

April 28, 2024 9:30 AM – Fifth Sunday of Easter



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# WELCOME

## to Holy Trinity

## **Reconciling in Christ**

At Holy Trinity, we welcome and affirm everyone—because God welcomes and affirms everyone—



regardless of age, race, ability, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, or other life circumstance.

You are welcome. Your family, children, friends, spouses, and partners are welcome.

You are welcome, whether you are a believer, a doubter, or a seeker.

Your diversity and uniqueness are welcomed and affirmed into the full life of Holy Trinity.

You are wanted here.

#### **April Celebrations!**

#### Happy Birthday!

Dave Arrington, Mac Rouleau, Lois Kfoury, Martha Mercer, John Moore, Glenn Oswald, Mark Donahue, Jeremiah Sihotang, Alex Bock, Ron Indorf, Ade Monareh, Carol Saufley, Emily Sullivan, Jim McKenna, & Joyce Rivoire.

#### Happy Anniversary!

Jo Whiting & Russ Hilliard, Jerry & Jill Schock, Jon & Susan Bock, Bill & Jill Larson, A Warm Welcome as you worship with us today! Whether you are here for the first time or a long time member, know that you are welcomed in Christ's Name, joined to be with us, Christ's Body the Church, as we worship God.

Your presence at worship is a gift!

We love having children worship with us! At this moment, our Nursery is not staffed. You may find Children's bulletins and activities on tables inside the sanctuary. In our Nursery, we have a livestream of our Worship Service, so you don't miss anything!

**Prayer Requests:** Prayer Request Cards are available indoors on the Usher's Table. Simply fill one out and hand it to the Pastor, or place it in the Offering Basket.

#### **Office Hours & Pastoral Emergencies:**

Church Office: Monday-Thursday 9am-4pm

Pastor's Office: Tuesday & Wednesday afternoons

If you need a Pastoral Visit, or experiencing a Pastoral Emergency, pastoral care is available for home or hospital visits, emotional support, and church ceremonies. Please contact the Church Office and we will connect you with our Pastor as soon as possible. Email office@htelc.com or call (603)436-1704 and leave a voicemail message.

**Donate to Holy Trinity:** You can place your offering in the offering plate during the service. We appreciate what you are able to give to help support our church and our ministries. Thank you.



To give online, visit

www.elexiogiving.com/App/Giving/htelc OR scan this QR code with the camera app on your phone.

Follow us on Facebook and YouTube: @HolyTrinityEvangelicalLutheranChurch

#### **PRAYER CONCERNS**

*Health Issues:* Franklyn Vosburg, Jerry Schock, Alice Peterson, Don Gindlesperger, Dave Smith, Hazel Larson, Leo Larson, Rani Marcus, Shirley Jackson, Larry Sanders, Julie Moore, Bob Hollister, Ronnie Brigham, Judy Evans . *Homebound:* Carol Saufley, Barbara Werdelin, Dave & Joyce Rivoire, Anita Lindstrom, Judy Hollister, Jean Klein, June Slipp. *Military:* Jake Brouker, US Navy (Pam Brouker's relative).

**Partners in Ministry**: ELCA, New England Synod, Ismani Congregation in Tanzania, Imanuel Indonesian Lutheran Church, Ascentria Care Alliance, Camp Calumet, Operation Blessing, Crossroads, Dover Friendly Kitchen, Good News Garage, Seacoast Family Promise, Salvation Army, & Lutheran World Relief.

*Friends:* David Roth (Bonnie Sanders' brother), Richard Murray (Jessica Feeley's Brother-in-law), Cinda DeWerff & Dane Wilcox (Rich Wilcox's sister & brother), Dan & Paula LeRoux (Pamela Brouker's sister and brother-in-law), Donald Dunican (Bobbie Febbo's son-in-law).

#### NOTES ON TODAY'S SERVICE

This Sunday's image of how the risen Christ shares his life with us is the image of the vine. Christ the vine and we the branches are alive in each other, in the mystery of mutual abiding described in the gospel and the first letter of John. Baptism makes us a part of Christ's living and life-giving self and makes us alive with Christ's life. As the vine brings food to the branches, Christ feeds us at his table. We are sent out to bear fruit for the life of the world.

