

## Easter People Proclaim

### As We Gather

When Jesus uses the image of the vine and speaks of vineyards, He is choosing something very familiar to His hearers. Viticulture is well known around the world. More than eighteen million acres worldwide is used for growing grapes—from Panama to Tajikistan to Zimbabwe! Today, the cultivation of vineyards is still an important agricultural component in both Israel and the Jordan, lands where Jesus walked and taught. Life in the vineyard is vital! As branches grafted to the Vine that is Christ, we are vitalized by His power. As we worship, God's life-supporting power infuses us! It is time to continue growing!

### 913 O Holy Spirit, Enter In

LSB 913



1 O Ho - ly Spir - it, en - ter in, And in our hearts  
2 Give to Your Word im - pres - sive pow'r, That in our hearts  
3 O might - y Rock, O Source of life, Let Your dear Word,



Your work be - gin, Your dwell - ing place now make us.  
from this good hour As fire it may be glow - ing,  
in doubt and strife, In us be strong - ly burn - ing



Sun of the soul, O Light di - vine, A - round and in  
That in true Chris - tian u - ni - ty We faith - ful wit -  
That we be faith - ful un - to death And live in love



us bright - ly shine, To joy and glad - ness wake us  
ness - es may be, Your glo - ry ev - er show - ing.  
and ho - ly faith, From You true wis - dom learn - ing.



That we may be Tru - ly liv - ing, To You giv - ing  
Hear us, cheer us By Your teach - ing; Let our preach - ing  
Your grace and peace On us show - er; By Your pow - er



Prayer un - ceas - ing And in love be still in - ceas - ing.  
And our la - bor Praise You, Lord, and serve our neigh - bor.  
Christ con - fess - ing, Let us see our Sav - ior's bless - ing.

Text: Michael Schirmer, 1606–73, adapt.; (sts. 1, 3): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; (st. 2): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.

Tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608

Text and tune: Public domain

## Invocation

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

**C** Amen.

## Opening Sentences

Psalm 66:1–4, 8–9; 40:5

**P** Shout for joy to God, all the earth;

**C** sing the glory of His name; give to Him glorious praise!

**P** Say to God, “How awesome are Your deeds!

**C** All the earth worships You and sings praises to You; they sing praises to Your name.”

**P** Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of His praise be heard,

**C** who has kept our soul among the living and has not let our feet slip.

**P** You have multiplied, O LORD my God, Your wondrous deeds and Your thoughts toward us; none can compare with You!

**C** I will proclaim and tell of them, yet they are more than can be told.

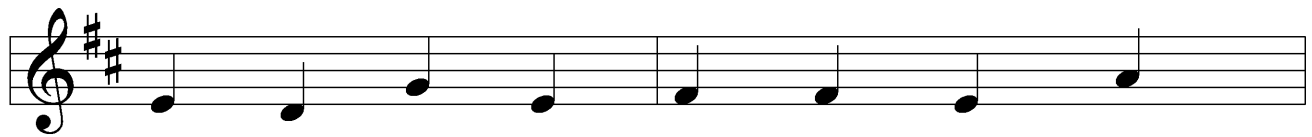
## Intro

**P** We prepare for our time of confession as we sing the confession hymn, “O Jesus, Lamb of God, Thou Art.” As penitent people, we ask God for His grace and mercy.

## O Jesus, Lamb of God, Thou Art



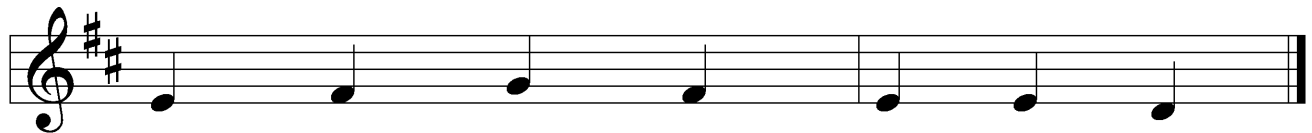
1 O Je - sus, Lamb of God, Thou art The  
2 O God, my sin in - deed is great; I  
3 Saint John the Bap - tist points to Thee And  
4 Help me to mend my ways, O Lord, And



life and com - fort of my heart. A  
groan be - neath the dread - ful weight. Be  
bids me cast my sin on Thee; For  
glad - ly to o - bey Thy Word. While



sin - ner poor I come to Thee And  
mer - ci - ful to me, I pray; Take  
Thou hast left Thy throne on high To  
here I live, a - bide with me; And



bring my man - y sins with me.  
guilt and pun - ish - ment a - way.  
suf - fer for the world and die.  
when I die, take me to Thee.

