

Communion Sunday
May 5, 2024 • ORDER OF WORSHIP

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

*As the Prelude begins, we invite you into a period of quiet reflection
as we begin our preparation for worship.*

- PRELUDE** *O Man, Bewail Thy Sins so Great* Bach
- LIGHTING OF THE CHANCEL CANDLE**
TOLLING OF THE TOWER BELL Mati Meron-Tetteh
- WELCOME** Rev. Pete Jones
- * CALL TO WORSHIP** Rev. Bill Weisenbach
- Leader:** Today is Ascension Sunday when we celebrate Christ's return to God.
People: **We look up in wonder as he is lifted from us into heaven!**
Leader: But this is not a time to gaze upward. There is work to be done.
People: **Jesus has entrusted the ministry of God's love to us.**
Leader: Let's get to work!
People: **Let's make our hearts ready for the tasks ahead with prayer and praise.**
- * OPENING HYMN** "Come, Christians, Join to Sing" No. 267
- PRAYER OF CONFESSION** Rev. Katherine Pater
- Leader:** Too often, Lord God, we are hesitant in our proclamation;
seeking safe and suitable opportunities to speak of our faith.
People: **Too often, Lord God, we are half-hearted in our service;
reluctant to stand out from the crowd or to attract criticism.**
Leader: Too often, Lord God, we live as if dependent wholly on our own resources;
relying on our perceived skills and modest insights.
People: **Too often, Lord God, we look to the clouds for our inspiration,
in the vain hope of finding you there.**
Leader: Forgive the poverty of our efforts and the frailty of our faith and open wide our hearts
and minds to the immanent presence of our Risen, Living and Ascended Lord Jesus Christ.
Silent Prayer...Amen.
- ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS** Rev. Katherine Pater
- Leader:** Forgiveness and love have been poured out upon you, to offer hope to all nations.
You are called and blessed to be messengers of God's good news to all people.
People: **We go with hope! Amen.**

* ACT OF PRAISE

"Gloria Patri"

No. 581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son**, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Pete Jones

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Ivy Olivia Catt

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Leader: We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.

People: **Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives**

Leader: We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

People: **In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally
in God's image to live as one community.**

Leader: We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

People: **The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith and binds us together
with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.**

Leader: With believers in every time and place,

People: **We rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Rev. Pete Jones

CHAPEL: On Communion Sunday, children in grades K-3rd are invited to attend a short lesson. 4th-5th grades are also welcome to attend or remain in Worship as part of their faith formation journey. All kids in Chapel will return to Worship for Communion. CHILDCARE: Child Care for children ages 6 months to 4 years old (All Preschool) is provided in room 31 throughout Worship. They must be dropped off and picked up by a parent or designated caregiver.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Bill Weisenbach

Eternal God, just as you lifted the eyes of the disciples to the rising Jesus at his ascension, so lift our eyes to you as we hear your holy word today, that we too might turn our eyes toward the need of the world and follow in your way through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 1: 6-11

Rev. Bill Weisenbach

So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' ⁷He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going, and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

"You are Witnesses"

Rev. Pete Jones

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Rev. Katherine Pater

OFFERTORY

"Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise"

Forrest

*If God be for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his only Son,
 But gave Him up for all, Shall He not with him freely give us all things?
 Hail the day that sees Him rise, Alleluia! To His throne beyond the skies, Alleluia!
 Christ, the lamb for sinners given, Alleluia! Enters now the highest heaven Alleluia!
 Circled round with angel powers Alleluia! Their triumphant Lord and ours, Alleluia!
 Christ has conquered death and sin, Alleluia! Take the King of glory in, Alleluia!*

Chancel Choir

* DOXOLOGY

Lasst uns erfreuen

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise God,
 all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
 Praise Father**, Son**, and Holy Ghost.
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.**

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Rev. Pete Jones

CONGREGATIONAL PREPARATION FOR PRAYER

Come and fill our hearts. Hear our prayer. You a - lone, O Lord, are ho - ly.

5
 Come and fill our hearts. Hear our prayer. Al - le - lu - ia!

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Rev. Bill Weisenbach

Leader: The Lord be with you!

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts!

People: **We lift them up to the Lord!**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The Prayer continues...

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

Rev. