

## NATIVITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



**Resurrection of Our Lord** 

10:15 a.m.

**April 20, 2025** 

# **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**ELW - SETTING III** 

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#### INTRODUCTION

"The last enemy to be destroyed is death," Paul writes. Today Christ is risen, and we gather together with astonishment and joy. Christ is risen, and we have been set free from the bonds of death. Christ is risen, and we are forgiven. Christ is risen, and with the women at the tomb and Peter, we are amazed. Let us rejoice: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: = Pastor W: = Worship Assistant A: = All in Attendance \*indicates congregation should stand if able.

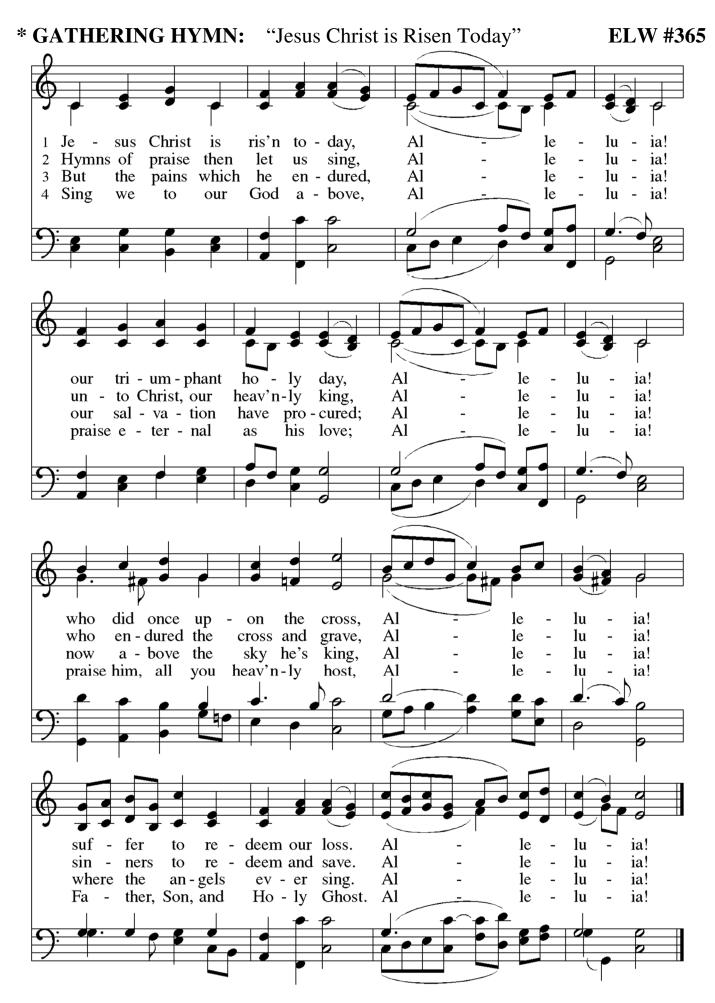
**INTROIT** 

(LBW 92 "Were You There" Stanza 4 sung as a solo) Were you there when God raised him from the tomb? Were you there when God raised him from the tomb? Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when God raised him from the tomb?

CHOIR ANTHEM (SOLO): Christ Being Raised by John A. Behnke

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

(During the procession and recession please turn to face the Processional Cross and follow its movements to and from the Altar).



#### HOLY BAPTISM

# **PRESENTATION**

P: God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word, God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Sponsors present the candidates.

We present Sienna, Harleen, and Faith for baptism.

P: Sienna, Harleen, and Faith; called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to be baptized into Christ?

Candidates: I do.

P: Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your children baptized into Christ?

Response: I do.

P: As you bring your children to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities to live with them among God's faithful people, bring them to the word of God and the holy supper, teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in their hands the holy scriptures, and nurture them in faith and prayer, so that your children may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace. Do you promise to help your children grow in the Christian faith and life?

Response: I do.

