

The Second Sunday of Easter



Bulletin Graphic: Grace Memorial Episcopal Church, Portland, OR

April 27, 2025

St. Mark's and St. John's Episcopal Church

Welcome to Easter at St. Mark's and St. John's!

Name tags are available. We'd love to make one for you if you do not have one already.

Help yourself to coffee in the "cafe," and feel free to bring it to your pew. We're casual.

We invite children to make themselves at home at our children's table, where there are weekly activity bulletins and crayons.

Our live YouTube broadcast begins at 9:30 am.
Our YouTube channel link is available on our website,
stmarksandstjohns.org.

We appreciate your financial generosity to support our mission and ministry. Though we do not pass the offering plate during service, you can find it at the entrance of the church or contribute online at stmarksandstjohns.org/give.

PRELUDE

OPENING MUSIC

“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”

The musical score is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef staff in G major (one sharp). It consists of four systems of music, each with two vocal parts. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first system has two lines of lyrics, with the second line starting with an asterisk. The second system also has two lines of lyrics. The third system has two lines of lyrics. The fourth system has two lines of lyrics. The music is a simple, hymn-like melody with a steady rhythm.

1 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the scep - ter, his the throne;
*2 Al - le - lu - ia! not as or - phans are we left in sor - row now;

1 Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone;
2 Al - le - lu - ia! he is near us, faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how:

1 Hark! the songs of peace - ful Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood;
2 though the cloud from sight re - ceived him, when the for - ty days were o'er,

1 Je - sus out of ev - ery na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.
2 shall our hearts for - get his prom - ise, “I am with you ev - er - more”?

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Christ has risen.

Christ has risen indeed. Alleluia!

OPENING PRAYERS

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Celebrant: 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.**

Kyrie eleison

Christe eleison.

Kyrie eleison.

Celebrant: 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.**

FIRST LESSON

Acts 5:27-32

A reading from the book of Acts, the fifth chapter...

When the temple police had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority.

The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 150

Hallelujah!

Praise God in his holy temple; *

praise him in the firmament of his power.

Praise him for his mighty acts; *

praise him for his excellent greatness.

Praise him with the blast of the ram's-horn; *

praise him with lyre and harp.

Praise him with timbrel and dance; *

praise him with strings and pipe.

Praise him with resounding cymbals; *

praise him with loud-clanging cymbals.

Let everything that has breath *

praise the Lord. Hallelujah!

THE SECOND LESSON

Revelation 1:4-8

A reading from the book of Revelation, the first chapter...