#### LECTIONARY

This Week: Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31; 1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8

**Next Week:** Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17

#### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Musician(s): Jon Bock & Ken Galle Choir Director: Ken Galle Sound System & Live Stream: Franklyn Vosburg Lector: Dick Topping Counters: Julie & Bill Kath Liturgical Deacon: Julie Kath Altar Guild: Bobbie Febbo Fellowship Set-Up & Bakers: Erlinde Beliveau, Betty Smith, Lois Laurence, and Eva Mohr

#### THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

WEDNESDAY, May 1 9:30 AM: Bible Study THURSDAY, May 2 8:30 AM: Property Team SUNDAY, May 5 9:30 AM: Sunday Worship 11:00 AM: Council Updates – Adult Forum

#### ATTENDANCE AND OFFERING

Sunday, April 7: Sunday, April 14: Sunday, April 21: 83 (In-Person) + 22 (Online) = 105Offering: \$6,873.0089 (In-Person) + 32 (Online) = 121Offering: \$5,310.9587 (In-Person) + 25 (Online) = 112Offering: \$4,225.95

#### Announcements

**This Sunday we will be celebrating Earth Day.** Not only will our Creation Care Task Force be sponsoring an adult forum on the topic of Creation Care after the service, but our liturgy itself this week reflects a focus on a theology of environmental stewardship.

I invite you to listen for and appreciate all of these connections in our worship this week. For example:

- We open our service with a Confession of Sin highlighting our recklessness in caring for God's good creation, yet even so we find hope in God's promise to forgive us and inspire us to do better.
- We harken back to the Garden of Eden in our Gathering Hymn, <u>Morning Has Broken</u>, and then in lieu of a Kyrie, we sign a Song of Praise in celebration of <u>Earth and All Stars</u>.
- Our gospel text from John, in which Jesus identifies as the "true vine," invites us into an organic and intimate connection with God, each other, and with Creation.
- Our Hymn of the Day, <u>All Creatures Worship God Most High</u>, written by Francis of Assisi, reinforces the message by developing these creation themes further, as does our Sending Hymn, <u>Joyful</u>, Joyful.
- Finally, our Eucharistic Prayer, drawn from the Lutheran liturgical resource, <u>All Creation</u> <u>Sings!</u>, places our sharing of the bread and wine within a broader understanding of God's care for, and desire to restore, the entire created order.

May we all be inspired by our worship to be God's agents of renewal, hope, and re-creation!

"Is Creation Care for Us? ...for Me?" Adult Forum, after worship. You'll be engaged during this Forum through conversation, videos and small-group interaction as you're introduced to

the five primary elements of Christian Creation Care and their importance in both congregational life and personal/family living. We'll first meet in front of the Sanctuary to begin. This is the first Adult Forum hosted and led by the Creation Care Task Force. The Task Force looks forward to hearing impressions and ideas!



There will be a children's faith formation activity after the service in the back classroom.

**Dover Friendly Kitchen** will be on Tuesday, April 30 at 3:45 PM. at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Dover. Volunteers are welcome to help support this important ministry. Additionally, please drop off cookies with the Church Office by Sunday the 28th. Please speak to Bonnie Sanders for more info.

**Council Updates: Adult Forum.** Next Sunday, May 5, there will be an Adult Forum, hosted by the Church Council, to discuss various updates to the congregation regarding the Semi-Annual Meeting in June.

**Graduation Sunday will be celebrated in June.** If you know someone from Holy Trinity who will graduate from High School, College, Grad School, or another school this year and would like to be recognized, please speak with the Church Office or Helen Goransson.

**The Stewardship Committee** is looking for new helpers for the Committee. At present the Committee consists of two people. It is time for new blood on the Committee. Please see David Arrington if you are willing to help.

**Purses and Packs**: Last fall HTELC met to discuss upcoming goals for our church family. One of those goals was to increase our outreach and involvement with the community. The Social Ministry Team has decided to collect 20 purses and 20 small packs/bags which will then be outfitted with personal items. These bags will then be brought to Operation Blessing to be distributed to clients. In addition to the purses and packs, the SM team will also be requesting donations for these bags. We ask that these items be full sized. With the assistance of OB, we are requesting the following items: socks, body wash, toothbrushes and toothpaste, deodorant, combs and cleansing wipes. The "tree" is in the Narthex with tags hanging from its branches. Each tag has a list of items. Please try to keep the value of each tag at \$10.00. And, while everyone is doing their spring cleaning/purging, please feel free to donate any purses, packs or sacks that you are no longer using. I've been told that many women have multiples of these items, stashed in their closets. They will be put to good use! Bins are by the tree to collect your donations. We will be assembling the bags after services on Sunday, May 19. Contact Jessica Feeley for questions: j.g.feeley@gmail.com.

#### Year to Date (YTD) Financial Status (as of 4/17/2024)

- YTD Income 105.32% of budget
- YTD Expenses 82.94% of budget
- Through the first 3 months of the year, we are ahead of the budget with offering (income) and not spending as much as we expected (expenses)

#### Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church Fifth Sunday of Easter – Sunday, April 28, 2024—9:30 a.m.

