

*As a community following Christ,
we **LOVE** with an open heart,
GROW with a curious mind,
and **SHARE** with a generous spirit.*

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Please turn off all cell phones.

*If you are visiting with us today, we extend to you a particular welcome
and invite your questions and comments.*

*Our entire worship service is printed in this worship folder for your
convenience.*

Hearing assistance devices are available in the Narthex.

*Child care is available for children ages 5 years and under in the Child
Care Area, across from the Life Together Hall.*

In the order of service, the words
that are spoken by a leader are in regular type.

Words spoken by the assembly are in boldface type.

NARRATIVE LECTIONARY 242

CHURCH at THESSALONICA

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 21, 2024 • 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stand.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Turn to face the baptism font.

*All may make the sign of the cross,
+ the sign that is marked at baptism,
as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
the wellspring of grace,
our Easter and our joy.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning
your voice thundered over the deep
and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.

Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea
into freedom's land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official
entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,
freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts,
giving all honor and praise to you,
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

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 • "PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 689



1 Praise and thanks-giv - ing, God, we would of - fer for all things
2 God, bless the la - bor we bring to serve you, that with our
3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing food for your chil - dren, by Wis - dom's
4 Then will your bless - ing reach ev - 'ry peo - ple, free - ly con -



liv - ing, you have made good: har - vest of sown fields, fruits of the
neigh - bor we may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, we would work
guid - ing teach us to share one with an - oth - er, so that, re -
fess - ing your gra - cious hand. Where you are reign - ing, no one will



or - chard, hay from the mown fields, blos - som and wood.
with you, har - vest - ing, mill - ing for dai - ly bread.
joic - ing with us, all oth - ers may know your care.
hun - ger; your love sus - tain - ing show - ers the land.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Messiah, Jesus,
your followers established churches
in communities near and far.

Take us outside of ourselves
and teach us to give away what you have given to us.

Show us how to witness to your presence
in places near and far.

Amen.

Sit.

MOUNTAIN VIEW COMMUNITY CENTER TEMPLE TALK

ACCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE

Hymnal Supplement 1991 • "Now the Feast and Celebration" Eucharistic Setting

Congregation:

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Acts 17:1-9

¹After Paul and Silas had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. ²And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three sabbath days argued with them from the scriptures, ³explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Messiah to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying, “This is the Messiah, Jesus whom I am proclaiming to you.” ⁴Some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great many of the devout Greeks and not a few of the leading women. ⁵But the Jews became jealous, and with the help of some ruffians in the marketplaces they formed a mob and set the city in an uproar. While they were searching for Paul and Silas to bring them out to the assembly, they attacked Jason’s house. ⁶When they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some believers before the city authorities, shouting, “These people who have been turning the world upside down have come here also, ⁷and Jason has entertained them as guests. They are all acting contrary to the decrees of the emperor, saying that there is another king named Jesus.” ⁸The people and the city officials were disturbed when they heard this, ⁹and after they had taken bail from Jason and the others, they let them go.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

READING

A reading from the first letter to the Thessalonians.

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake.

⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SERMON + SERMON

Pastor Briana Merkle.

Stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY • "CANTICLE OF THE TURNING"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 723



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .
3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a
4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.
liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the
This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

Refrain

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus-tice burn.

Wipe a-way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a-bout to turn.

CREED

Together, let us confess our faith.

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell.
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.**

**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. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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.

At the conclusion of each petition:

Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

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.

Amen.

10:45 a.m.

ROCK MINISTRY BIBLE RITE

Gracious God,
**through these scriptures,
guide, strengthen, establish, and empower
these young people
as good and faithful servants,
of you and of the world.**

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Sit.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

As Jesus gave himself fully for us
and then appeared to the disciples bringing peace,
so let us now bring wholeness and healing to others
through our tithes and gifts.

*You can participate in the Offering electronically
by scanning the QR code and filling out the online form.*



OFFERTORY

Stand.

OFFERING PRAYER

Risen One,
you call us to believe and bear fruit.

May the gifts that we offer here
be signs of your abiding love.

Form us to be your witnesses in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Hymnal Supplement 1991 • “Now the Feast and Celebration” Eucharistic Setting

Presider:
Congregation:

The Lord be with you. And al - so with

Presider:
Congregation:

you. Lift up your hearts. We

Presider:

lift them to the Lord. Let us give

Congregation:

thanks to the Lord our God. It is

right to give God thanks and praise.

It is our duty and delight
 that we should everywhere and always
 offer thanks and praise to you, O God,
 through Jesus Christ
 who by his death on the cross and glorious resurrection
 broke the bonds of sin and death
 and gave life to all creation,
 and so with the church on earth,
 all creation, and the host of heaven
 we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS • "HOLY, HOLY, HOLY"

Hymnal Supplement 1991 • "Now the Feast and Celebration" Eucharistic Setting

Congregation:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the
One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom
and teach us 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.**

COMMUNION

The risen Christ is made known to us
in the breaking of the bread.

Come and eat at God's table.

Sit.

DISTRIBUTION

At Mountain View Lutheran Church we practice an open communion table, which means that everyone is welcome to receive the body and blood of Jesus Christ. (You don't have to be a member of MVLC.)

If you need an alcohol-free element or a gluten-free element, then please let your server know.

If you are unable to come forward for communion, then please let an usher know and you will be served where you are seated.