Text: tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt. ; Bartholomäus Helder, 1585–1635

Tune: Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach, 1714–88

Text: Public domain

Tune: Public domain

## Confession and Absolution

- P** Humble yourselves then before God, confess your sins to Him, and implore His forgiveness.
- C** **O** almighty God, most merciful Father, I, a repentant sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended You. By nature, I am a sinful creature. In thought, word, and deed I have continually transgressed Your law. For this I justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of the sufferings and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a penitent and contrite being. Forgive me all my sins and grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life and bear fruit in keeping with true repentance.
- P** God be gracious to you and strengthen your faith.
- C** Amen.
- P** As you believe, so let it be. As a called and ordained servant Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## Introit

**P** A little while, and you will see Me no longer;  
and again a little while, and you will see Me.

**C** I will extol You, my God and King,  
and bless Your name forever and ever.

**P** Every day I will bless You  
and praise Your name forever and ever.

**C** The LORD is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**P** All Your works shall give thanks to You, O LORD,  
and all Your saints shall bless You!

**C** My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD,  
and let all flesh bless His holy name forever and ever.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**P** A little while, and you will see Me no longer;  
and again a little while, and you will see Me.

## Kyrie

LSB 152

**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mercy.

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

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**A** 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.

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray  
to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C** Amen.

## Salutation

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

## Collect of the Day

- P** Let us pray.  
O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

## Psalm

Psalm 150

- C** Praise the LORD! Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in His mighty heavens!
- I** *Praise Him for His mighty deeds; praise Him according to His excellent greatness!*
- II** *Praise Him with trumpet sound; praise Him with lute and harp!*
- I** *Praise Him with tambourine and dance; praise Him with strings and pipe!*
- II** *Praise Him with sounding cymbals; praise Him with loud clashing cymbals!*
- C** Let everything that has breath praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## First Reading

Acts 8:26–40

<sup>26</sup>An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is a desert place. <sup>27</sup>And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup>and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>And the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and join this chariot.” <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” <sup>31</sup>And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. <sup>32</sup>Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter  
and like a lamb before its shearer is silent,  
so he opens not his mouth.

<sup>33</sup>In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.”

<sup>34</sup>And the eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” <sup>35</sup>Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?” <sup>38</sup>And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. <sup>39</sup>And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. <sup>40</sup>But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

1 John 4:1–11

<sup>1</sup>Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. <sup>2</sup>By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, <sup>3</sup>and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. <sup>4</sup>Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. <sup>5</sup>They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. <sup>6</sup>We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup>In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.



1 Spread the reign of God the Lord, Spo - ken, writ - ten, might - y Word;  
 2 Tell how God the Fa - ther's will Made the world, up - holds it still,  
 3 Tell of our Re - deem - er's grace, Who, to save our hu - man race



Ev - 'ry - where His crea - tures call To His heav'n - ly ban - quet hall.  
 How His own dear Son He gave Us from sin and death to save.  
 And to pay re - bel - lion's price, Gave Him - self as sac - ri - fice.

Text: Jonathan Friedrich Bahnmaier, 1774–1841; tr. composite

Tune: Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch, 1704, Halle, ed. Johann A. Freylinghausen, alt.

Text and tune: Public domain

## Verse

- P** Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him.
- C** Alleluia. **If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. Alleluia.**

## Holy Gospel

John 15:1–8

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.
- C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup>Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.”

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**



4 Tell of God the Spir - it giv'n Now to guide us on to heav'n,  
 5 En - ter, might - y Word, the field; Ripe the prom - ise of its yield.  
 6 Lord of har - vest, great and kind, Rouse to ac - tion heart and mind;



Strong and ho - ly, just and true, Work - ing both to will and do.  
 But the reap - ers, oh, how few For the work there is to do!  
 Let the gath - 'ring na - tions all See Your light and heed Your call.

Text: Jonathan Friedrich Bahnmaier, 1774–1841; tr. composite

Tune: Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch, 1704, Halle, ed. Johann A. Freylinghausen, alt.

Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

### Apostles' Creed

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
 maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.  
 The third day He rose again from the dead.  
 He ascended into heaven  
 and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
 From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
 the holy Christian Church,  
 the communion of saints,  
 the forgiveness of sins,  
 the resurrection of the body,  
 and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

### Prayer of the Church

**P** Friends in Christ, I urge you all to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me as Christ our Lord has taught us and freely promised to hear us.



God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of Your Word and the fervent love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby Your precious name is blasphemed and profaned. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** May Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all transgressors and those who are blinded and bound in the devil's kingdom to know Jesus Christ, Your Son, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily and sacrificed to Your good and gracious will. Into Your merciful hands we commend *[name(s)]* and all who are in need, praying for them at all times: Thy will be done. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us trust in You to provide for all our needs. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in a good conscience before You, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his wiles. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** And lastly, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

## 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.**

Offering - Let us thank the Lord with the offering

Offertory

LSB 192

**C** Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
 way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

**P** A memorable newer song of the church was written by Gerald Coleman, using familiar biblical passages in thoughtful ways. In the first stanza we are reminded of our Baptism and how it binds us to our Lord for time and eternity. We are in Him, and He is with us! In the second stanza, the image of the vine and the branches that is at the heart of today's Gospel becomes the theme, reminding us of our

dependence on our gracious Lord for nurture and care. Together we sing the first two stanzas of "Christ Is with Me."

