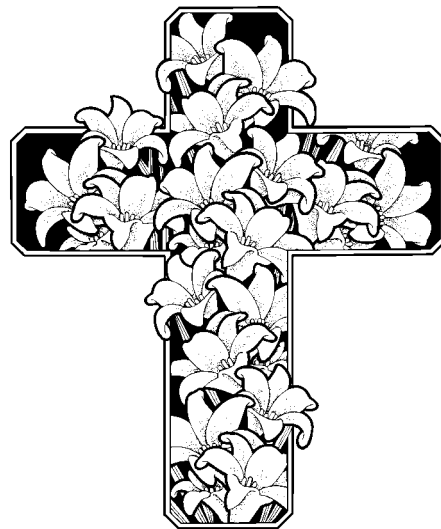


# St. Thomas' Episcopal Church

207 Bob O Link Lane  
Wharton, Texas 77488  
Office phone: (979) 532-1723

*Please, Enter in Silence and Meditation*



## Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 12, 2019

This service is offered to God  
and to the community  
that we may journey together  
seeking God's Kingdom  
through sharing Christ's Love  
one with another and with all people.

New? Confused? Don't worry! We are genuinely pleased to have you worship here today. We suspect you may have some questions.

Everybody you see was a newcomer at one time or another and we've all had questions – probably the very same ones. So, don't hesitate to ask a question!

Books? This bulletin contains our liturgy, and all you need along with this bulletin is the blue Hymnal found in the pew rack for singing the hymns. But there is plenty more if you like! We have included the page numbers of the red Book of Common Prayer (BCP), also found in the pew rack. This is the sourcebook for our liturgy, and is a wonderful resource for prayer and study.

Episcopal worship invites participation by all the people to experience the risen Christ in this place. We want you to be comfortable so you can worship God and enjoy your visit today.

The posture of prayer, whether sitting, standing or kneeling is only a physical manifestation of the inward attitude of prayer. If you adopt the attitude of prayer then you may adapt the posture of prayer to suit your own needs. When you're worshipping God, you can't get it wrong!

Regardless of what anybody else is doing, don't do anything that makes you feel uncomfortable. Remember, if you need help, ask the person next to you. We like people here at St. Thomas'.

We invite all who are baptized to come forward and join us in receiving Holy Communion. Those who wish to come and receive a blessing may come to the rail and simply fold both arms across their chest to signal their desire.

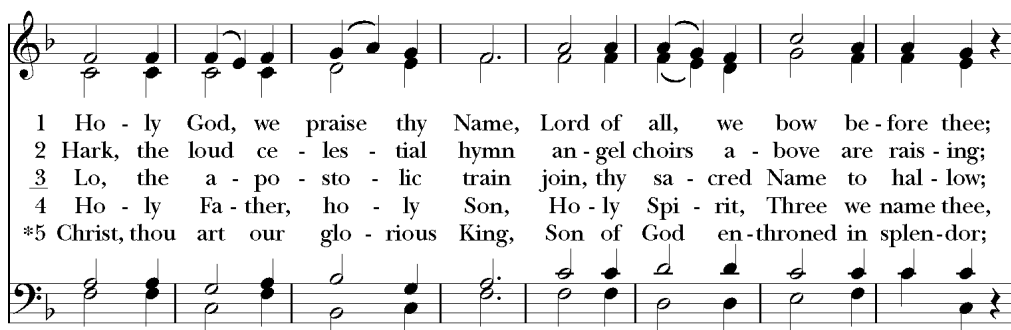
We are delighted you're here, and we want you to come back. May God bless you this day; you have blessed us with your presence.

# Holy Eucharist Rite II

## Prelude

### Opening Hymn: *Holy God we praise thy Name*

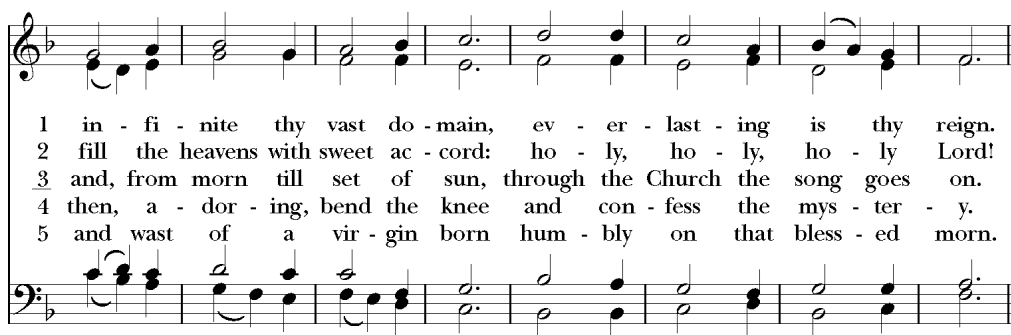
### Hymnal 366



1 Ho - ly God, we praise thy Name, Lord of all, we bow be - fore thee;  
2 Hark, the loud ce - les - tial hymn an - gel choirs a - bove are rais - ing;  
3 Lo, the a - po - sto - lic train join, thy sa - cred Name to hal - low;  
4 Ho - ly Fa - ther, ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spi - rit, Three we name thee,  
\*5 Christ, thou art our glo - rious King, Son of God en - throned in splen - dor;



1 all on earth thy scap - ter claim, all in heaven a - bove a - dore thee;  
2 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim, in un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing,  
3 pro - phets swell the loud re - frain, and the white - robed mar - tyrs fol - low;  
4 while in es - sence on - ly One, un - di - vi - ded God we claim thee;  
5 but de - liv - er - ance to bring thou all hon - ors didst sur - ren - der,



1 in - fi - nite thy vast do - main, ev - er - last - ing is thy reign.  
2 fill the heavens with sweet ac - cord: ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!  
3 and, from morn till set of sun, through the Church the song goes on.  
4 then, a - dor - ing, bend the knee and con - fess the mys - ter - y.  
5 and wast of a vir - gin born hum - bly on that bless - ed morn.

6 Thou didst take the sting from death,  
Son of God, as Savior given;  
on the cross thy dying breath  
opened wide the realm of heaven.  
In the glory of that land  
thou art set at God's right hand.

7 As our judge thou wilt appear.  
Savior, who hast died to win us,  
help thy servants, drawing near.  
Lord, renew our hearts within us.  
Grant that with thy saints we may  
dwell in everlasting day.

**Greeting .....BCP 355**

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*People* The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia

*Celebrant*

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

# Gloria:.....Hymnal S-278

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and  
peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven-ly King, al-  
might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we  
praise you for your glo-ry. 3. Lord Je-sus Christ,  
on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;  
5. you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-  
ceive our prayer. 6. For  
you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

7. you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the  
 Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the glo-ry of  
 God the Fa-ther. A-men.

**Collect..... Prayer Book 225**

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

**A reading from Acts 9:36-43**

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." So

Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

*Lector*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      Thanks be to God.



# Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

A B

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd; \*  
I shall not be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures \*  
and leads me beside still waters. [ANT.]
- 3 He revives my soul \*  
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I shall fear no evil; \*  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they comfort me. [ANT.]
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those  
who trouble me; \*  
you have anointed my head with oil,  
and my cup is running over.
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days  
of my life; \*  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever. [ANT.]

## A reading from Revelation 7:9-17

I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they

have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

*Lector*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        Thanks be to God.

*We all stand.*

# Hymn: *Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless*

Hymnal 191

1 Shep - herd of souls, re - fresh and bless thy cho - sen  
2 We would not live by bread a - lone, but by thy  
3 Be known to us in break - ing bread, and do not  
4 Lord, sup with us in love di - vine thy Bo - dy

pil - grim flock with man - na in the  
word of grace, in strength of which we  
then de - part; Sa - vior, a - bide with  
and thy Blood, that liv - ing bread, that

wil - der - ness, with wa - ter from the rock.  
trav - el on to our a - bid - ing - place.  
us, and spread thy ta - ble in our heart.  
heaven - ly wine, be our im - mor - tal food.

*Remain standing for the reading of The Gospel.*

## **The Gospel John 22:22-30**

*Celebrant*      The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus  
Christ according to John.

*People*            Glory to you, Lord Christ.

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**The Sermon ..... The Rev. Jim Abernathy**

**The Nicene Creed.....BCP 358**

*All Stand and say together*

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:

by the power of the Holy Spirit

he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.

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.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped  
and glorified.  
He 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 the People: Form VI Prayer Book 392**

*The Leader and People pray responsively.*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;  
*For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those  
who are alone.*

For this community, the nation, and the world;  
*For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.*

For the just and proper use of your creation;  
*For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and  
oppression.*

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of  
trouble;  
*For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and  
the needy.*

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;



*For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.*

For our Bishops, for our priest, and all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.  
*For all who serve God in his Church.*

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions*

Hear us, Lord;  
*For your mercy is great.*

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own thanksgivings*

We will exalt you, O God our King;



# Offertory

*We offer in gratitude what God has given us to spread the Good News and support our common life.*

## Offertory Hymn: *The King of love my shepherd*

### Hymnal 645



1 The King of love my shep-herd is, whose good-ness  
2 Where streams of liv-ing wa-ter flow, my ran-somed  
\* 3 Per-verse and fool-ish oft I strayed, but yet in  
\* 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear  
5 Thou spread'st a ta-ble in my sight; thy unc-tion  
6 And so through all the length of days thy good-ness



1 fail-eth nev-er; I noth-ing lack if  
2 soul he lead-eth, and where the ver-dant  
3 love he sought me, and on his shoul-der  
4 Lord, be-side me; thy rod and staff my  
5 grace be-stow-eth; and oh, what trans-port  
6 fail-eth nev-er: Good Shep-herd, may I

