

5th Sunday of Easter

35th Anniversary of the Messiah Congregation

20th Anniversary of the Messiah Building



May 15, 2022

Messiah Lutheran Church, Amherst, NH

PRELUDE — O Worship the King (attr. Johann Haydn, arr. Lloyd Larson, pub. Lorenz)

WORDS OF WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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 Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

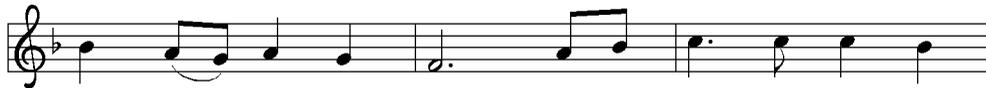
God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
 heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in
 strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an
 laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
 claim the faith of Je - sus:
 Christ the feast that frees us:
 end to fear and dan - ger:
 claim from floor to raf - ter:

Refrain



All are wel - come,



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen

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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.

Refrain



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
hun - gry and the poor; that
friends and fam - i - ly; for
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon-or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was
 slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.
 Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God, we give you thanks this day and always for this community of faith here at Messiah and the good news that sets us free and sends us into service.

35 years ago we were chartered and established to bear witness to the power of God in the gospel of Jesus Christ that offers salvation and life for all people as a gift and to celebrate the unity of Christ with all who bear his name.

20 years ago this building's doors opened as a place where all are welcomed and we are refreshed, forgiven, fed, equipped and released back into the world to let our lights so shine that others might see our good works and give glory to you our God.

Please continue to guide, bless and empower our work in your name.

Amen.

FIRST READING:

A reading from 1 Corinthians the 13th chapter:

8 Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. 9 For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; 10 but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. 11 When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. 12 For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. 13 And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 148 (ELW) (chanted or read responsively by all):

One: Hallelujah! Praise the LORD! from the heavens;
praise God ! in the heights.

**All: Praise the LORD, ! all you angels;
sing praise, all you ! hosts of heaven.**

One: Praise the LORD, ! sun and moon;
sing praise, all you ! shining stars.

**All: Praise the LORD, heav- ! en of heavens,
and you waters a- ! bove the heavens.**

One: Let them praise the name | of the LORD,
who commanded, and they | were created,

**All: who made them stand fast forev- | er and ever,
giving them a law that shall not | pass away.**

One: Praise the LORD | from the earth,
you sea monsters | and all deeps;

**All: fire and hail, | snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, do- | ing God's will;**

One: mountains | and all hills,
fruit trees | and all cedars;

**All: wild beasts | and all cattle,
creeping things and | flying birds;**

One: sovereigns of the earth | and all peoples,
princes and all rulers | of the world;

**All: young | men and maidens,
old and | young together.**

One: Let them praise the name | of the LORD,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is
over | earth and heaven.

**All: The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise
for all | faithful servants,
the children of Israel, a people who are near
the LORD. | Hallelujah!**

GOSPEL:

The Holy Gospel according to John the 13th Chapter:

Glory to you, O Lord.

31 When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. 32 If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. 33 Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' 34 I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

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

SERMON

Bishop James Hazelwood, New England Synod, ELCA

HYMN OF THE DAY **Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ**

ELW 674



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!



Refrain
Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: LINSTEAD, Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925–1980

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CREED

With the whole church let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

**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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Graced by the blessings of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we give thanks for the gifts of Faith, Hope, and Love.

a brief silence

Blessed Holy Spirit we thank you for the gift of faith by which you nourish and sustain us. We give thanks for the faith of the people who founded this congregation 35 years ago, and who took a great leap of faith in constructing this building 20 years ago. Increase in us the gift of faith so that we may continue to share the Gospel in this place in our own time. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, you gave hope throughout the ages to your people Israel through the prophets and witnesses like Moses and Miriam, Elijah and Elisha, Isaiah, the Samaritan woman, Mary Magdalene and Jesus' mother Mary, the apostles and others set free, by the gospel Jeremiah and Amos. Let your hope and justice rain down upon us so that we may continue to share hope with those who are hungry, those seeking asylum, those who are homeless, children without beds, and victims of war in other lands. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus Christ, you have shown us the love of God in your teachings, your miracles, and in your death and resurrection. Help us to continue to share your love and forgiveness among us as we live in community with one another here at Messiah. Bless us with patience, compassion, and appreciation for each other even as we struggle with all of the emotions and issues that both divide and unite all families, so that we will continue to be a beloved community together for many more years to come. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Holy God, we give you thanks for the wider community of faith of which we are a part in the New England Synod, the ELCA, and the Lutheran World Federation. Bless our bishops, James and Elizabeth, pastor Karl, pastor Kim and all of the other rostered leaders that serve in the New