#### Welcome

## **Easter Acclamation**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

## C: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

## Confession of Sin against Creation —Please stand as able—

P: Let us confess our sin against God and creation, saying, In your mercy,

#### C: hear our prayer.

P: Forgive us God, for our indifference to the destruction of wildlife, and for our preoccupation with our own comfort and needs at the expense of your created world. In your mercy,

#### C: hear our prayer.

P: Forgive us God, for the violence against the earth, and for our silence before devastated forests and contaminated rivers. In your mercy,

#### C: hear our prayer.

P: Forgive us God, for our voracious thirst to consume without a thought of future generations, and our fixation on the present without thinking of tomorrow. In your mercy,

#### C: hear our prayer.

- P: Forgive our arrogance, God, when we place ourselves at the center of your universe. Forgive us when we forget our place in creation.
- C: In your mercy, teach us to love your creatures and to care for life in all its forms. In the name of + Jesus Christ, forgive us our sins, strengthen us through the Holy Spirit, and restore our relationships to you, each other, and to all of creation. Amen.

**Gathering Song** 



Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881-1965 Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, admin. David Higham Associates

## Greeting

- May the grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God and the **P**: communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.
- And also with you. **C**:

#### Song of Praise for Creation

ELW 731 v. 1-4

Earth and All Stars!



Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926 Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson, 1922–1987 Text and music © 1968 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

#### **Prayer of the Day**

- P: Let us pray.
- C: O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

## WORD

#### **First Reading**

L: A reading from 1 John 4:7-21

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup>God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. <sup>16</sup>So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. <sup>17</sup>Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. <sup>18</sup>There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. <sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup>The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

- L: Word of God, word of life
- C: Thanks be to God.

## Psalm 22:25-31

L: <sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the Lord.

### C: <sup>26</sup>The poor shall eat and be satisfied,

## Let those who seek the Lord give praise! May your hearts live forever!

L: <sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord;

all the families of nations shall bow before God.

## C: <sup>28</sup>For dominion belongs to the Lord,

### who rules over the nations.

L: <sup>29</sup>Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;

all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the Lord.

C: <sup>30</sup>Their descendants shall serve the Lord,

whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.

L: <sup>31</sup>They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn,

saying to them, "The Lord has acted!"

#### **Children's Message** -Please be seated-The children are invited to come forward to join the Pastor at the Chancel for a message. **Gospel Acclamation ELW 172** Please stand as able Halle, Halle, Hallelujah θ Hal-le, hal - le, hal le lu -\_ jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -Ο jah. le lu hal - le, hal Hal - le, \_ \_ le θ Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le lu jah. lu jah. \_

Music: Caribbean traditional

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## Gospel

P: The holy gospel according to St. John, Chapter 15:1-8

### C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] 1"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. 2He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. 3You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. 4Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. 5I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. 6Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. 7If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

- P: The gospel of the Lord.
- C: Praise to you, O Christ.

### Sermon

- Please be seated-

ELW 835 v 1-4

All Creatures, Worship God Most High!



Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182–1226; tr. composite Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Köln, 1623 Text © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

## **Nicene Creed**

LD: Let us confess our faith using the 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.

Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

### **Prayers of the People**

LD: 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—

LD: We pray for the church around the world, for all ministers, and for the mission of the gospel. Keep all the newly baptized and confirmed in your care. Cleanse our hearts with your word and help us to abide in you always. God of grace,

#### C: hear our prayer.

 LD: For the well-being of the earth and of all created things: for rivers and lakes, streams and estuaries, melting glaciers and polluted waters.
 Renew the face of the earth and shower us with your goodness. God of grace,

#### C: hear our prayer.

LD: For the nations and all those in authority: for local, state, and national leaders, for elected representatives at every level, and for international organizations, that justice and peace may reign. God of grace,

#### C: hear our prayer.

LD: For all those in need: for any experiencing homelessness or unemployment, for those fleeing from oppression or seeking asylum, and for all who are ill or suffering. We pray especially for those whose names we say out loud or silently. — A brief silence — God of grace,

#### C: hear our prayer.

LD: For the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the New England Synod, and their leaders; for all of our partners in mission and ministry, locally and abroad; and for our Jewish brothers and sisters during this holy season of Passover. God of grace,

#### C: hear our prayer.

LD: For this congregation: for the caring ministries of this faith community, for all who visit and minister to one another, for all who take communion to homes or care centers, and for all who seek to share your love with the world. God of grace,

#### C: hear our prayer.

- LD: 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.
- C: Amen.