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

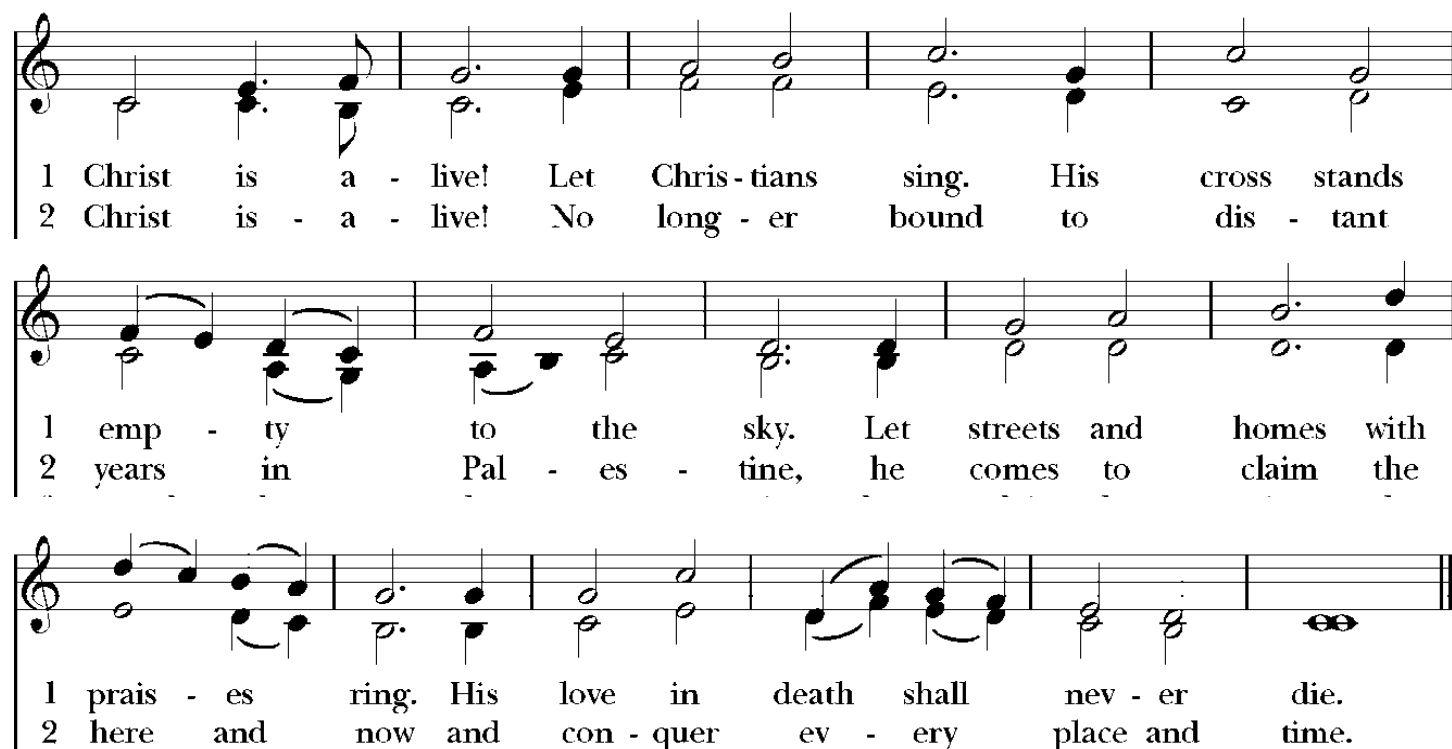
Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

"Christ is Alive"

1982, 182



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. His cross stands
2 Christ is - a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant

1 emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
2 years in Pal - es - tine, he comes to claim the

1 prais - es ring. His love in death shall nev - er die.
2 here and now and con - quer ev - ery place and time.

GOSPEL

John 20:19-31

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When 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." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So 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."

A 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." Then 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." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But 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.

Celebrant: The Gospel of our Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Cindy

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Community of Iona Abbey

We believe in God
in whom is power and compassion.
We believe in the Creator who gave birth to the universe,
set solar systems dancing into space,
shaped molecules and mountains,
and conceived beauty beyond our imagining.
God's power topples tyrants,
and brings down walls of separation;
God's love embodies the tenderness of a mother and father,
encouraging and caring for each of us.

We believe in Jesus, born in poverty in an occupied land;
a human being, vulnerable to hunger, thirst, persecution and grief.
He understood the power of love and confronted the powers of evil,
spoke truth with courage and clarity,
forgave his enemies and changed lives.
In his living, dying and rising again he showed
love strong enough to save the world.

We believe in the Holy Spirit
who sustains, comforts and empowers us,
opens the scriptures, opens our minds,
and illuminates earth's darkness. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC FOR PRAYER AND MEDITATION *Please be seated*

You are invited to light a candle at our prayer table and write your prayer intentions on one of the Prayer Boards during the music.

PRAYERS OF GRATITUDE

We give you thanks and praise, O God of creation, for the grandeur of all that you have made, saying

Thank you, God.

For the healing waters of creation, which bring pleasure and health, purity and life,

Thank you, God.

For the richness of soil that covers so much of our earth that we may know your presence more fully as we work to remediate the soil in city lots as we nurture the land.

Thank you, God.

For the soaring birds of the air, the crawling creatures on the earth, the gliding fishes in the seas, for all creatures great and small with whom we share this precious web of life,

Thank you, God.

