



# THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 10, 2026



## Pre-service Music

## Welcome and Announcements

## Call to Worship: Because He Lives

*text/tune Bill & Gloria Gaither*

# Confession and Absolution

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

## Invocation

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

## Confession and Absolution

- P** Christ is risen! He is victorious over the powers of sin and death. He did not come into the world in order to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him. Therefore, let us go to our loving and victorious God and confess our sins knowing that,
- C** **our God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

- C** **Gracious and merciful God, we confess that while we have been made new creations through the waters of our baptism, we still live ensnared by sin, and are unable to free ourselves. We have not always lived our lives in accordance with the identity that you have given us in Jesus. We have not always done the things that you have called us to do. We have not always loved you above all else and with all our hearts, souls, minds, and strength. We have not always loved our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us all our sins. Renew our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that our lives would show the identity you have given us in baptism, and the new creations that you have made us to be. Amen.**
- P** Sing to the Lord a new song, for He performs amazing deeds! He remains loyal and faithful to us. All the ends of the earth see our God deliver us. As a called and ordained servant of 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

## Peace of the Lord

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C** And also with you.

# Service of the Word

## Gathering Hymn: LSB 844 Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace

Lord of all nations, grant me grace  
To love all people, ev'ry race;  
And in each person may I see  
My kindred, loved, redeemed by Thee.

Break down the wall that would divide  
Thy children, Lord, on ev'ry side.  
My neighbor's good let me pursue;  
Let Christian love bind warm and true.

Forgive me, Lord, where I have erred  
By loveless act and thoughtless word.  
Make me to see the wrong I do  
Will grieve my wounded Lord anew.

Give me Thy courage, Lord, to speak  
Whenever strong oppress the weak.  
Should I myself the victim be,  
Help me forgive, rememb'ring Thee.

With Thine own love may I be filled  
And by Thy Holy Spirit willed,  
That all I touch, where'er I be,  
May be divinely touched by Thee.

Text: Olive Wise Spannaus, 1916–2018, alt.

Text: © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000779

## The Lighting of the Christ Candle

- A** Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C** He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

## Kyrie

- L** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- L** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- L** 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.
- L** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- L** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C** Amen.

## **This Is the Feast**

**G** This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:  
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

## **Salutation and Collect of the Day**

**L** The Lord be with you.

**G** And also with you.

**L** Let us pray.

O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** Amen.

## **Children's Message**

### **The First Reading**

*Acts 17:16–31*

**A** The first reading is from the seventeenth chapter of the book of Acts.

<sup>16</sup> While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was deeply distressed to see that the city was full of idols. <sup>17</sup> So he argued in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and also in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. <sup>18</sup> Also some Epicurean and Stoic philosophers debated with him. Some said, "What does this babbling want to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a proclaimer of foreign divinities." (This was because he was telling the good news about Jesus and the resurrection.) <sup>19</sup> So they took him and brought him to the Areopagus and asked him, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting?" <sup>20</sup> It sounds rather strange to us, so we would like to know what it means." <sup>21</sup> Now all the Athenians and the foreigners living there would spend their time in nothing but telling or hearing something new. <sup>22</sup> Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. <sup>23</sup> For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup> The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, <sup>25</sup> nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. <sup>26</sup> From one ancestor he made all

nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, <sup>27</sup> so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. <sup>28</sup> For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we too are his offspring.’ <sup>29</sup> Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. <sup>30</sup> While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup> because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm

*Psalm 66:8-20*

**L** Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard,

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

**L** For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.

**C** **You brought us into the net; you laid burdens on our backs;**

**L** you let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.

**C** **I will come into your house with burnt offerings; I will pay you my vows,**

**L** those that my lips uttered and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.

**C** **I will offer to you burnt offerings of fatlings, with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams; I will make an offering of bulls and goats.**

**L** Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for me.

**C** **I cried aloud to him, and he was extolled with my tongue.**

**L** If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.

**C** **But truly God has listened; he has given heed to the words of my prayer.**

**L** Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer

**C** **or removed his steadfast love from me.**

**L** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

**C** **as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## Epistle

*1 Peter 3:13–22*

**A** The Epistle reading is from the third chapter of the book of 1 Peter.

<sup>13</sup> Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? <sup>14</sup> But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, <sup>15</sup> but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; <sup>16</sup> yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. <sup>17</sup> For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God’s will, than to suffer for doing evil. <sup>18</sup> For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup> in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup> who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. <sup>21</sup> And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup> who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Gradual

- L** Christ has risen from the dead.
- C** **[God the Father] has crowned him with glory and honor,**
- L** He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;
- C** **he has put all things under his feet.**

## Gospel Acclamation

- C** **Halle, halle, halle\_lujah!**  
**Halle, halle, halle\_lujah!**  
**Halle, halle, halle\_lujah!**  
**Hallelujah! Halle\_lujah!**

Text: arr. Mark Sedio  
Text: © 1995 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: onelicense.net no. #A-724537

## Verse

- P** Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again;
- C** **Death no longer has dominion over Him. Alleluia.**
- P** [Jesus said,] "In the world you will have tribulation.
- C** **But take heart; I have overcome the world." Alleluia.**

## Holy Gospel

*John 14:15–21*

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

<sup>15</sup> [Jesus said,] "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup> This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. <sup>18</sup> "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. <sup>19</sup> In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup> On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup> They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

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

## Sermon

## Hymn of the Day: LSB 655 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word;  
Curb those who by deceit or sword  
Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son  
And bring to naught all He has done.

Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow'r make known,  
For You are Lord of lords alone;  
Defend Your holy Church that we  
May sing Your praise eternally.

O Comforter of priceless worth,  
Send peace and unity on earth;  
Support us in our final strife  
And lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.  
Text: Public domain

## Nicene Creed

- L** We make confession of our faith together in the words of the creed.
- C** **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 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.**

## Blessing the Mite Offering

- L** Jesus revealed His glory to Peter, James, and John in the transfiguration. The plan was not to stay on the mountain, but instead, to "*Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation*" (Mark 16:15). In this way, the glory of Jesus is revealed through His people as they share and show His love to others.

As present-day disciples and followers of Christ, we, too, are given the same command to go and proclaim the Gospel to the whole creation. We do this as we share our love of Jesus in our homes and with friends, at our places of work, or in our neighborhoods. But to bring the Gospel to the whole creation is not something that we can accomplish by ourselves.

We are blessed to partner with Lutheran Women in Mission and to proclaim the good news of God's kingdom through the ministries supported by the wonderful Mite Boxes! It is amazing to think of the many places in God's creation our offerings go. It is exciting to think of the many people whose lives are touched physically and spiritually by mites. Through the work of the Holy Spirit, mites are helping to proclaim the Gospel all over God's creation and revealing the glory of Jesus.

- L** Let us pray. Father, with thanksgiving we come before You.
- C** **Thank You for graciously supplying our needs. May we daily remember all that we have is a gift from You.**
- L** Lord, in gratitude we come before You.
- C** **We are grateful, for the spirit of generosity You have given to us. May the mites we give be used to Your glory as they provide hope for others.**
- L** Father, bless all who have given these mites and all who receive them. May each of us be blessed as we witness Your mighty works.
- C** **Lord, in Your Holy Word You tell us to love one another. Help us always to be mindful of others' needs. Thank You for the opportunity to serve You and others through mite offerings. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

### The Prayers of the Church

- L** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.
- P** Victorious God, because you have defeated death, we know that it will never defeat us. Enable us to live lives that share this hope with those around us, and to follow you. For you are the one who gives to us life; life that is full and abundant. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- L** O Lord, You bless and protect Your people in a world where many false gods, known and unknown, are worshiped. Give Your saints a clear and bold proclamation of Jesus Christ. Give us joy and zeal for living as your disciples who join you in your mission in this world. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- P** Gracious God we pray for our partners in ministry in this community, for Gathering Lambs, Kent Bible Church, Luther Towers, and Interfaith Housing Alliance for the Poor, bless them and the good work they do in our community. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- L** Lord of heaven and earth, You have given the Spirit of truth to dwell in us through Holy Baptism. We thank and praise you for Your Spirit's steadfast guidance. Grant that we, the people of this congregation may live always in praise of You before the world. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- P** *[Gracious, loving, and caring God. We thank you on this day for Mothers and the great gift and blessing that they are to us. Thank you for their love, care, and sacrifice. Thank you for the ways in which they teach us about you and the life that we have in Jesus. Thank you for the ways they show us your love. Bless them this day, and every day as they continue to do this. We understand that this day is also a day that can be difficult and challenging for some. We pray that they would see and know that Your love and faithfulness are without condition and without end. And that on this day that they would be comforted and strengthened by your presence, promises, and love. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**]*
- L** Creator, You made from one man all the nations of the earth, and still You sustain us. Grant good leaders in every land who will seek peace and serve justice. Frustrate the causes of evil, violence and oppression. Allow justice, mercy, peace, and compassion to grow and increase in us, among us, and through us, and heal our world from the evils of injustice, prejudice, inequality, and hatred. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- P** Lord, You promised not to abandon us in our need nor leave us as orphans. Send forth Your Spirit and work through us, Your people, that the lonely, poor, homeless and travelers may rejoice in Your presence and the power of Your love. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- L** Grant healing according to Your will, and sustain in faith those for whom we pray *[especially those we love, who need your healing and care. That we name before you now out loud or in our hearts. \_\_\_\_\_]*. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- P** We give You thanks for the salvation and life You give us through Christ Jesus. You do not leave Your people as orphans but strengthen us with the body and blood of Your Son. Help us to joyfully receive what You offer here for our good. Work through your means of grace to strengthen our faith, and to increase our love and service to you, to one another, and to our neighbors. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

**L** All these things and everything else for which we should ask, we pray through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

### Offering

**C** Offer, offer, offering, we give our gifts to say,  
"Thank you Lord for loving us and blessing us each day."  
Time to share our gifts and say,  
"Thank you Lord for each new day."