#### The Sharing of God's Peace

- P: May the peace of Christ be with you all.
- C: And also with you.

The congregation is invited to exchange expressions of peace with those near them.

## MEAL

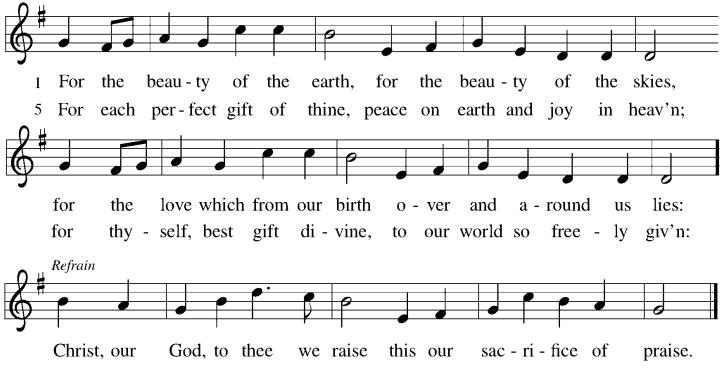
### Offering

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. During this time, the table is set. After the offering is gathered, the assembly stands. Bread, wine, money, and other gifts may be brought forward.

## **Choir Anthem**

#### **Offertory Song**

**ELW 879 (verses 1&5)** —Please stand as able— For the Beauty of the Earth



Text: Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1835–1917, alt. Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

## **Offertory Prayer**

- P: Let us pray.
- C: God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen

## **The Celebration of Holy Communion**

As you come to the Lord's Table, know that it is Christ who invites you to receive the bread and wine, the body and blood. There will be a single communion station around the altar. You will receive a wafer (gluten free wafers are available). Next you may take a pre-filled glass of wine. Please put the glass in the basket by the baptismal font or the lectern. Pre-filled Communion Cups are still available for anyone uncomfortable coming forward to the altar. If you would like to receive communion from the Pastor, but you are unable to come forward, please ask someone to talk to the ushers and we will bring communion to you.

### Dialogue

- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- P: Lift up your hearts.
- C: We lift them to the Lord.
- P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

#### C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

#### Preface

P: 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

Iy, Holy — To the tune hymn Holy, Holy, Holy—
 Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!
 Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory and Your grace.
 Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who
 Comes in the name of the Lord God most high.

#### Thanksgiving at the Table

P: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal: you we praise and glorify, you we worship and adore.

You formed the earth from chaos; you encircled the globe with air; you created fire for warmth and light; you nourish the lands with water. You molded us in your image, and with mercy higher than the mountains, with grace deeper than the seas, you blessed the Israelites and cherished them as your own.

That also we, estranged and dying, might be adopted to live in your Spirit, you called to us through the life and death of Jesus.

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.

Together as the body of Christ, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

#### C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: With this bread and cup we remember your Son, the first-born of your new creation. We remember his life lived for others, and his death and

resurrection, which renews the face of the earth. We await his coming, when, with the world made perfect through your wisdom, all our sins and sorrows will be no more.

#### C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P: Holy God, holy and merciful one, holy and compassionate, send upon us and this meal your Holy Spirit, whose breath revives us for life, whose fire rouses us to love. Enfold in your arms all who share this holy food. Nurture in us the fruits of the Spirit, that we may be a living tree, sharing your bounty with all the world.

#### C: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

- P: Holy and benevolent God, receive our praise and petitions, as Jesus received the cry of the needy, and fill us with your blessing, until, needy no longer and bound to you in love, we feast forever in the triumph of the Lamb: through whom all glory and honor is yours, O God, O Living One, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, now and forever.
- C: Amen.

### Lord's Prayer

P: Now, as our Lord 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 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 forever. Amen.

#### **Invitation to Communion**

P: Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

The assembly may be seated. The bread may be broken for the communion.

#### **Communion Hymns**

While others are communing, you are invited to sing a communion hymn or to meditate on the readings and prayers for the day.

ELW 466 – In the Singing.

ELW 479 - We Come to the Hungry Feast.

ELW 493 - Taste and See.

### **Prayer after Communion**

- LD: Let us pray.
- C: God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people and with all your creation. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

## SENDING

## Rites of Passage and Announcements — PI

—Please be seated—

The congregation is invited to share birthdays, anniversaries, and other significant events in the life of its members. Subsequently, brief announcements may be made, especially those related to the congregation's participation in God's mission in the world.

## Blessing

#### -Please stand as able-

- C: Amen.

**Sending Hymn** 

ELW 836 —Please stand as able— Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee



Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922 Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

#### Dismissal

-Please remain standing-

LD: Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

#### C: Thanks be to God.