For your life giving spirit and your promise to always be with us. We pray for those who are experiencing pain, sadness, distress, or uncertainty that you may provide relief to their suffering. We pray especially today for...

Thank you, God.

Celebrant: O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Creator, Redeemer, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Deacon: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **And also with you.**

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Deacon: I appeal to you, brothers and sisters in Christ, by the mercies of God, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. *Romans 12:1*

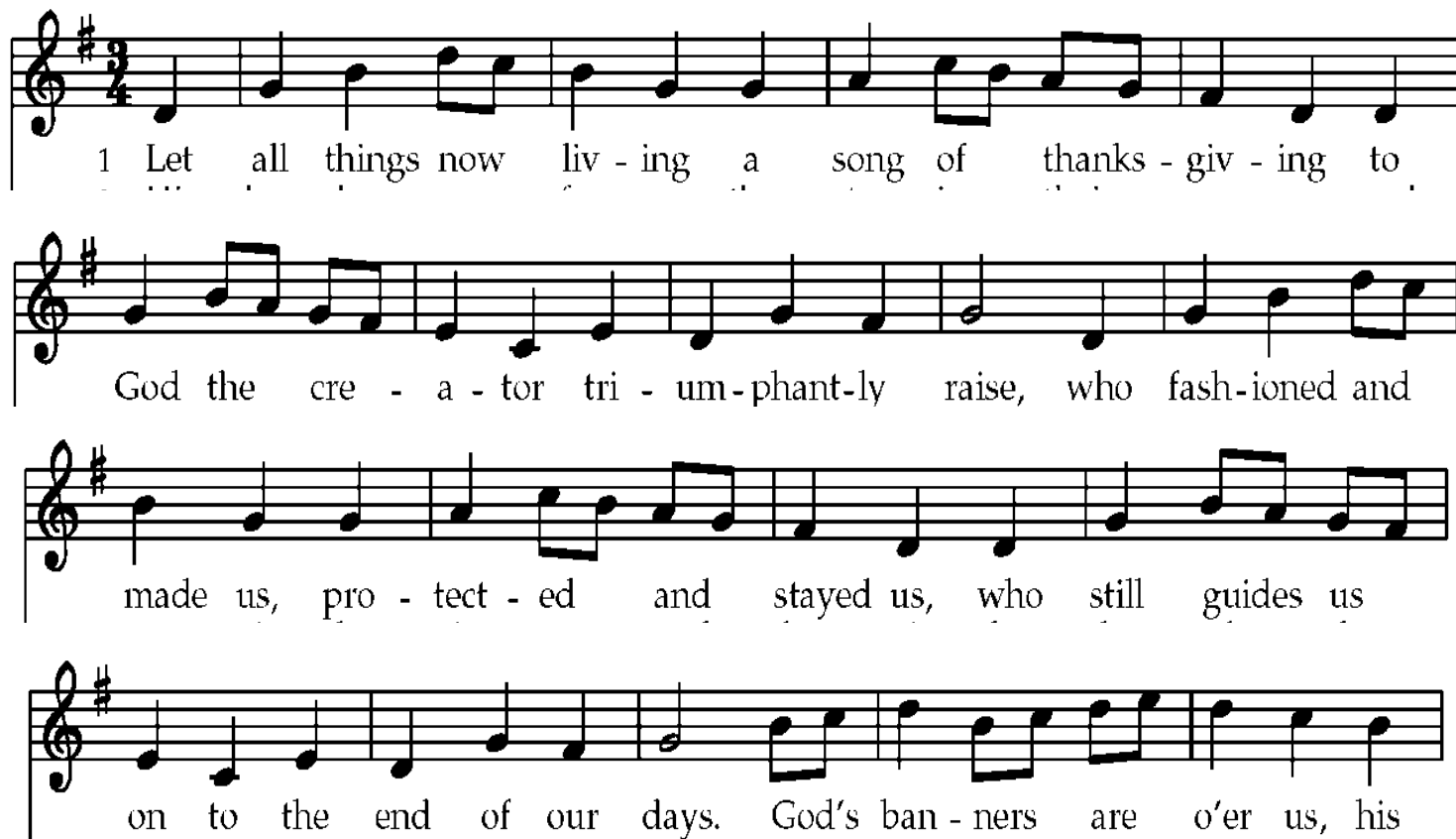
We do not pass offering plates at SMSJ. If you would like to make a financial gift to the mission and ministry of the church there is an offering plate by the sign-in book in the back or you can give electronically by going to stmarksandstjohns.org