P: Sponsors, do you promise to nurture these children in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help them live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Response: I do.

P: People of God, do you promise to support Sienna, Harleen, and Faith, and pray for them in their new life in Christ?

A: We do.

## \*PROFESSION OF FAITH

P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God? *Response:* I renounce them.

The presiding minister addresses the candidates and the assembly.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

A: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

A: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

A: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

## \*THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

A: Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

P: In the name of + the One who was, who is, and who is to come.

A: Amen.

P: Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured before or during the thanksgiving.

P: Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One,

A: make us one as you are one.

P: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and gives new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One,

A: make us one as you are one.

P: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One,

A: make us one as you are one.

P: Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

A: Amen.

The Assembly may be seated.

#### **BAPTISM**

Water is poured on each candidate's head, as the presiding minister says:

P: <u>Sienna/Harleen/Faith</u>, I baptize you in the name of the Father, *Water is poured on the candidate's head a second time*: and of the Son, *Water is poured on the candidate's head a third time*: and of the Holy Spirit,

A: Amen.

After each baptism, the assembly responds.

A: You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized. Alleluia.

P: Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Laying both hands on the head of each of the newly baptized, the minister prays:

P: Sustain <u>Sienna/Harleen/Faith</u> with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

A: Amen.

The presiding minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of each of the baptized. As the sign of the cross is made, the minister says:

P: <u>Sienna/Harleen/Faith</u>, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

A: Amen.

#### **WELCOME**

A lighted candle may be given to each of the newly baptized.

W: Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

The ministers and the baptismal group face the assembly.

W: Let us welcome the newly baptized.

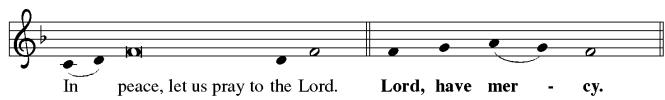
A: We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

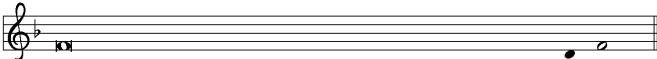
## \*GREETING

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

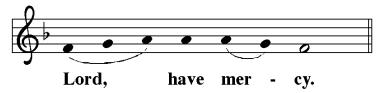
A: And also with you.

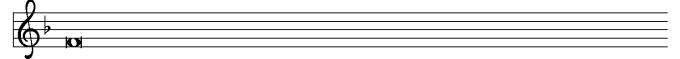
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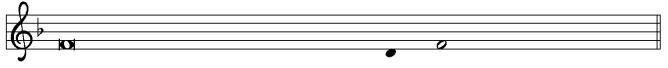


For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

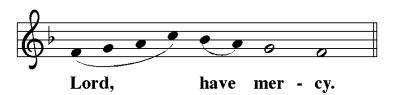


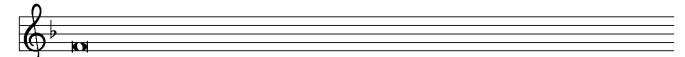


For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



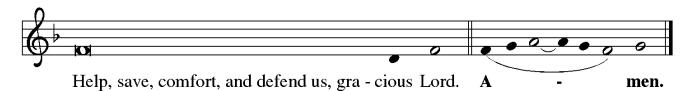
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.