### Christ Is with Me

A E/G# F#m Amaj7/E

1 We were bur - ied with Him in - to death,  
 2 I have now been graft - ed to the vine,

D A/C# D Esus4 E

That as He was raised by God's glo - ry,  
 Draw - ing life from roots rich in mer - cy,

A E/G# F#m Amaj7/E

We might walk in life made new by grace.  
 Bear - ing fruit as I a - bide in Him:

D A/C# Bm Esus4 E A A7

Hav - ing died with Christ, we shall live with Him.  
 Fruit for - ev - er fresh, glo - ri - fy - ing God.

#### Harmony

Christ is with me ev - 'ry - where I go.

#### Refrain

D E A F#m Bm Esus4 E A

Christ is with me ev - 'ry - where I go.

Nev - er to leave me, this I know.

D E A F#m Bm Esus4 E A

Nev - er to leave me, this I know.

Text: Gerald P. Coleman

Tune: Gerald P. Coleman

Text: © 1992 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: Creative Worship License no. 110001439

Tune: © 1992 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: Creative Worship License no. 110001439

## Proclamation

- P** When Easter people proclaim what God has done, the proclamation always points others to the cross of Christ, where He gave Himself as payment for our sins and the sins of all people of all times. The Easter season underscores the ongoing, life-generating presence of Jesus Christ, who is ever with us as we are walking lives of faith in this world in hope-filled anticipation of the world to come. “I believe in the life everlasting,” we say in the Apostles’ Creed. That life is our life right now—and Christ is with us every step of the way! We now sing the final stanza of the hymn “Christ Is with Me” together.

## Christ Is with Me

A E/G# F#m Amaj7/E

3 I have now been cru - ci - fied with Christ.

D A/C# D Esus4 E

I no long - er live; Christ lives in me.

A E/G# F#m Amaj7/E

Now I live by faith in God's own Son,

D A/C# Bm Esus4 E A A7

One who loved me so— gave Him-self for me.

*Harmony*

Christ is with me ev - 'ry - where I go.

*Refrain*

D E A F#m Bm Esus4 E A

Christ is with me ev - 'ry - where I go.

Nev - er to leave me, this I know.

D E A F#m Bm Esus4 E A

Nev - er to leave me, this I know.

Text: Gerald P. Coleman

Tune: Gerald P. Coleman

Text: © 1992 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: Creative Worship License no. 110001439

Tune: © 1992 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: Creative Worship License no. 110001439

**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.

**Praise to You and Adoration**

LSB 692

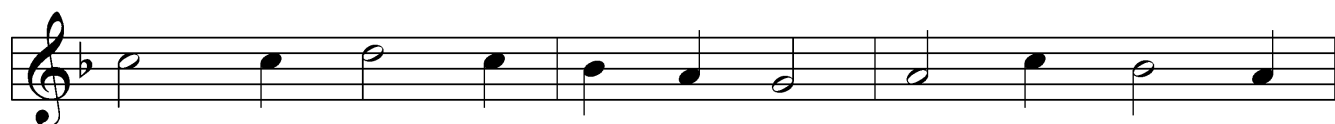
1 Praise to You and ad - o - ra - tion, Bless - ed Je - sus,  
2 Hold me ev - er in Your keep - ing; Com - fort me in



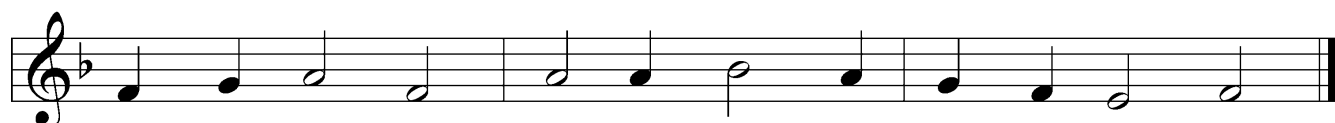
Son of God, Who, to serve Your own cre - a - tion, Came to  
pain and strife. In my laugh - ter and my weep - ing Be with



share our flesh and blood. Guide me that I nev - er may  
me through - out my life. Give me great - er love for You,



From Your fold or pas - tures stray, But with zeal and  
And my faith and hope re - new In Your birth, Your



joy ex - ceed - ing Fol - low where Your steps are lead - ing.  
life, and pas - sion, In Your death and res - ur - rec - tion.

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634–1703; (st. 1): tr. Kristen Kvamme, 1866–1938, alt.; (st. 2): tr. Christian Worship, 1993

Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois

Text and tune: Public domain

## Acknowledgments

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 2.

Copyright © 2023 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV<sup>®</sup> Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version<sup>®</sup>), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2024 Concordia Publishing House.