Eucharistic Ministers bring the elements and offering forward

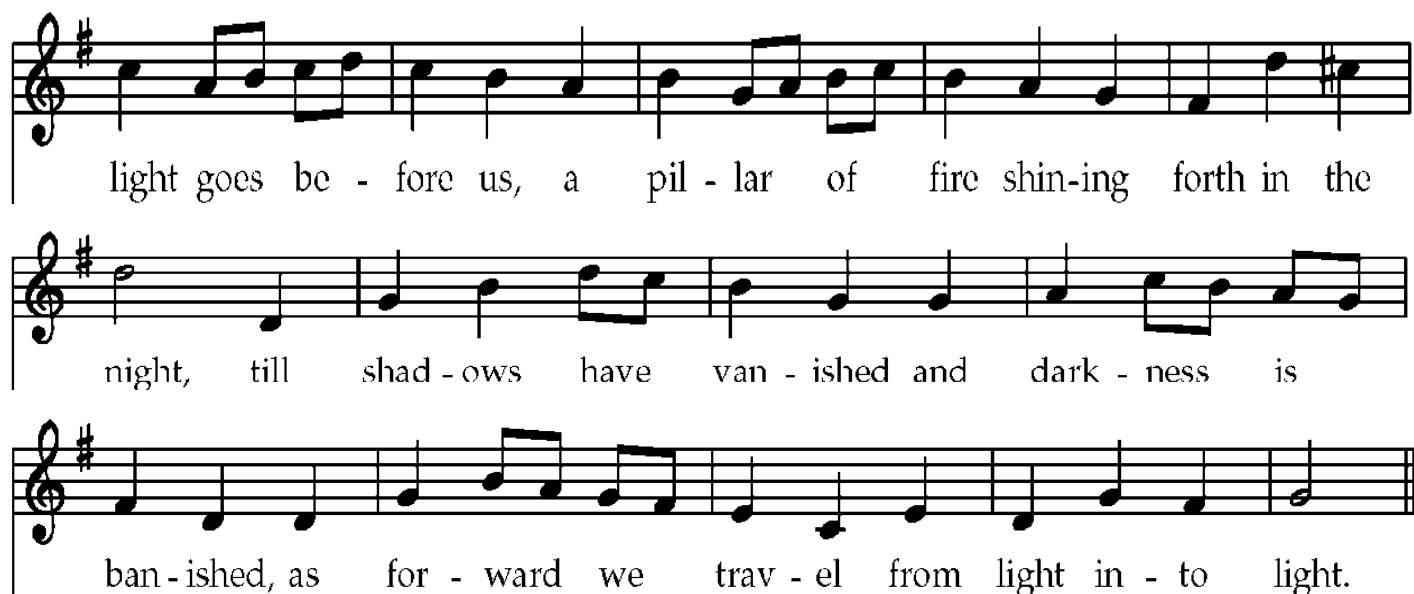
DOXOLOGY

“Let all Things Now Living”

VE, 107



1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to
God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise, who fash - ioned and
made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who still guides us
on to the end of our days. God's ban - ners are o'er us, his



MUSIC

“Crowded Table”

Refrain: I want a church with a crowded table
And a place at the altar for everyone
Let us take on the world while we're fed and able
And bring us back together when the day is done.