WELCOME TO CHRIST'S TABLE

This is the table, not of the Church, but of Jesus Christ.
It is made ready for those who are loved by God,
whether you feel loved or not.

It is for those who desire to grow in love with God.

So come, you who have much faith and you who have little.

You who have been here often
and you who have not been for a long time or ever before.

Come, you who have tried to follow
and you who live with a sense of failure in your following.

Come, not because the Church invites you;
it is Christ who invites you to be known and fed and loved here.

Please come. Receive the gifts of God for all the people of God.

LAMB OF GOD • "LAMB OF GOD"

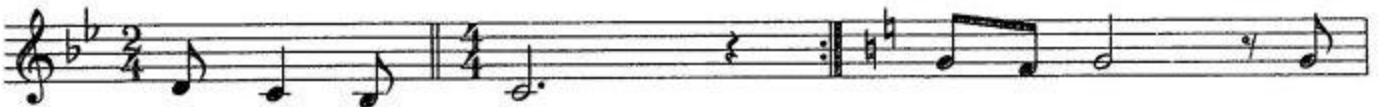
Hymnal Supplement 1991 • "Now the Feast and Celebration" Eucharistic Setting



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
you break the chains of ha - tred and
you are the way of jus - tice and
you are the way of mer - cy and



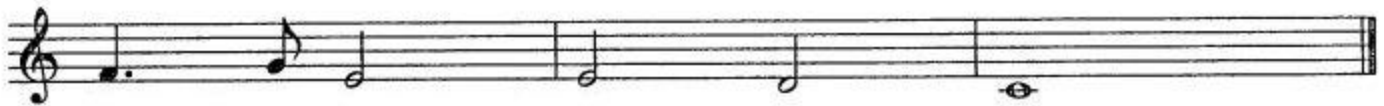
world:
fear: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
peace:
love:



mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN • "IN THE SINGING"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 466



1 In the sing - ing, in the si - lence, in the hands ex - pect - ant, o - pen,
2 In the ques - tion, in the an - swer, in the mo - ment of ac - cept - ance,



in the bless - ing, in the break - ing, in your pres - ence at this ta - ble,
in the heart's cry, in the heal - ing, in the cir - cle of your peo - ple,



Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the wine of grace;



Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the bread of peace.

COMMUNION HYMN • "ALL WHO HUNGER, GATHER GLADLY"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 461



1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad - ly; ho - ly man - na is our bread.
2 All who hun-ger, nev - er strang - ers; seek - er, be a wel - come guest.
3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.



Come from wil - der - ness and wan - d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.
Come from rest - less - ness and roam - ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.
Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



You that yearn for days of full - ness, all a - round us is our food.
We that once were lost and scat - tered in com - mu - nion's love have stood.
Blest are those who from this ta - ble live their days in grat - i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

COMMUNION HYMN • "WELCOME TABLE"

All Creation Sings 969



1 I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel - come ta - ble,
2 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey,
3 I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,



I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel-come ta-ble, some of these days.
I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon-ey, some of these days.
I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.



I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel - come ta - ble,
I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey,
I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,



I'm goin' - a eat at the wel - come ta - ble, some of these days.
I'm goin' - a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey, some of these days.
I'm goin' - a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.

Stand.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God,

in you we live and move and have our being.

**With your word and this meal of grace,
you have nourished our life together.**

**Strengthen us to show your love
and serve the world in Jesus' name.**

Amen.

DEACON SENDING

Deacons are called to “make Christ and his redemptive love known by word and example.” (1 Timothy)

Such love is expressed in the extension of Holy Communion to those who are homebound or hospitalized.

Eternal God,

whose glory is revealed in the crucified and risen Lord, bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with our sisters and brothers who are sick or homebound. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those to whom we bring this communion in the body and blood of your Son, that we may all feast upon your abundant love made known in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

God of the Resurrection, as we go into your world,
help us love with an open heart,
grow with a curious mind,
and share with a generous spirit.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN • "LIFT HIGH THE CROSS"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 660



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till



all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.



1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Refrain



our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

SENDING

Go in peace. Serve in love.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

*Flowers on the altar today
are given to the glory of God
by Jeanne Anderson.*

WORSHIP NOTES

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Worship leaders include:

Both services

- J PREACHER: Pastor Briana Merkle.
- J PRESIDER: Pastor Eric Bostrom.
- J ASSISTING MINISTER: Ken Swanson.
- J ORGANIST: Joan Linden.
- J VIDEOGRAPHER: David Burch.
- J ALTAR GUILD: Kathy Harris, Janet Larson, Mervina Sturgeon.

8:15 a.m.

- J USHERS: Janet Larson, Eileen Newton, Chris Ray, Ken Swanson (head usher).
- J GREETER: Carol Powers.
- J ACOLYTES: Gretchen Schaefer, Nate Schaefer.
- J LECTOR: Chris Schaefer.
- J COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Sandi Swanson, Diane Tyler.
- J SOUND: Henry Peck.

10:45 a.m.

- J USHERS: Mark Cantrell (head usher), Mary Beth Dahl, John Dahle, Deborah VanderLey.
- J GREETERS: Keith Wright, Marlene Wright.
- J ACOLYTE: Emilia Olson.
- J LECTOR: Scott VanderLey.
- J COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Cathy Kostelecky, Amy Lewis.
- J SOUND: Beth Ann Johnson.

MOUNTAIN VIEW LUTHERAN CHURCH

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