Hampshire Conference, and our companion churches in Honduras and in Jordan and the Holy Land, so that we might continue to strive for peace and justice throughout the world. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands we commit ourselves, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, as we pray for an increase in faith, hope, and love. In your holy name we pray, **Amen.**

PEACE The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.



Please share the peace with those around you

OFFERING Please put your offering in the basket as it is passed around.

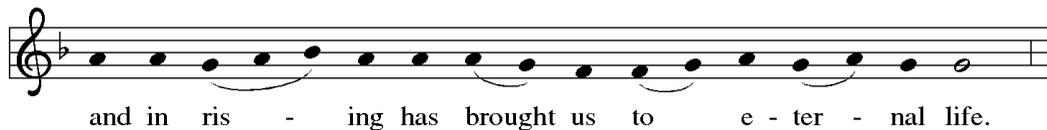
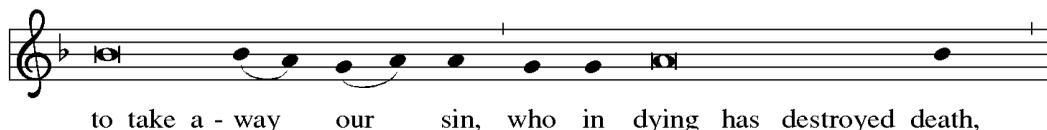
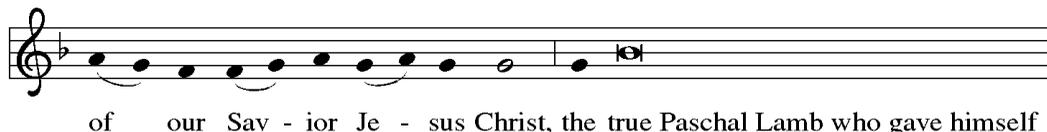
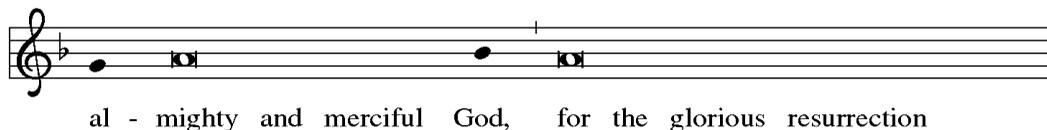
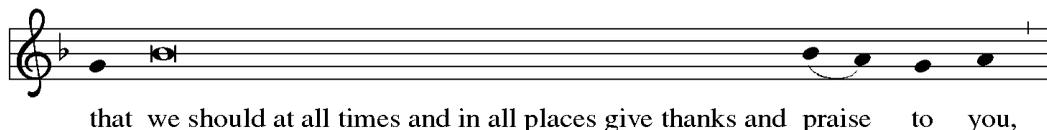
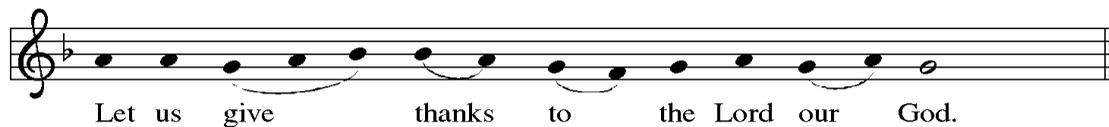
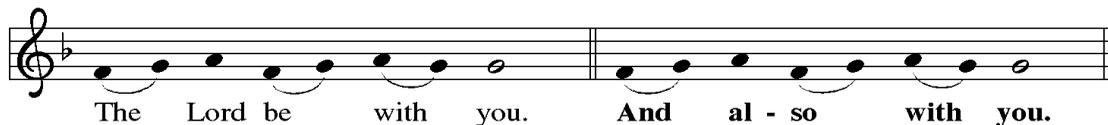
OFFERTORY

Christ Is Alive
arr. Jason R. Crug, pub. Lorenz

OFFERING PRAYER Extravagant God, you have blessed this congregation of Messiah Lutheran with gracious gift upon gracious gift. Receive these tokens of our gratitude in return. Draw us by your grace as we gather at your feast where you offer us the food that satisfies. Take and use what we offer here, come among us, and feed us with the body and blood of Christ, in whose name we pray.

Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION



And so, with Mary Magdalene and Pe - ter and all the witnesses of the
 res - ur - rec - tion, with earth and sea and all their crea - tures,
 and with angels and archangels, cheru - bim and ser - a - phim,
 we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:

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Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

Holy God,
you alone are holy,
you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:
beyond the stars;
beneath the sea;
within each cell;
with every breath.

We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness:
through the water;
by night and day;
across the wilderness;
out of exile;
into the future.

We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son:
at the heart of human life;
near to those who suffer;
beside the sinner;
among the poor;
with us now.

We thank you, O God.

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.

Remembering his love for us
on the way,
at the table,
and to the end,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:
in our gathering;
within this meal;
among your people;
throughout the world.

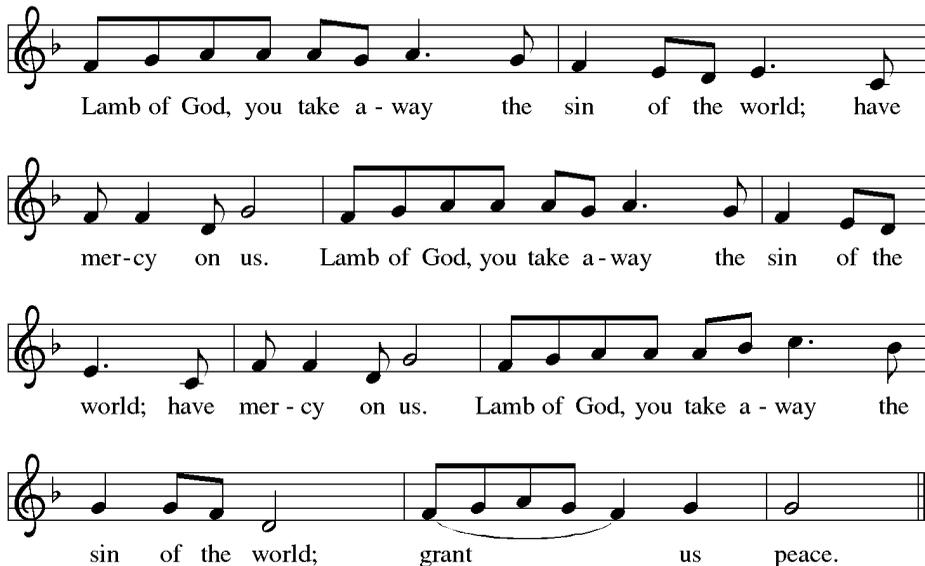
Blessing, praise, and thanks
to you, holy God,
through Christ Jesus,
by your Spirit,
in your church,
without end.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

Please come forward up the center aisle at the ushers direction to receive the bread. Please bring your wine/grape juice forward with you and place the empty cup in the basket.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

REFLECTION ON COMMUNION

The Lord has been revealed to us in the bread and the wine; his body and blood.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

God, the Author of life,
Christ, the living Cornerstone,
and the life-giving Spirit of adoption,
✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN *The Church's One Foundation* **ELW 654 (back cover)**

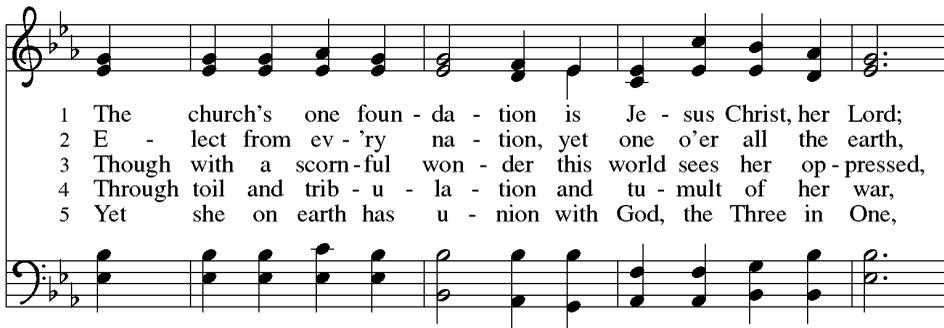
DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
Go in peace. Tell what God has done. **Thanks be to God.**