Verse: If we want a garden we're gonna have to sow the seed
Plant a little happiness - let the roots run deep
If it's love that we give - then it's love that we reap
If we want a garden we're gonna have to sow the seed (*Refrain*)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 God thanks and praise.

It is indeed right that we should praise you, God of love, our source and our fulfillment, for you create all things, and in you we live and move and have our being. Your wonder is manifest in land and sea and sky. When the times had at last grown full and the earth had ripened in abundance, you made us in your image for yourself.

And even though we turn from you, again and again you call us to yourself, and in every age, promise liberation. As a parent tenderly gathers her children, you embraced a people as your own to rear them in your way of compassionate love. From your own being you sent Jesus among us, incarnate of the Holy Spirit and born of Mary our sister and Joseph our brother.

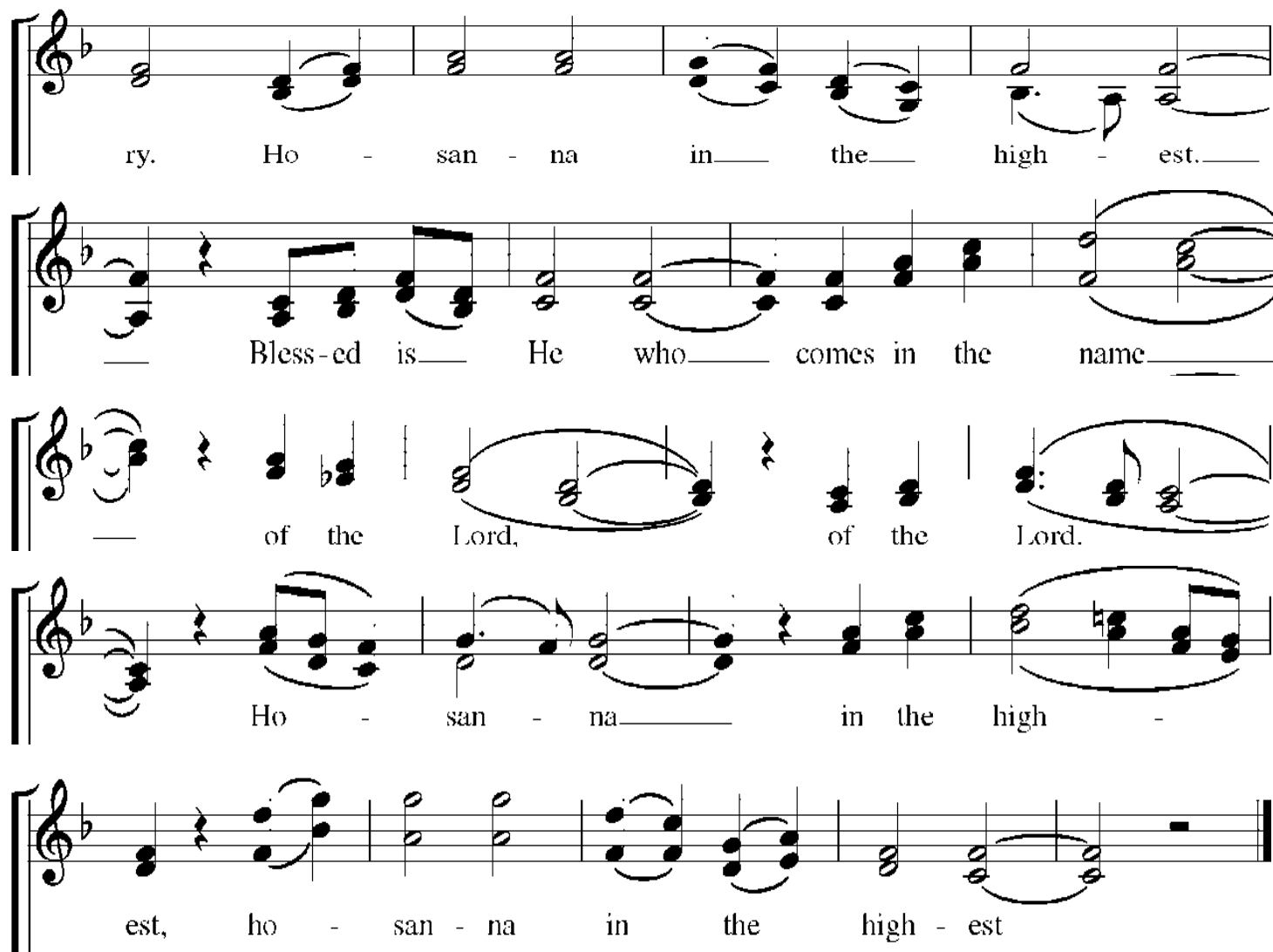
Jesus revealed your care for all you have made. You send forth your Holy Spirit ever giving birth and rebirth to your church.