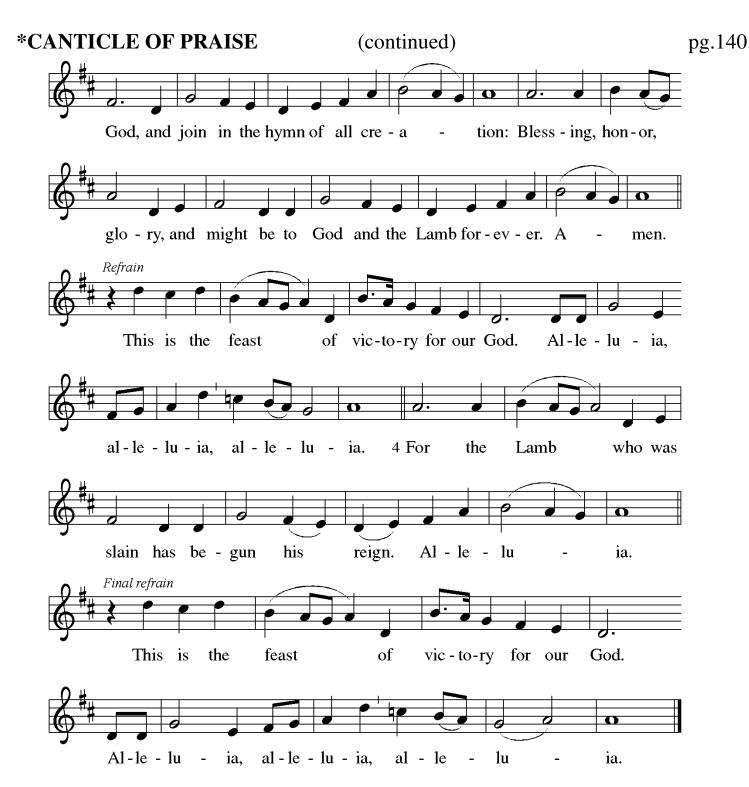
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,





1 – Women 2 – Men 3 & 4 - All





#### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

#### A: Amen

## FIRST READING: Acts 10:34-43

Peter crosses the immense religious and social boundary that separates Jews from Gentiles in order to proclaim the good news of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, so that God's forgiveness in Jesus' name would reach out to all people.

<sup>34</sup>Peter began to speak to [the people]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup>That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup>We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup>not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup>He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup>All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

L: The Word of the Lord.

A: Thanks be to God.

# PSALM: 118:1-2, 14-24

This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. (Ps. 118:24)

W: <sup>1</sup>Give thanks to the LORD, for the <sup>1</sup>LORD is good; God's mercy en-<sup>1</sup> dures forever.

A: <sup>2</sup>Let Israel i now declare, "God's mercy en-i dures forever."

W: <sup>14</sup>The LORD is my strength <sup>1</sup> and my song, and has become <sup>1</sup> my salvation.

A: <sup>15</sup>Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents <sup>1</sup> of the righteous: "The right hand of the <sup>1</sup>LORD acts valiantly!

W: <sup>16</sup>The right hand of the LORD is exalted! The right hand of the <sup>1</sup>LORD acts valiantly!"

A: <sup>17</sup>I shall not <sup>|</sup> die, but live, and declare the works <sup>|</sup> of the LORD.

W: <sup>18</sup>The LORD indeed pun- <sup>1</sup> ished me sorely, but did not hand me o- <sup>1</sup> ver to death.

A: <sup>19</sup>Open for me the <sup>1</sup> gates of righteousness; I will enter them and give thanks <sup>1</sup> to the LORD.

W: 20"This is the gate of the LORD; here the righteous may enter."

A: 21I give thanks to you, for you have answered me and you have become my salvation.

W: <sup>22</sup>The stone that the build- ers rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

A: <sup>23</sup>By the LORD has <sup>1</sup> this been done; it is marvelous <sup>1</sup> in our eyes.

W: <sup>24</sup>This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

# SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:19-26

Paul describes the consequences of the resurrection, including the promise of new life in Christ to a world that has been in bondage to death. He celebrates the destruction of evil and the establishment of God's victorious rule over all.

19 If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. 20 But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have

20 But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. 21 For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; 22 for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. 23 But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. 24 Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. 25 For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. 26 The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

L: The Word of the Lord.

A: Thanks be to God.

#### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION





P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

A: Glory to you, O Lord.

