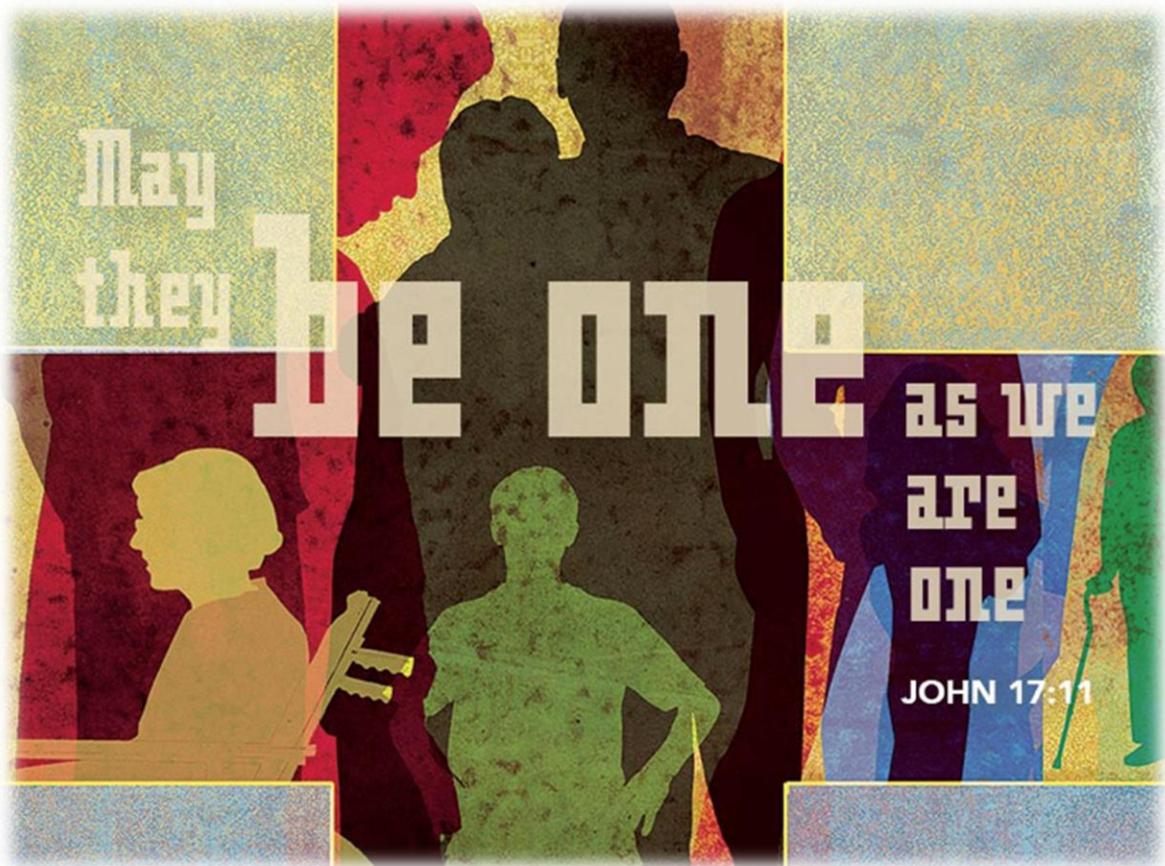




SERVICE OF THE WORD – SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 24, 2020

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSES ARE IN **BOLD TYPE**



PRELUDE

"You are Mine"

arr. Mark Hayes

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

Rise, O Sun of Righteousness

ELW 657



1 Rise, O Sun of righ - teous - ness; with your  
2 Rouse our hearts from slum - ber deep; may your  
3 Gath - er in your scat - tered flock; give us  
4 Burst the bars of stub - born pride; make the  
5 Hon - or, praise, and glo - ry be to the



might cre - a - tion bless. Shine up - on your church to - day,  
word with - in us leap. Give us voic - es to pro - claim  
wa - ter from the rock. Bless the u - ni - ty we share  
heav'n - ly path - way wide. Raise us up from sin and death  
ho - ly Trin - i - ty! May your gra - cious will be done:



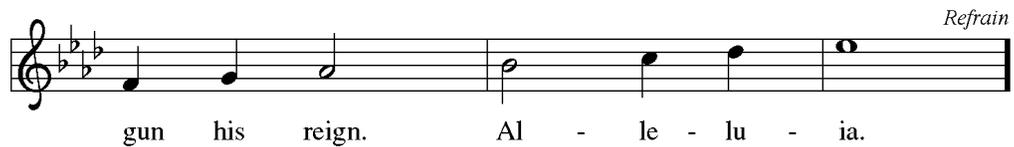
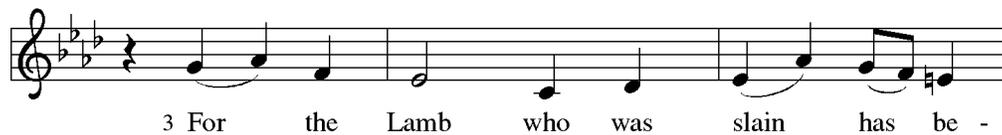
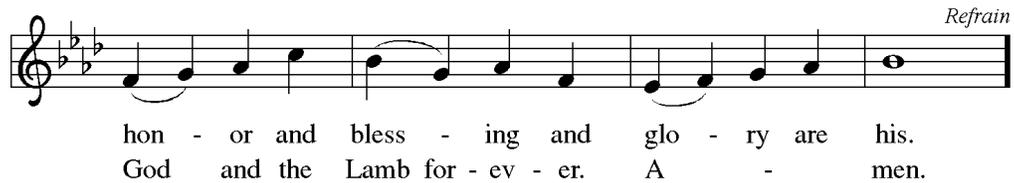
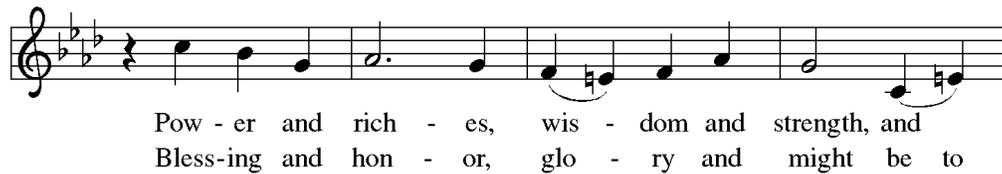
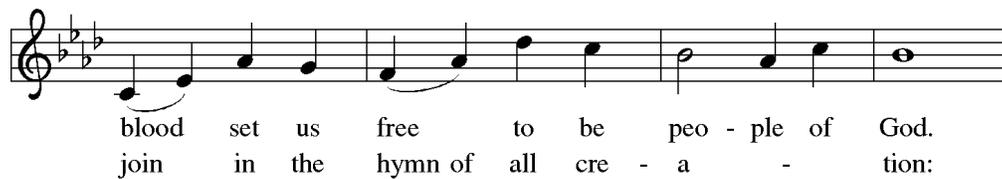
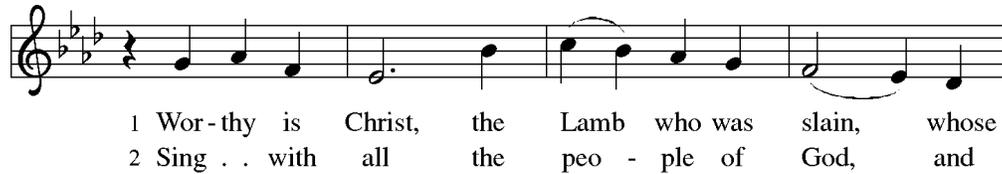
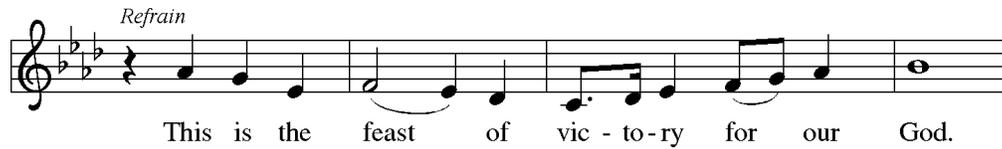
show - ing all your gen - tle way. Have mer - cy, Lord.  
prais - es to your ho - ly name. Have mer - cy, Lord.  
in our shep - herd's lov - ing care. Have mer - cy, Lord.  
with your Spir - it's liv - ing breath. Have mer - cy, Lord.  
make us one, as you are one. Have mer - cy, Lord.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

**And also with you.**

## "This Is the Feast"



## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray together. **O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## FIRST LESSON

Acts 1:6-14

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.*

<sup>6</sup>When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” <sup>7</sup>He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>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.” <sup>9</sup>When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup>While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup>They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.” <sup>12</sup>Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. <sup>13</sup>When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. <sup>14</sup>All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

*The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

<sup>1</sup>Let God arise, and let God's enemies be scattered; let those who hate God flee.