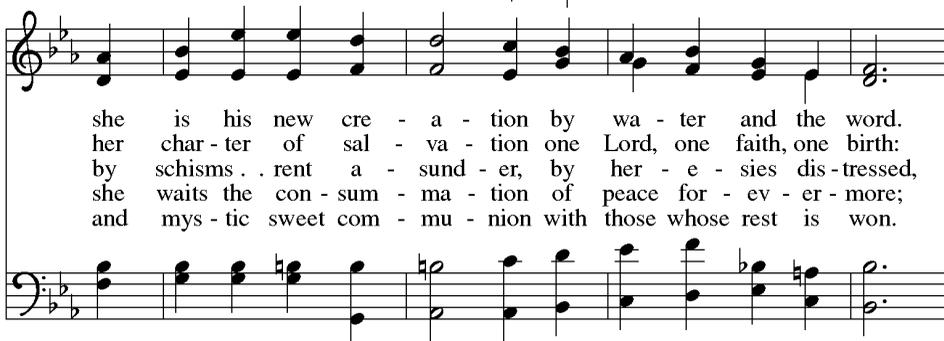
POSTLUDE — Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee (Ludwig van Beethoven,
arr. Joel Raney, pub. Hope)

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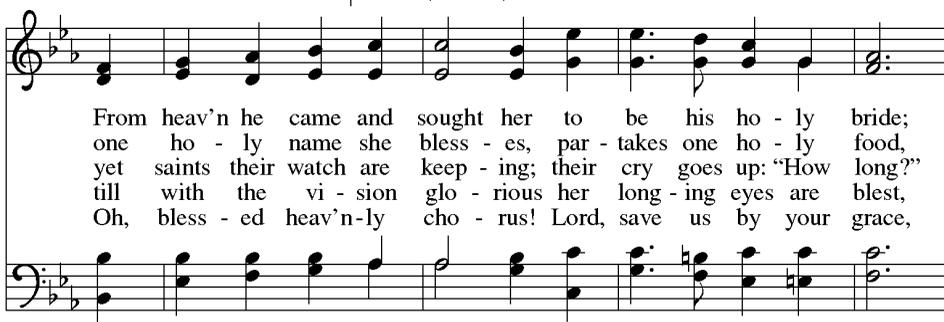
Presider:	Pastor Karl Hester	Preacher:	Bishop James Hazelwood
Assisting Minister:	Bill Mitchell	Lector:	Glenn De Noble
Musician:	Linnea Micciulla	AV Tech:	Roxanne Meldrum
Usher/Greeters:	Marge & Richard Ball	Ministers:	All of the gathered saints



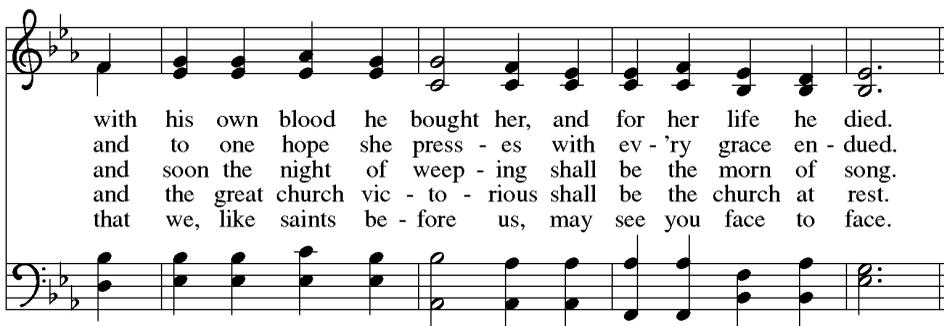
1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,



she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
 by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.



From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
 Oh, bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,



with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.