#### \*GOSPEL: Luke 24:1-12

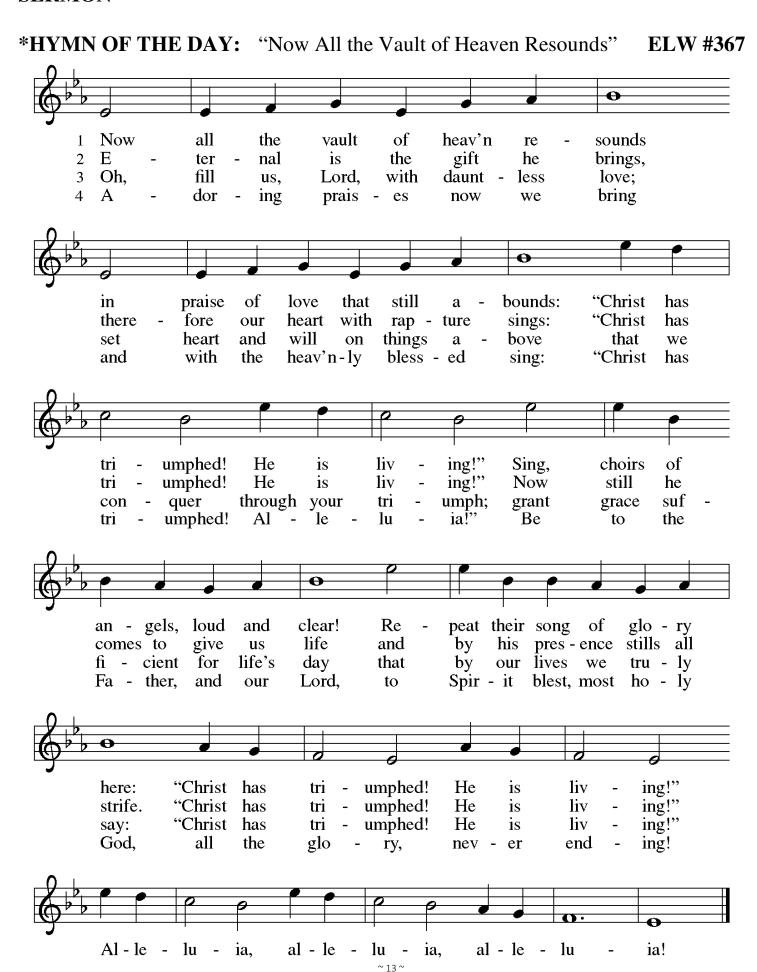
Evidently expecting to find Jesus' corpse, some of the women among his followers go to the tomb with embalming spices. After a perplexing encounter with the empty tomb and angelic visitors, the women become the first to proclaim the amazing news of resurrection.

<sup>1</sup>On the first day of the week, at early dawn, [the women] came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. <sup>2</sup>They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, <sup>3</sup> but when they went in, they did not find the body. <sup>4</sup>While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. <sup>5</sup>The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. <sup>6</sup>Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, <sup>7</sup> that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." <sup>8</sup>Then they remembered his words, <sup>9</sup> and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. <sup>10</sup>Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. <sup>11</sup>But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. <sup>12</sup>But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

A: Praise to you, O Christ.

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**



## \* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

W: God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

W: Kindle new life in your church. Encourage all who seek creative ways to share the good news of Christ's resurrection. Bless mission developers and new ministries, that their work plant seeds that flourish. God of grace,

A: hear our prayer.

W: Nourish new life in all of creation. Shower forests and grasslands, deserts, and mountains with life-giving rains. Grant us delight in your glory that shows forth in all that grows this season. God of grace,

A: hear our prayer.

W: Empower new life among the nations. As you raised Jesus from the dead, bring new hope for peace and reconciliation in places of war and strife and all those who witness and experience violence, especially the people of Ukraine, Russia, Haiti, the Middle East, regions of Africa, and wherever conflict and war exist in the world. Raise up leaders who are steadfast in their commitment to justice and transformation. God of grace,

A: hear our prayer.