<sup>2</sup>**As smoke is driven away, so you should drive them away; as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.**

<sup>3</sup>But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; let them also be merry and joyful.

<sup>4</sup>**Sing to God, sing praises to God's name; exalt the one who rides the clouds; I AM is that name, rejoice before God!**

<sup>5</sup>In your holy habitation, O God, you are a father to orphans, defender of widows;

<sup>6</sup>**you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners into freedom; but the rebels shall live in desert places.**

<sup>7</sup>O God, when you went forth before your people, when you marched through the wilderness,

<sup>8</sup>**the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**

<sup>9</sup>You sent a bountiful rain, O God; you restored your inheritance when it languished.

<sup>10</sup>**Your people found their home in it; in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.**

<sup>32</sup>Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; sing praises to the Lord.

<sup>33</sup>**You ride in the heavens, O God, in the ancient heavens; you send forth your voice, your mighty voice.**

<sup>34</sup>Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is in the skies.

<sup>35</sup>**How wonderful you are in your holy places, O God of Israel, giving strength and power to your people! Blessed be God!**

## SECOND LESSON

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

*A reading from 1<sup>st</sup> Peter.*

<sup>12</sup>Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. <sup>13</sup>But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. <sup>14</sup>If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

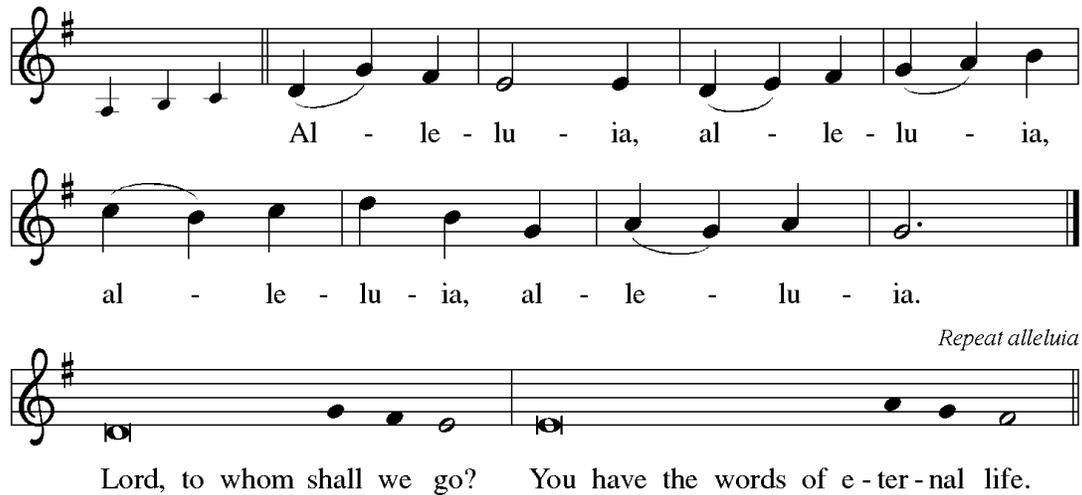
<sup>5:6</sup>Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time.

<sup>7</sup>Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. <sup>8</sup>Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. <sup>9</sup>Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering.

<sup>10</sup>And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. <sup>11</sup>To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

*The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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 17:1-11

*The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.***

<sup>1</sup>After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples], he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, <sup>2</sup>since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. <sup>3</sup>And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. <sup>4</sup>I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup>So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. <sup>6</sup>"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup>Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; <sup>8</sup>for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup>I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. <sup>10</sup>All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup>And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

*The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.***

SERMON

Pastor Gregg Hoffman



1 "I will come to you in the si - lence,  
 2 "I am hope for all who are hope - less,  
 3 "I am strength for all the de - spair - ing,  
 (4) am the Word that leads all to free - dom,

I



I will lift you from all your fear.  
 I am eyes for all who long to see.  
 heal - ing for the ones who dwell in shame.  
 am the peace the world can - not give.

(2) In the



You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice. Be  
 shad - ows of the night, I will be your light.  
 All the blind will see, the lame will all run free, and  
 I will call your name, em - brac - ing all your pain. Stand



still and know I am here.  
 Come and rest in me.  
 all will know my name.  
 up, now walk and live!

