

THE SWEET SENTENCE

AS WE GATHER

“He is risen!”—the Church shouts with confidence—“He is risen indeed!” The high point of our Christian life is celebrated this morning as we gather with all of God’s children to rejoice in the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. As today’s Gospel from Luke 24 will show us, confusion and fear give way to confident faith when the women who went to the tomb realize Jesus is alive and then share this good news with the other disciples. Through those disciples, this message has reached us also! Just as God had promised through His prophets of old, the Lord Himself will restore creation and bring harmony to all life—beginning with Jesus’ resurrection and continuing until the Last Day, when Jesus returns in glory, destroys death itself, and raises us up to new lives in His eternal kingdom. With confidence in God’s promises, we say: “I know that my Redeemer lives!” What comfort, what hope, what joy this sweet sentence gives!

PREPARATION

OPENING HYMN “NOW ALL THE VAULT OF HEAVEN RESOUNDS” #465



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds In
2 E - ter - nal is the gift He brings, There -
3 O fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love; Set
△ 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring And



praise of love that still a - bounds: “Christ has tri - umphed!
fore our heart with rap - ture sings: “Christ has tri - umphed!
heart and will on things a - bove That we con - quer
with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: “Christ has tri - umphed!



He is liv - ing!” Sing, choirs of an - gels, loud and
He is liv - ing!” Now still He comes to give us
through Your tri - umph; Grant grace suf - fi - cient for life's
Al - le - lu - ia!” Be to the Fa - ther and our



clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry
life And by His pres - ence stills all
day That by our lives we tru - ly
Lord, To Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! Christ has tri - umphed!"
strife. Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!
say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
God, All the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876–1947, alt.

Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623, Köln

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INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

EASTER ACCLAMATION

- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!
C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

1 Corinthians 15:22; Romans 6:11

- P** For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.
C So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

A moment of silence to reflect on our sin and our need for the Lord's mercy and forgiveness.

- P** Let us confess our sins to God our Father.
C Heavenly Father, You have created each of us to live life with You and in Your image. Yet our sin destroys that life and brings death into our world. Forgive us, Father, for our sins against You in the things that we think, the words that we speak, and the ways that we act. Forgive us for failing to live our lives as You designed them and for failing to share Your life with others. Breathe into us Your life-giving Spirit so that we turn from our sin and receive the fresh start of a forgiven life. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who lived, died, and rose from the grave for us, call us back from the death of sin to live for Your glory all our days. Amen.
- P** Your merciful God is the author and giver of life! He hears your prayers and forgives you all your sins. Through Jesus, He takes your death upon Himself at the cross and, by His resurrection, gives you the free gift of life everlasting. As your pastor, it is my privilege to remind you of this forgiving grace of Jesus and, because He has granted His authority to do so, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the X Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!
C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

WORD

HYMN "JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN TODAY"

#457



1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which He en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
 △ 4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



Our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
 Praise e - ter - nal as His love; Al - le - lu - ia!



Who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Now a - bove the sky He's king, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Praise Him, all ye heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!



Suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: tr. Lyra Davidica, 1708, London, alt.; (sts. 1-3): Latin, 14th cent.; (st. 4): Charles Wesley, 1707-88
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KYRIE

LSB 204

- C** Lord, have mercy;
 Christ, have mercy;
 Lord, have mercy.

CHORAL GROUP - "ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA (RESURRECTION)"

SALUTATION

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Let us pray.
 O God, for our redemption You gave Your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross and by His glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of the

enemy. Grant that all our sin may be drowned through daily repentance and that day by day we may arise to live before You in righteousness and purity forever; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 65:17–25

¹⁷“Behold, I create new heavens
and a new earth,
and the former things shall not be remembered
or come into mind.
¹⁸But be glad and rejoice forever
in that which I create;
for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy,
and her people to be a gladness.
¹⁹I will rejoice in Jerusalem
and be glad in my people;
no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping
and the cry of distress.
²⁰No more shall there be in it
an infant who lives but a few days,
or an old man who does not fill out his days,
for the young man shall die a hundred years old,
and the sinner a hundred years old shall be accursed.
²¹They shall build houses and inhabit them;
they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.
²²They shall not build and another inhabit;
they shall not plant and another eat;
for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,
and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.
²³They shall not labor in vain
or bear children for calamity,
for they shall be the offspring of the blessed of the LORD,
and their descendants with them.
²⁴Before they call I will answer;
while they are yet speaking I will hear.
²⁵The wolf and the lamb shall graze together;
the lion shall eat straw like the ox,
and dust shall be the serpent’s food.
They shall not hurt or destroy
in all my holy mountain,”
says the LORD.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 15:19–26

¹⁹If in this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. ²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. ²²For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. ²³But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. ²⁵For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE

2 Timothy 1:10b, adapt.

P Alleluia. Christ Jesus has abolished death.

C **He has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. Alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 24:1–12

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

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹On the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. ²And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. ⁵And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, “Why do you seek the living among the dead? ⁶He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise.” ⁸And they remembered his words, ⁹and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰Now it was Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles, ¹¹but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. ¹²But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home marveling at what had happened.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.


C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY “CHRIST HAS ARISEN, ALLELUIA”


#466




1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia.
2 For three long days the grave did its worst
3 The an - gel said to them, “Do not fear!
4 “Go spread the news: He’s not in the grave;
5 Christ has a - ris - en; He sets us free;



Re - joyce and praise Him, al - le - lu - ia.
 Un - til its strength by God was dis - persed.
 You look for Je - sus who is not here.
 He has a - ris - en this world to save.
 Al - le - lu - ia, to Him prais - es be.