W: Bring new hope among all who are in need, especially neighbors without homes or food, and those whose housing or food supply is at risk. Bring healing to all who are fearful, ill, or grieving especially *Terry Steinheiser*, *Jean Haught*, *Oliver Kiefer*, *Carol Bednar*, *Adriana Lauro*, *Pr. John Cawkins*, *Pr. Tony Schneck*, *Brian Haught*, *Mike Fleming*, *Dave Miller*, *Debbie Pappa*, *Maryann Gilbert*, *Janet Liotta* and all those whom we name in our hearts before you. God of grace,

A: hear our prayer.

W: Awaken new life in this place. Open our hearts to ways you are calling us to be at work in the world and our community. Give us courage to boldly share your love for all people beyond our walls. God of grace,

A: hear our prayer.

W: Trusting in the promises of the resurrection, we remember with thanksgiving our beloved dead. Sustain us with a living hope until we are reunited with them and all the saints at the heavenly banquet. God of grace,

A: hear our prayer.

P: 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.

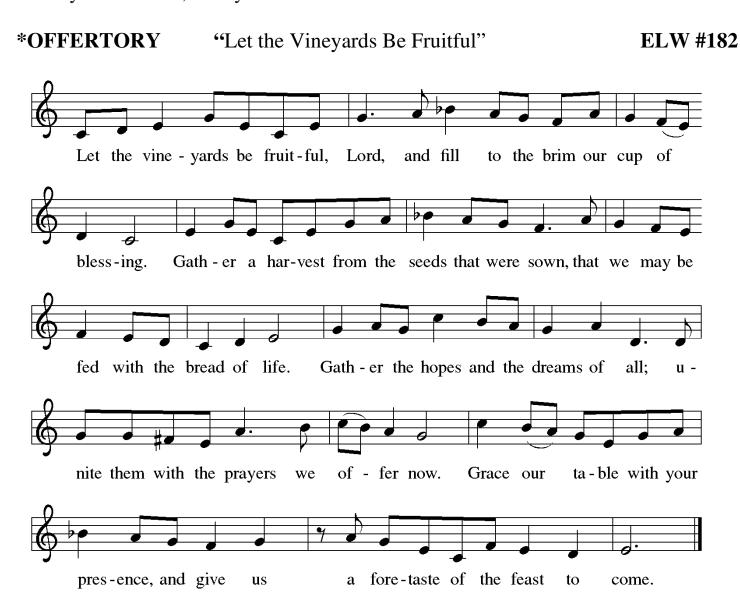
A: Amen.

#### \*PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

A: And also with you.

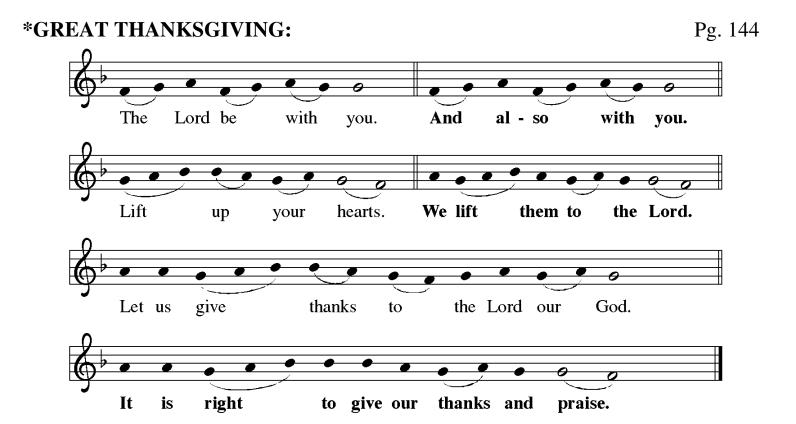
**CHOIR ANTHEM:** *Celebrate the Risen Christ* by Cook Island Melody from Aitutaki, Text by Brian Wren, arr. by Austin C. Lovelace



