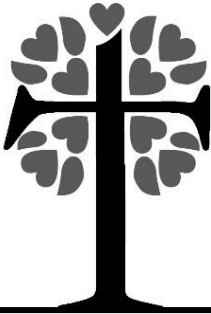


Welcome to Tree of Life Lutheran Church



May 11, 2025 ~ Fourth Sunday of Easter

Leader in regular type, **congregation in bold type**

↑ means stand as you are able

Restrooms are by the kitchen and by the Wiggle Room

Wiggle Room is available for anyone needing a brief break from worship, at the end of the piano wing of the sanctuary

WiFi is available: Look for TOL-GUEST; password is OdessaTOL1

We Gather as God's People

↑ **BLESSING OF A NEW CHURCH ROOF**

The congregation gathers outside the church building (weather permitting).

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Sisters and brothers in Christ, we gather to ask God's blessing as with thankfulness we dedicate this new church roof to the glory of God. *Some details may be shared.*

Let us read responsively the first four verses of the 84th Psalm:

¹How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of Hosts!

²**My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.**

³Even the sparrow has found a home,
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young,
by the side of your altars, O Lord of Hosts, my King and my God.

⁴**Happy are they who dwell in your house! They will always be praising you.**

Let us pray: We give you thanks, O Lord our God, Creator of the universe, for your abundant gifts. By your holy wisdom all things are made made for your glory and the welfare of your world. Send now your blessing upon us and upon this new roof. May it, like you, provide shelter from the storm, shade in times of summer's heat, and warmth in times of winter's cold. May all who gather under this roof be filled with joy and peace in your presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

This roof is now dedicated to the glory of God in the name of the Father, and the +Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us enter the house of the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

The congregation enters the sanctuary.

ANTHEM

“Majesty”
Tree of Life Choir

Hayford

↑ HYMN

“Holy God We Praise Your Name”

RED HYMNAL #414

↑ 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.**

↑ HYMN OF PRAISE

“This is the Feast”

Composed by D.D. Dillard

CHORUS THIS IS THE FEAST OF VIC-T'RY FOR OUR GOD AL-LE LU AL-LE

5 LU-JA THIS IS THE FEAST OF VIC-T'RY OF OUR GOD A - MEN A - MEN

10 WOR-THY IS CHRIST THE LAMB THAT WAS SLAIN WHOSE BLOOD SET US FREE TO BE

13 PEO-PLE OF GOD POW - ER RICH - ES WIS - DOM AND STRENGTH AND

16 HON - OR AND BLES SINGS AND GLO-RY ARE HIS CHORUS THIS IS THE

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 8/8. It consists of five staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score includes a chorus and a verse. The key signature changes to one flat (Bb) at measure 10. The score ends with a double bar line and a key signature change to one sharp (F#) for the final measure.



↑ PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray: O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

We Hear God's Word

FIRST READING: Acts 9:36-43

A reading from Acts:

³⁶Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." ³⁹So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴²This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 23

¹ The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

² **The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

³ You restore my soul, O Lord,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴ **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no
evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶ **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

SECOND READING: Revelation 7:9-17

A reading from Revelation:

⁹ After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

¹¹ And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴ I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. ¹⁶ They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; ¹⁷ for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

↑ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Composed by D.D. Dillard

Voice

Al-le - u - ia Al-le - u - ia Al-le - u - ia glo-ry to God! A - le- u - ia

u - ia Al-le - u - ia Al-le - u - ia Glo-ry to God A - le God! For the

Lord Most High is *rit*, wor-thy of glo-ry and praise Al - le u - ia Al-le- u - ia

u - ia Al-le - u - ia glo ry to - God! A - le - u - ia Al-le - u - ia Al-le-

u - ia Glo - ry to God!

↑ GOSPEL: John 10:22-30

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²² At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³ and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." ²⁵ Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; ²⁶ but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷ My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. ³⁰ The Father and I are one."

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

↑ HYMN

“Love Divine All Love Excelling”

RED HYMNAL #631

↑ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rejoicing in the risen Lord, let us pray for the Church, the world, and all in need:

Holy Lord, you are the shepherd of all. Guide your Church in all times and places to follow you, and lead your people to new strength, new hope, new passion and new life. Bless our Roman Catholic brothers and sisters, and their new bishop of Rome. God of grace... **Hear our prayer.**

You provide green pastures and still waters. Renew abundance on the earth, that all your creatures might thrive. Make us worthy shepherds and stewards of your natural world. God of grace... **Hear our prayer.**

You lead the nations along right pathways. Bring your justice, freedom and peace to all the world. Guide those in positions of authority in our realm, and protect those who serve for our protection. God of grace... **Hear our prayer.**