Now we join hands around your table, and with all creation we sing your hymn of unending love,

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly

ho - ly Lord God of hosts.

Heav - en and earth are filled with your glo -



To you indeed be glory, almighty God, on the night before he died, your Son, Jesus Christ, took bread; when he had given you thanks, he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said:

Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me.

After supper, he took the cup; when he had given you thanks, he gave it to them and said:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood poured out for you; do this as often as you drink it to remember me.

And so, in this sacrament, we celebrate and proclaim the mystery of our faith.

Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come in glory.

Therefore, loving God, recalling now Christ's life, death, and resurrection, we ask you to send your Holy Spirit upon us and this celebration, that we may be fed with the body and blood of your Son and be filled with your life and goodness. Strengthen us to do your work, and to be your resurrected body offering hope to the world.

Unite us in Christ and give us your peace. Through your Holy Spirit, burning as a flame, gentle as a dove, may we who receive these gifts live lives of justice, love, and prayer, and be a voice for those who have not been heard. In union with your whole church we worship you, O God, in songs of everlasting praise.

**Blessing, honor and glory be yours, here and everywhere,
now and forever. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

Our Father in Heaven,

hallowed be your Name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those

who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours,

now and for ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Refrain

Taste and see, taste and see the

good - ness of the Lord. O

taste and see, taste and see the

good - ness of the Lord, of the

Lord.

All who thirst, all who hunger, come and be filled with the goodness of God.

WELCOME TO THE TABLE

ALL are welcome to receive communion. Please be seated.

An usher will direct you to the center aisle. Gluten-free wafers are available. We offer both the common cup/ individual glasses (grape juice is available). We ask that you refrain from intinction (dipping your wafer into the common cup). If you would like to receive a blessing instead of communion simply cross your arms in front of you.

COMMUNION MUSIC

"I am the Bread of Life"



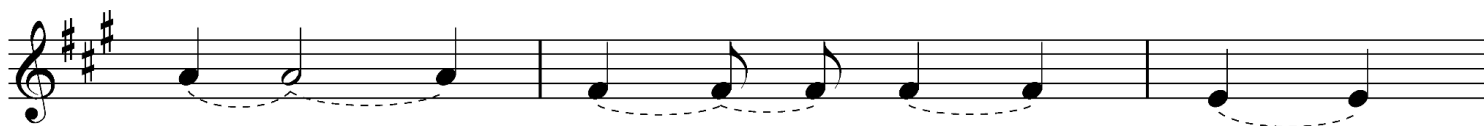
1	I	am	the	bread	of	life;_____	they	who
2 (The)	Bread	that_____	I	will	give_____	is	my	
3 (Un-)	less_____		you	eat_____	of	the		
4	I	am	the	re -	sur -	rec -	tion,_____	