## \*OFFERTORY PRAYER

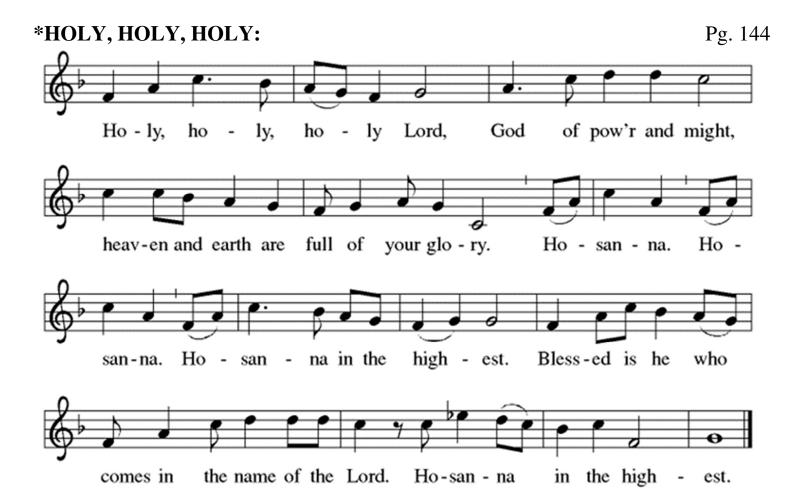
W: Let us pray together. Risen One,

A: you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. Amen.



# \*THE 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:



# \*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pg. 111

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

- A: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
- P: O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.
- A: Come, Holy Spirit.
- P: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.
- A: Come, Holy Spirit.
- P: With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.
- A: Amen.

#### \*THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pg. 145

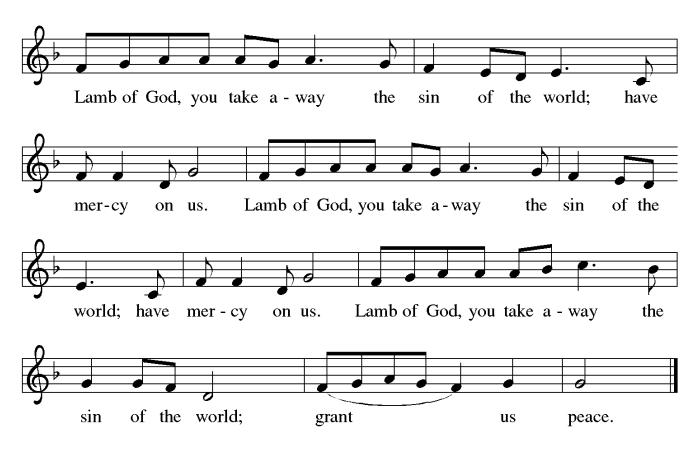
P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

A: 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.

\*THE PRESENTATION: The gifts of God for the people of God. Come for all is now ready.

**LAMB OF GOD:** Pg. 146



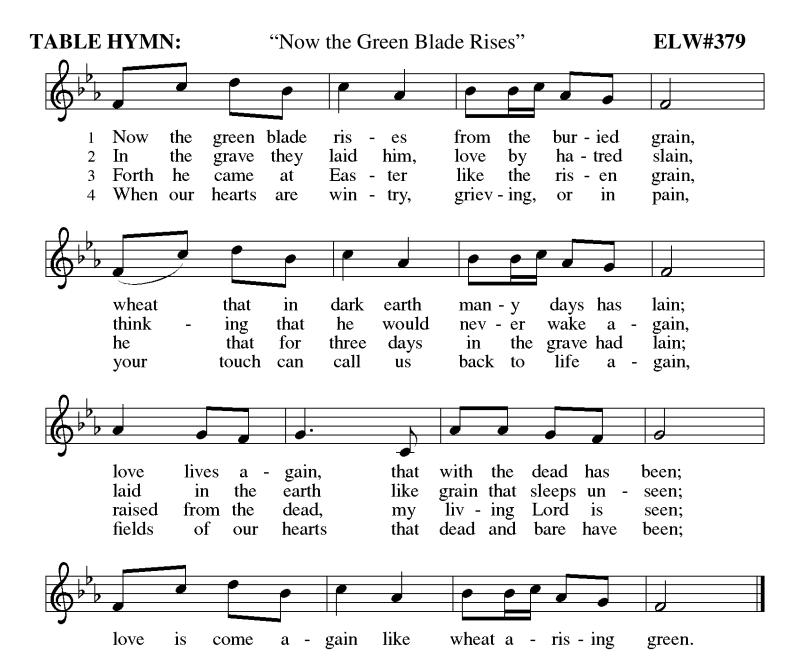
# **COMMUNION:** Communion today will be served by intinction.