You comfort and nurture us by your own love and through the love of earthly parents. Bless mothers, godmothers, grandmothers, and all who serve in a mothering role for others. Come close to those whose relationships with their families are difficult, and console all who grieve the loss of mother figures or the loss of children. God of grace... **Hear our prayer.**

You walk with us through the valleys of sorrow and struggle. Wipe the tears from every eye, and be with us in our earthly ordeals. Comfort all who are in need in your shepherding care. We especially pray for Amanda, Annalise, Bill, Bob, Cecelia, Chris, Danielle, Edwin, Elizabeth, Erica, Gail, Kimberly, Noretta, Patrick, Paul, Sarah, Sue, William, Winnie and those we name with our lips or in our hearts... *(Time for personal petitions)* God of grace... **Hear our prayer.**

You prepare for us the table of your heavenly feast. Be with Tree of Life this day as we come to your table for a foretaste of that feast. Bless our Altar Guild, our worship ministry, and all who prepare food and drink for fellowship and service. Bless our bishops, Elizabeth and William; our pastor, Robbie; Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church and its pastor, Zach; and Unity Church and its pastors, Melissa and Brian. God of grace... **Hear our prayer.**

You promise to bring us to your house forever. Accept our thanksgiving for those who have died on earth and now live around your throne. Sustain our hope, until that day when we too are free from suffering and sorrow in Paradise. God of grace...

Hear our prayer.

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

↑ **PEACE**

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

We Share God's Holy Meal

↑ **OFFERTORY**

"We Believe"

Charles W. Platt

1. WE BE-LIEVE IN GOD THE ONE, THE GI - VER OF OUR
2. WE BE-LIEVE IN JE - SUS CHRIST, THE ON - LY SON OF

4
SOULS MA - KER OF THE LAND AND SEA AND SKIES.
GOD WHO DIED AND ROSE TO SAVE US FROM OUR SIN.

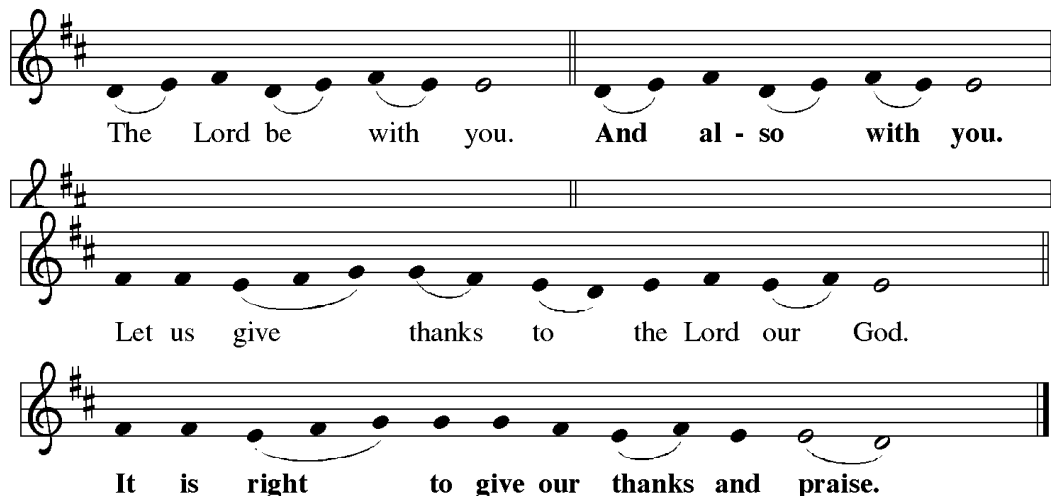
9
3. WE BE-LIEVE THE HO - LY SPIRIT GOD AND CHRIST THE

12
LORD REIGN SU-PREME AND GIVE E-TER - NAL LIFE.

↑ OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together: **Risen Lord, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Be with us in this meal, and make us your risen body in the world. Amen.**

↑ GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

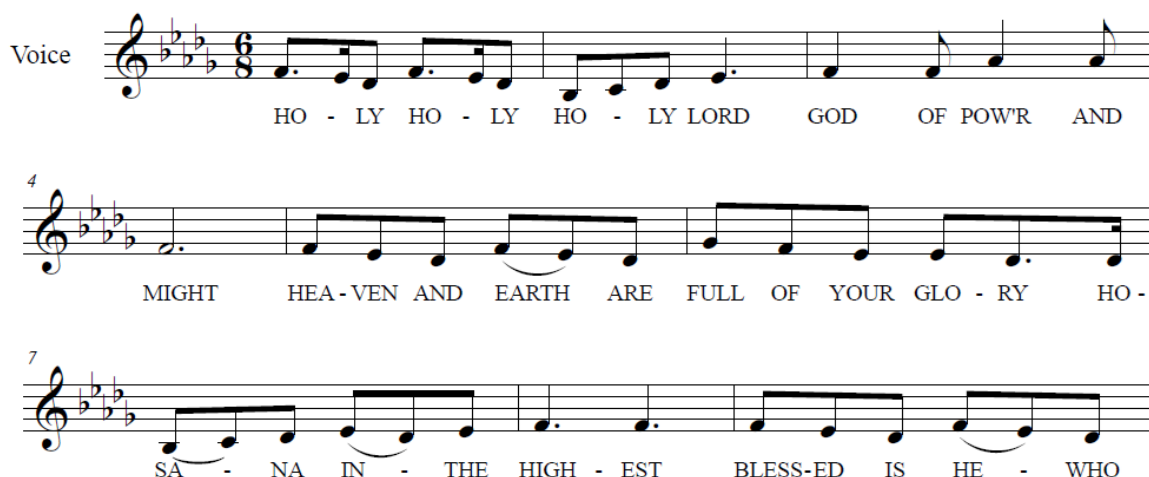
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The thanksgiving continues with the preface for the day. The congregation responds:

↑ SANCTUS

Composed by D.D. Dillard

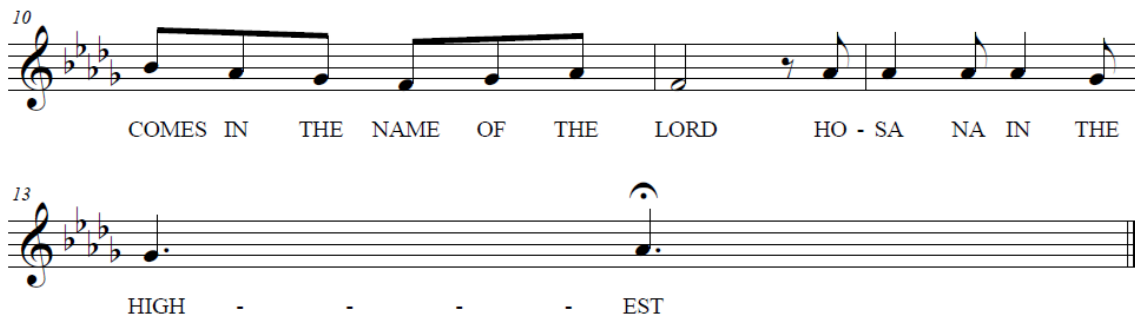


Voice

HO - LY HO - LY HO - LY LORD GOD OF POW'R AND

4 MIGHT HEA - VEN AND EARTH ARE FULL OF YOUR GLO - RY HO -

7 SA - NA IN - THE HIGH - EST BLESS - ED IS HE - WHO



↑ EUCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

↑ 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.**

↑ INVITATION TO COMMUNION

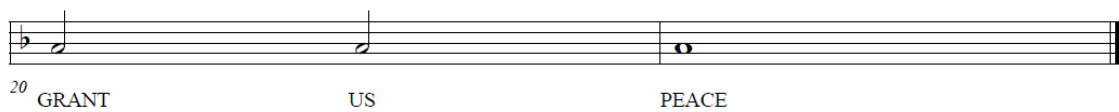
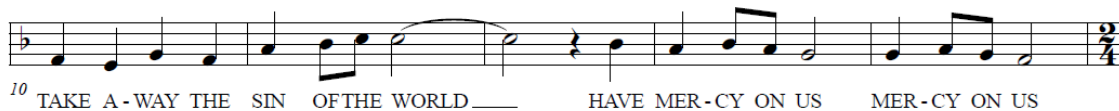
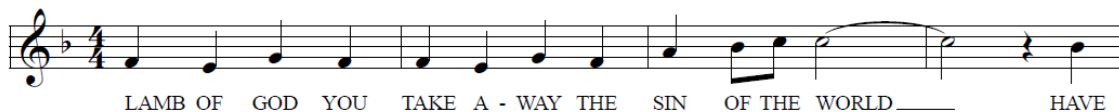
Alleluia, Christ our salvation is given for us!

Therefore let us keep the feast! Alleluia!

All baptized Christians are welcome to commune. Wine and white grape juice are in the individual cups. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

COMMUNION

Composed by D.D. Dillard



HYMNS

“Bread Of Life Our Host Our Meal”
“We Come To The Hungry Feast”

RED HYMNAL #464
RED HYMNAL #479

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together: **Living Lord Jesus, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. Amen.**

God Sends Us in Mission

ANNOUNCEMENTS

↑ **BENEDICTION**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

↑ **HYMN**

"Guide Me Ever Great Redeemer"

RED HYMNAL #618

↑ **MISSION STATEMENT**

What is our Mission? **To be faithful children of God, called by grace through Christ, and sharing this gift with Middletown, Odessa, Townsend and the World.**

↑ **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace! Share the Good News! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

You may listen to the music or depart to do God's work.

Please join us for refreshments in the fellowship room after the service.

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