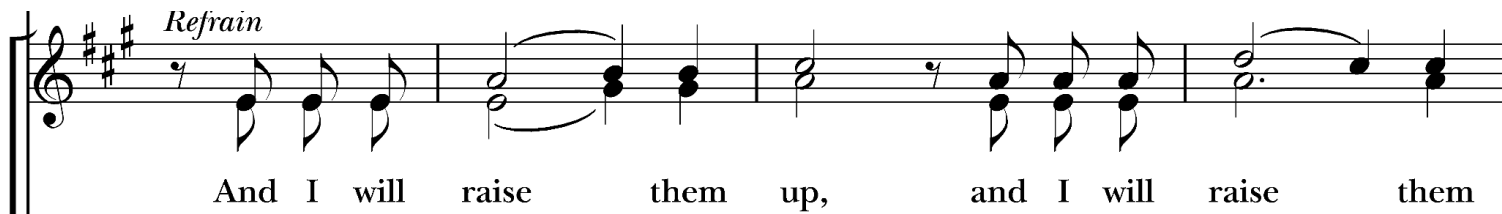
1	come	to	me	shall	not_____	hun -	ger;	they	who	be -
2	Flesh	for	the	life	of	the	world,_____	and	they	who
3	Flesh	of	the	Son	of_____	Man_____		and_____		
4	I_____	am	the_____	life._____		They	who	be -		



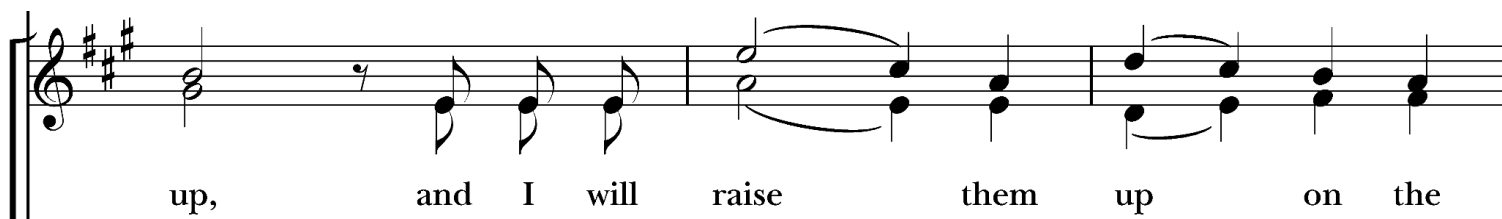
1	lieve	in	me	shall	not	thirst.	No	one	can	come	to
2	eat_____	of	this	bread,			they	shall_____	live	for	
3	drink_____	of	his	Blood,	you	shall	not	have	life	with -	
4	lieve_____	in	me,			e -	ven_____	if	they		



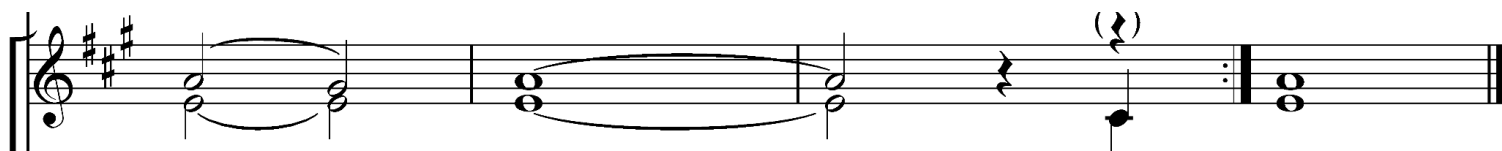
1 me_____ un - less the_____ Fa - ther draw them.
2 ev - er._____ they shall_____ live for ev - er.
3 in you. you shall not have life with - in you.
4 die,_____ they shall_____ live for ev - er.



And I will raise them up, and I will raise them



up, and I will raise them up on the



last

day._____

2 The

3 Un- day.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection, you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FINAL BLESSING

God has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The blessing of God Almighty, the Holy Trinity, bless you and raise you to new life, both now and forever.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

Alleluia. Alleluia. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vestry will meet **today after Worship** in the Crossroads of Caring classroom!

Our next Foodlink delivery will be **Tuesday, May 6th** - we appreciate your help!

Our next Community Garden Volunteer Day will be **Saturday, May 10th at 10 am** in the EDEN Parsells Garden.