The usher will lead you up the center aisle, you may go back to your seats via the window aisles. The pastor will give you a wafer; you may dip the wafer into the wine held by the worship assistant.

For those who wish to abstain from wine, the other communion assistant will have grape juice in the chalice. Please let the pastor know at the communion rail if you need a gluten free wafer.

Christ is present in either/both of the elements. Tell the pastor if you would prefer a blessing.

If you wish to commune in your seat, please inform the usher when your row is dismissed.

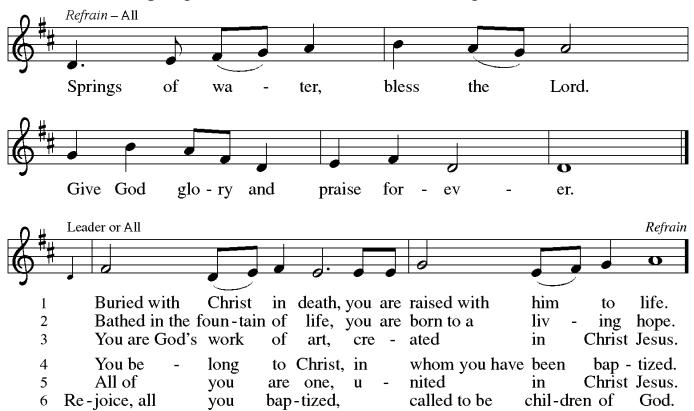


## \*TABLE BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

# A: Amen

Springs of Water, Bless the Lord - sung as a solo



## \*POST COMMUNION PRAYER

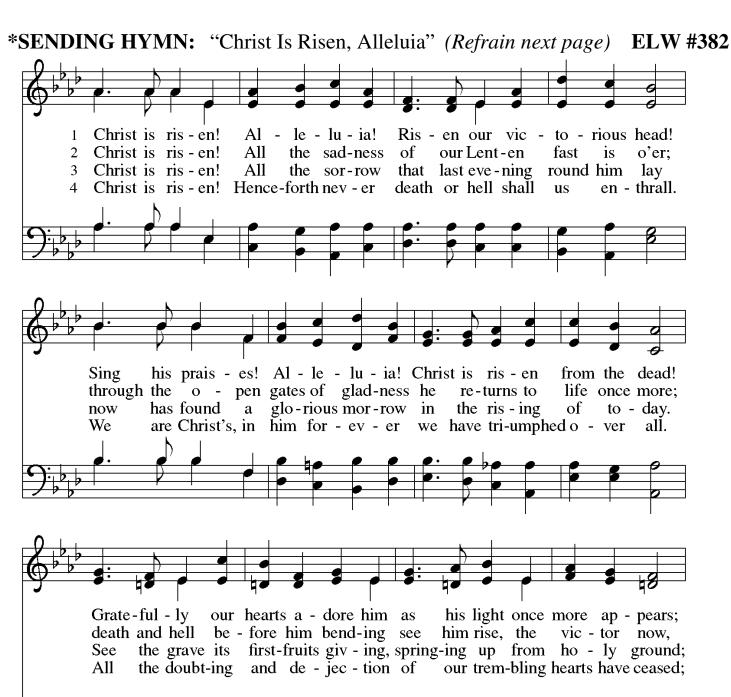
W: Let us Pray. Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.

A: Amen.