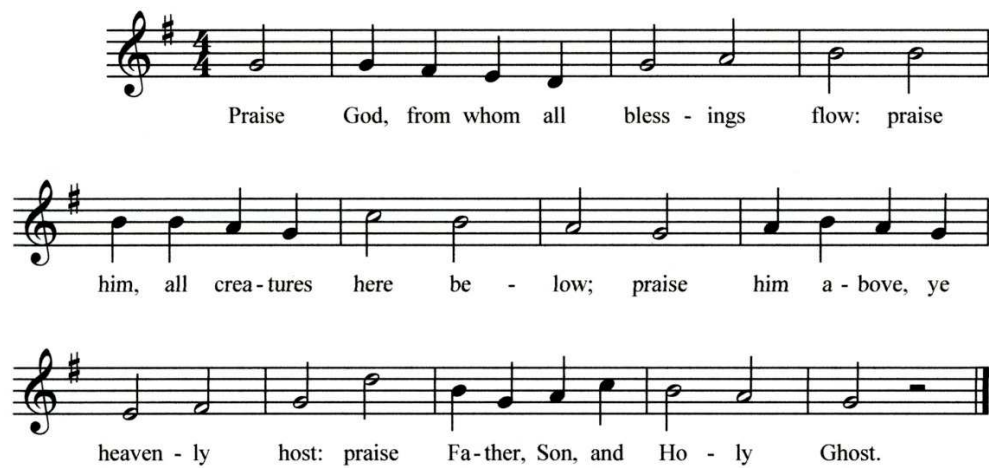


1 I am his, and he is mine for ev-er.  
2 pas-tures grow, with food ce-les-tial feed-eth.  
3 gent-ly laid, and home, re-joic-ing, brought me.  
4 com-fort still, thy cross be-fore to guide me.  
5 of de-light from thy pure chal-ice flow-eth!  
6 sing thy praise with-in thy house for ev-er.

*You are invited to stand as our gifts of bread, wine, and money are brought to the altar.*

# *The Presentation of the Gifts*

## *The Doxology... .. Hymnal 380, vs 3*



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow: praise  
him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye  
heaven-ly host: praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost.

## **The Great Thanksgiving..... Eucharistic Prayer A**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People *We lift them to the Lord.*

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

Celebrant

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Here a [Proper Preface](#) is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Sanctus .....S-125**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

### **Celebrant and People**

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this

holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

## The Great Amen

JOHN STAINER

A - men, A - - -

A - men, A - men, A - - -

men, f

men, A - - - men, A - - - men, A - men.

f A - - - men,

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,  
 Our Father who art in heaven,  
 hallowed be your 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,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

## The Breaking of the Bread .....BCP 364

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

## *Fraction Anthem: O Lamb of God*

*Hymnal S-154*

*This setting is not used in Lent.*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;  
there - fore let us keep the feast.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*The Celebrant says the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving. *The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.

[*Communicant Amen.*]

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.

[*Communicant Amen.*]

## **The Communion of the People**

*All who seek God's blessing are welcome to come to the altar rail. If you are not yet baptized, or do not wish to receive for any reason, cross your arms over your chest and you will be given a blessing. All baptized persons are invited to receive Holy Communion. If you wish to enroll as a candidate for Holy Baptism please contact the church office or the Rev. Ken Dimmick.*

# *Instrumental*

## **Choir Anthem: “Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us”**

**Words by Dorothy Thrupp, based on Ps. 23**

*Arr. by Joseph Martin*

Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need Thy tender care;  
In Thy pleasant pastures feed us, for our use Thy folds prepare:  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast bought us, Thine we are;  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.

We are Thine; do Thou befriend us, be the guardian of our way;  
Keep Thy flock, from sin defend us, seek us when we go astray.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Hear, O hear us when we pray;  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Hear, O hear us when we pray.

Early let us seek Thy favor; early let us do Thy will;  
Blessed Lord and only Savior, with Thy love our beings fill:  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast loved us, love us still;  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast loved us, love us still,  
Jesus, love us still.

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# Communion Hymn:

## *My faith looks up to thee*

*Hymnal 691*

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,

Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark-ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's

guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.  
love to thee pure, warm, and change-less be, a liv - ing fire.  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

## Postcommunion Prayer BCP 365

*Celebrant*

Let us pray.

*People and Celebrant*

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and

Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **Blessing**

**Final Hymn: *Alleluia! The strife is O'er***  
**Hymnal 208**

*Antiphon (at the beginning)*

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

*Ped.*

1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done, the vic - to -  
2 The powers of death have done their worst, but Christ their  
\*3 The three sad days are quick - ly sped, he ris - es  
4 He closed the yawn - ing gates of hell, the bars from  
5 Lord! by the stripes which wound - ed thee, from death's dread

1 ry of life is won; the song of tri - umph  
2 le - gions hath dis - persed: let shout of ho - ly  
3 glo - rious from the dead: all glo - ry to our  
4 heaven's high por - tals fell; let hymns of praise his  
5 sting thy serv - ants free, that we may live and

1 has be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!  
2 joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!  
3 ris - en Head! Al - le - lu - ia!  
4 tri - umphs tell! Al - le - lu - ia!  
5 sing to thee. Al - le - lu - ia! [Ant.]

*Antiphon (at the end)*

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

*Ped.*

## **Dismissal**

*Celebrant* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

## **Postlude**

Everyone is invited to the parish hall after the service for coffee and fellowship.