### Offertory Prayer

**L** Victorious God, Jesus defeated death in His resurrection. In Your love and mercy, You have made us witnesses to this wonderful news. Help us to live lives of love and service to others, that point our neighbors to Jesus and the hope that we have in Him. Accept these offerings that we bring before You with thanksgiving and gratitude for all of Your blessings and gifts to us. Use them for Your glory and to further the work that You are doing in this place and all around our world. In Jesus' name, we pray.

**C** Amen.

### Offertory

**C** What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?  
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.  
I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.  
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,  
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

# Service of the 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

- G** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:  
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

## 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  $\text{†}$  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  $\text{†}$  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.  
**G** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

## The Lord's Prayer

- P** God, remember us in your love and teach us to pray:  
**G** 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.  
**G** Amen.

## Agnus Dei

- G** Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

## Communion Distribution

### Distribution Hymn: LSB 769 Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ

Eternal Spirit of the living Christ,  
I know not how to ask or what to say;  
I only know my need, as deep as life,  
And only You can teach me how to pray.

Come, pray in me the prayer I need this day;  
Help me to see Your purpose and Your will—  
Where I have failed, what I have done amiss;  
Held in forgiving love, let me be still.

Come with the strength I lack, bring vision clear  
Of human need; O give me eyes to see  
Fulfillment of my life in love outpoured,  
My life in You, O Christ; Your love in me.

Text: Frank von Christierson, 1900–96, alt.  
Text: © 1974 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000779

### Distribution Hymn: LSB 645 Built on the Rock

Built on the Rock the Church shall stand    Even when steeples are falling.  
Crumbled have spires in ev'ry land;        Bells still are chiming and calling,  
Calling the young and old to rest,         But above all the souls distressed,  
Longing for rest everlasting.

Surely in temples made with hands         God, the Most High, is not dwelling;  
High above earth His temple stands,        All earthly temples excelling.  
Yet He who dwells in heav'n above         Chooses to live with us in love,  
Making our bodies His temple.

We are God's house of living stones,        Built for His own habitation.  
He through baptismal grace us owns        Heirs of His wondrous salvation.  
Were we but two His name to tell,         Yet He would deign with us to dwell  
With all His grace and His favor.

Here stands the font before our eyes,        Telling how God has received us.  
The altar recalls Christ's sacrifice         And what His Supper here gives us.  
Here sound the Scriptures that proclaim     Christ yesterday, today, the same,  
And evermore, our Redeemer.

Grant, then, O God, Your will be done,     That, when the church bells are ringing,  
Many in saving faith may come             Where Christ His message is bringing:  
"I know My own; My own know Me.         You, not the world, My face shall see.  
My peace I leave with you. Amen."

Text: Nikolai Fredrik Severin Grundtvig, 1783–1872, abr.; tr. Carl Döving, 1867–1937, alt.  
Text: Public domain

### The Dismissal

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

**G** Amen.

## Thank the Lord

- G** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.  
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.  
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy  
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

## Post-Communion Collect

- A** Let us pray.  
Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- G** Amen.

## Benedicamus

- L** The Lord be with you.
- G** And also with you.
  
- L** Bless we the Lord.
- G** Thanks be to God.
  
- L** As we depart from this place, we celebrate the ways God has blessed us in this service.  
We have received forgiveness of all our sins and remembered the identity given to us in our baptism.
- G** Our God has equipped us for life lived in His kingdom.
  
- L** We have heard the good news of the gospel and the word of God read and proclaimed.
- G** Our God has encouraged us in discipleship and following Jesus.
  
- L** We have received the gifts of God given in Holy Communion.
- G** As our God has served us, so we go from this place to be engaged in service to God, to one another and to our neighbors.
  
- L** As we depart from this place, we go as people who have been equipped for life, encouraged in discipleship, and who engage in service.
- G** We go as people who have been invited by God to join God in the work that He is doing in this place.
  
- P** As you go, receive the blessing of our God:

## 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.
- G** Amen.

## **Sending Hymn: LSB 813 Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng**

Rejoice, O pilgrim throng!  
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing;  
Your festal banner wave on high,  
The cross of Christ your king. Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

With voice as full and strong  
As ocean's surging praise,  
Send forth the sturdy hymns of old,  
The psalms of ancient days. Refrain

With all the angel choirs,  
With all the saints on earth  
Pour out the strains of joy and bliss,  
True rapture, noblest mirth. Refrain

Yet on and onward still,  
With hymn and chant and song,  
Through gate and porch and columned aisle  
The hallowed pathways throng. Refrain

Still lift your standard high,  
Still march in firm array,  
As pilgrims through the darkness wend  
Till dawns the golden day. Refrain

At last the march shall end;  
The wearied ones shall rest;  
The pilgrims find their home at last,  
Jerusalem the blest. Refrain

Praise Him who reigns on high,  
The Lord whom we adore:  
The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
One God forevermore. Refrain

Text: Edward H. Plumptre, 1821–91, alt.  
Text: Public domain

## **Acknowledgments**

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the NRSV® Bible (The Holy Bible, New Revised Standard Version®), copyright © 1989 by Thomas Nelson Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. And from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2026 Concordia Publishing House.

St. John's Lutheran Church + 113 Lotus Street + 302-734-7078 + sjldover.com

St. Johns is a congregation in the Southeastern District of the LCMS