To stanza 2  
 To refrain  
 To refrain  
 To refrain



Do not be a - fraid, I am with you. I have called you each by



name. Come and fol - low me, I will bring you home; I

To stanzas 3 and 4



love you and you are mine."

4 "I

## NICENE CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith, using the words of the 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 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  $\ddagger$  resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

O God, call your people to be one, as you are one. Unite your church in the truth of your gospel, the love of our neighbor, and the call to proclaim your reign to all people. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Breathe life into your creation. Guide your people as we explore the mysteries of the universe. We pray for the work of scientists and mathematicians whose skill enriches our understanding. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Make your justice known among the nations of the earth. Protect the vulnerable in this and every land. Redirect those who use violence and greed as weapons. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Come to the aid of your children. We pray for those engulfed in grief, those without supportive families, and for all who are isolated, powerless, or afraid, that all may rest their anxieties in your care. We pray especially for Art, Jill, Emily, Kathy, Eric, Ellen, Doug, Mike, Ralph, Kim, Buck, Pauline, Mary, Darice, Jennifer, Frank, Bill, Madeline, Ed, Earl, Barbara, Steven, and Susan. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Give courage to all who embark on new ventures for the sake of others. We especially remember this day those who lost their lives in the service of our country. Grant safety to those serving at home and abroad, and assure them of your never-failing strength. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Raise all your saints to eternal life. Until that day, we give you thanks for the faithful examples of those who have listened to your voice and now rest as one in you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

With bold confidence in your love, Almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

#### SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

#### OFFERING

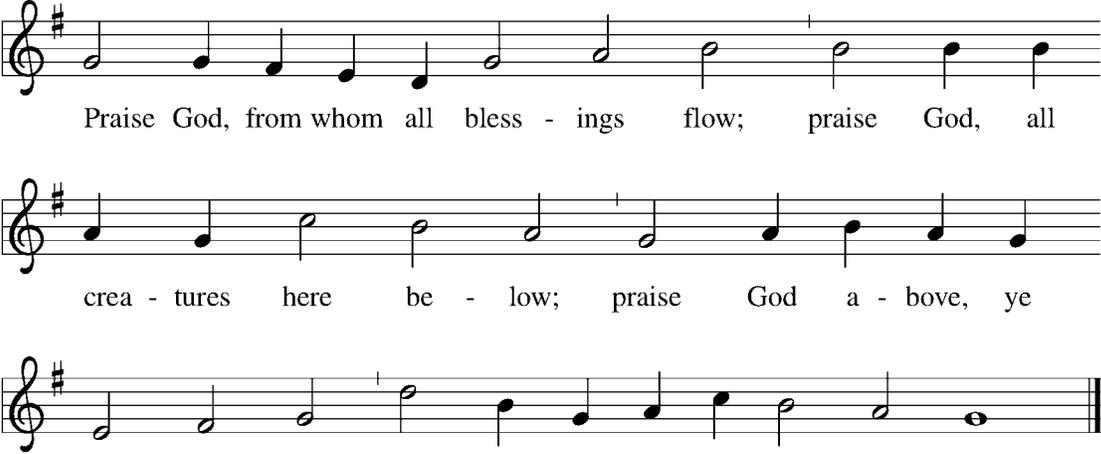
<https://onrealm.org/gracerockhill/-/give/now>

#### ANTHEM

“Sonata in F Major, I. Adagio”

G.F. Handel  
Virtual Choir

#### OFFERTORY RESPONSE (*Stand*) “Praise God, from Whom all Blessings Flow”



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all  
crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye  
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

#### OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray together.

**Merciful God, our gifts seem small compared to what you have given us, yet you make of our gifts an abundance, just as you do with our entire lives. We long for the day when you can feed us again at your table, but for today, may we draw strength from the nourishment of your word, and send us forth for service in your name, for the sake of our risen Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

United as one church, deployed across a great distance, we unite our voices and join in the prayer that our Lord taught us:

**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.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BLESSING

The blessing of the living God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, surround and sustain you, keep you from harm, and fill you with courage, as you share the joy of Christ with the world. **Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

### Blest Be the Tie that Binds

ELW 656



- 1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris-tian love;
- 2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our ar - dent prayers;
- 3 We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual bur - dens bear,
- 4 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;



the u - ni - ty of heart and mind is like to that a - bove.  
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.  
and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.  
and per - fect love and friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

## DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go forth in peace.

**Thanks be to God.**

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