For our Re - deem - er burst from the tomb,
 He who gives life did death un - der - go;
 See for your - selves the tomb is all bare;
 Je - sus' re - deem - ing la - bors are done;
 Je - sus is liv - ing! Let us all sing;




E - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.
 And in its con - quest His might did show.
 On - ly the grave cloths are ly - ing there."
 E - ven the bat - tle with sin is won."
 He reigns tri - um - phant, heav - en - ly King.

Refrain




Let us sing praise to Him with end - less joy;



Death's fear - ful sting He has come to de - stroy.



Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!



Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Bernard Kyamanywa, 1938; tr. Howard S. Olson, 1922–2010
 Tune: Tanzanian
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SERMON

CREED

Nicene Creed

**☩ I believe in one God,
 the Father Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth
 and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
 the only-begotten Son of God,
 begotten of His Father before all worlds,
 God of God, Light of Light,
 very God of very God,**

begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life † of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

With great joy and thanksgiving, we praise You, our Father in heaven, for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer. By His life, death, and resurrection, He has granted us everlasting life with You. He has opened the way for us to know You forever and to live with confidence that You hear us when we pray, for:

He lives, He lives, who once was dead;

C He lives, my ever-living head.

P In a world full of chaos and confusion, we find refuge in the fact that You are on Your throne as the King of kings and Lord of lords. Instead of foolishly looking to this world for our peace and purpose, help us, O Father, to look to Jesus, who is seated in power at Your right hand, for:

He lives all-glorious in the sky;

C He lives exalted there on high.

P We bring to You, faithful Lord, the needs of our lives and the concerns of those we love. For those who are hungry and hurting, doubting and dismaying, grant that the message of Christ's resurrection bring restoration and peace, for we

know:

He lives my hungry soul to feed;

C He lives to help in time of need.

P There are many among us who are in need, O Lord. For the sick, suffering, hurting, and ailing, we ask for Your healing touch, *especially Hedy, Jean, Kathleen, Ray, Sallyann, Wally, Dana, Kaylee, Jean, Jen, John, Leah, Rod, and Kris*. Help them to know that:

He lives to comfort me when faint;

C He lives to hear my soul's complaint.

P When the troubles of life seem overwhelming, steady us with Your presence, gracious God. Be the rock on which Your Church is built and through whom we confidently share the Good News of Christ's resurrection with the world He died to save. When we waver, help us to remember:

He lives to calm my troubled heart;

C He lives all blessings to impart.

P Death was not the end for Jesus; neither is it the end for those who trust in You. Give peace, hope, and the certainty of the coming Day of resurrection to all those who mourn and grieve. We are confident that:

He lives my mansion to prepare;

C He lives to bring me safely there.

P What a blessing it is to be in Your house today, Lord God, as we celebrate the resurrection of our Savior! His triumph over sin, death, and the devil is the reason we rejoice this day, and every day, knowing that:

He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing;

C He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.

P He lives, all glory to His name! He lives, my Jesus, still the same;

C Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives: I know that my Redeemer lives!

SACRAMENT

PREFACE

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.

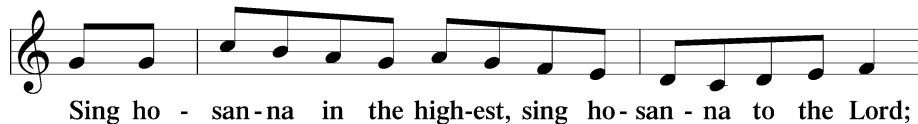
C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB 208



Text: Stephen P. Starke

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, O author of life and salvation, for You have filled our hearts with unending joy in the resurrection of Your Son, our Redeemer, Jesus Christ.

As we gather to remember His sacrifice and to receive the benefits of His death and resurrection, You fill us with Your peace through the very presence of Christ in our midst.

C **He lives triumphant from the grave! He lives eternally to save!**

P To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

C 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.

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 210

C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;

O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,

Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“AT THE LAMB’S HIGH FEAST WE SING”

#633

1 At the Lamb’s high feast we sing Praise to
2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His
3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death’s dread
4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal

our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—
an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael’s hosts tri - um-phant go
vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love

Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty Victim from the sky,
Hell’s fierce pow’rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight,
You have brought us life and light.
Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,
Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise,
And Your saints in You shall rise.
Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
From sin’s pow’r, Lord, set us free,
Newborn souls in You to be.
Alleluia!

△ 8 Father, who the crown shall give,
 Savior, by whose death we live,
 Spirit, guide through all our days:
 Three in One, Your name we praise.

Alleluia!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814–68, alt.
 Tune: Kirchengeseng, 1566, Ivancice
 Text and tune: Public domain

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray.

Father in heaven, through Your Son’s body and blood, the blessings of the first Easter Day have been given to us again on this Easter Day! Savoring the sweetness of our Redeemer’s victory, help us to go forth and share the hope of the resurrection so that all people may know Your saving love; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

EASTER ACCLAMATION

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

CLOSING HYMN “I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVES”

#461



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives; What com - fort
 2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; He lives e -
 3 He lives to bless me with His love; He lives to
 4 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; He lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, He lives, who
 ter - nal - ly to save; He lives all - glo - rious
 plead for me a - bove; He lives my hun - gry
 guide me with His eye; He lives to com - fort



once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head.
 in the sky; He lives ex - alt - ed there on high.
 soul to feed; He lives to help in time of need.
 me when faint; He lives to hear my soul’s com - plaint.

- 5 He lives to silence all my fears;
He lives to wipe away my tears;
He lives to calm my troubled heart;
He lives all blessings to impart.
- 6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;
He lives and loves me to the end;
He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing;
He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.
- 7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
He lives, and I shall conquer death;
He lives my mansion to prepare;
He lives to bring me safely there.
- 8 He lives, all glory to His name!
He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!

Text: Samuel Medley, 1738–99, abr.

Tune: attr. John C. Hatton, d. 1793

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