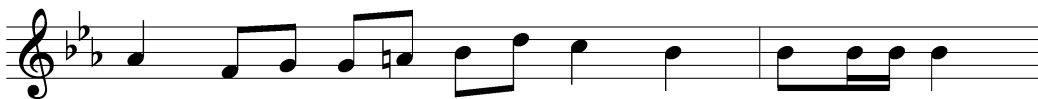
CW 167



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

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**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, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my \dagger body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

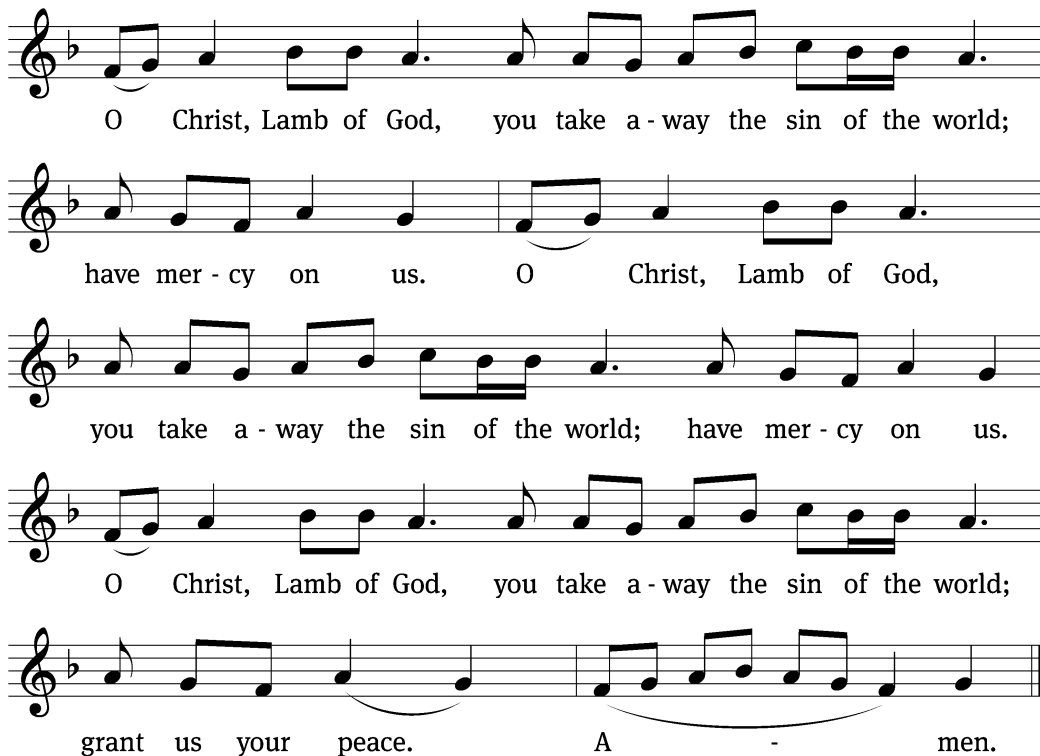
Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

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.

Distribution

Distribution Hymn: 660 Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face

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.

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; through 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.

Hymn: 860 In Christ There Is No East or West