Day of Caring is Thursday, May 15! We have over 50 volunteers coming from Webster Thomas High School and need help serving lunch. If you're available to lend a hand, please let Maria know!

Mark your calendar: Maria Hartz-Clineburg will be Ordained to the Transitional Diaconate on **Saturday, May 31, 2025 at 11 am** at St. Paul's Episcopal Church (25 Westminster Rd [East Ave.], Rochester NY 14607). More information will be shared as it becomes available. *A special collection will be taken for vestments. Please see Pastor Cindy for details.*

SMSJ Weekly Calendar

April 28-May 4

Monday, 4/28	2:30-5:30 pm - Seed Sowers & Storytellers
Tuesday, 4/29	2:30-5:30 pm - Seed Sowers & Storytellers
Wednesday, 4/30	10:30 am-Noon - Food Shelf (<i>Help needed!</i>) 2:30-5:30 pm - Seed Sowers & Storytellers 7 pm - Rochester Mutual Aid Network Meeting
Thursday, 5/1	2:30-5:30 pm - Seed Sowers & Storytellers 2:00-4:00 pm - Office Hours with Maria @ Melo
Friday, 5/2	
Saturday, 5/3	
Sunday, 5/4	9:30 am - Worship with Eucharist 11:30 am - Volunteer Day with St. Paul's Youth Group

Worship Leader Schedule

Date	First Lesson and Psalm	Second Lesson	Prayers of the People & Greeter
4/27	Tom F.	Theresa H.	Steve F.
5/4	Mary E.	Dave E.	Bob C.
5/11	Heather G.	Terri C.	Deb S.
5/18	Joe C.	Michele H.	Tom F.
5/25	Theresa H.	Helena W.	Sharon K.
6/1	Mike F.	Nancy W.	Terri C.
6/8	Deb S.	Joe C.	Michele H.
6/15	Sharon K.	Mike F.	Mary E.
6/22	Michele H.	Deb S.	Heather G.
6/29	Terri C.	Mary E.	Joe C.
7/6	Nancy W.	Tom F.	Theresa H.
7/13	Dave E.	Sharon K.	Helena W.

Worship Leader Schedule

Date	Common Cup	Single Cup Tray	Collect Cups
4/27	Mike F.	Sharon K.	Theresa H.
5/4	Nancy W.	Michele H.	Joe C.
5/11	Deb S.	Terri C.	Heather G.
5/18	Bob C.	Dave E.	Mary E.
5/25	Mary E.	Mike F.	Sharon K.
6/8	Theresa H.	Tom F.	Michele H.
6/15	Joe C.	Deb S.	Terri C.
6/22	Heather G.	Bob C.	Dave E.
6/29	Dave E.	Nancy W.	Mike F.
7/6	Sharon K.	Theresa H.	Tom F.
7/13	Michele H.	Joe C.	Deb S.



St. Mark's & St. John's Leadership

Rector

The Rev'd Cindy Rasmussen, Ph.D.
crasmussen@stmarksandstjohns.org

Operations and Missions Director

Maria Hartz-Clineburg, M.Div.
mhartz@stmarksandstjohns.org

Deacon

The Rev'd Patti Blaine, M.A., BCC
pblaine@stmarksandstjohns.org

AV Producer

Rob Thornton

Musicians

Amelia Yousey

Deacon Emeritus

The Rev'd Mike Finn

St. Mark's & St. John's Vestry

Co-Wardens

Sharon Kowalski ('26)
Nancy Ramsay ('27)

Treasurer

Michele Holmes

Members

Bob Caruso (Clerk)
Dave Everson ('28)
Heather Gilfoy ('27)
Theresa Harte ('26)
Michele Holmes ('28)
Ella Webster ('26)
Nancy Willer ('27)

Diocesan Delegates

Ella Gruel ('26)
Bonnie Hallman-Dye ('28)
Nancy Ramsay ('26)

Beechwood Neighborhood Coalition Representative

Terri Censak