#### \* BLESSING

P: The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, \(\psi\) Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always.

A: Amen.

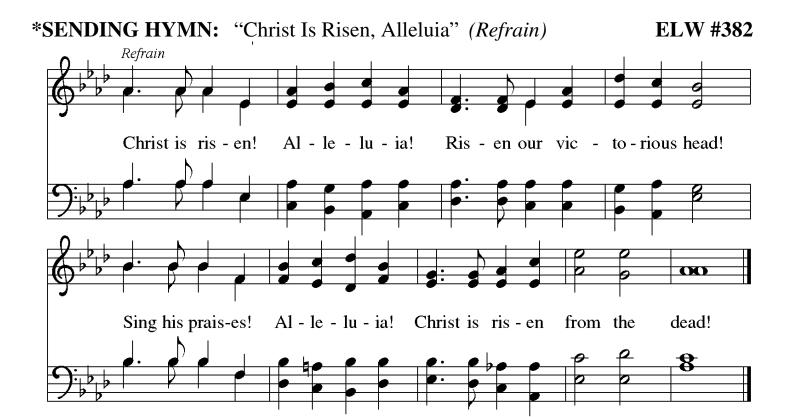






bow - ing down in joy be-fore him, ris - ing up from griefs and tears. an - gels on his steps at - tend-ing, glo - ry round his wound-ed brow. Christ was dead, but now is liv - ing; he was lost, but he is found. hail the day of res - ur - rec - tion! Let us rise and keep the feast.





## \*DISMISSAL

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

A: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

A: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**POSTLUDE:** Fanfare by Jacques-Nicolas Lemmens.

# \* Announcements \*

We welcome into our church family today, Sienna, Harleen & Faith Pabla through Holy Baptism.

**Stewardship Sundays** - We give thanks to God for our many blessings and for the ways in which God guides us to use our time, talents, and treasures to do the work we are called to do together in service to our Lord. As a way to celebrate our work together, we will be having temple talks about our different committees here at Nativity. These talks will take place during the announcements in the weeks leading up to our annual meeting on June 1. Envelopes that include the time and talent sheets and commitment cards for the 2025-2026 fiscal year are available from Kim Brandt today, if you didn't get one last week. One you fill them out, please return

them to Kim no later than Sunday, May 4. Please talk with Pastor Jennifer if you have any questions. There are also on-line versions if you lose your paper forms.

For our enjoyment and as a special treat, Next Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, during Coffee Hour, the **Monday Art Group** will be displaying some of their work made on-site at Nativity. Please plan to stay after worship and enjoy some good fellowship and an art show!

Nativity is supporting the **NHCO Spring Cleaning Collection** again this year. Additional information for specific items needed are on the flyer posted on the bulletin board across from the kitchen, on the table in the Narthex, on our website under Missions/NHCO page. Please place your donations in the bins under the coat racks. Collection will run through June 8<sup>th</sup>.

For those who purchased **Easter Lilys and Tulips**, thank you for helping to decorate our sanctuary. You may take them home after worship today.



#### NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

www.nativitylutheranchurch15101.org

The Rev. Jennifer Soltis, Pastor

Organist: Alex Bednar

Alisa Michael Worship Assistant: Lector: Kim Brandt Charlie Brandt Usher: Joanne Smith Greeter:

Videographer:

Altar Guild: Linda Ryan Offering Tellers: Jean Chantz

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The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are presented by Rich & Jean King in Glory to God.

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# For the Week of April 20 - 26

Art Group – 1pm **MONDAY** 

AA meeting – 7pm

**TUESDAY** WELCA – 10am

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In-person YouTube Offering April 13 50 \$ 2.583 20

# YTD Financial Summary as of March 31, 2025

Revenue YTD \$ 130,690 Expenses YTD \$ 157,381 Difference YTD (-\$26,691)\* \*includes the \$20,000 roof repair project

For Pastoral care, you can contact Pastor Jennifer: pastorjennifersoltis@gmail.com (570) 401-1764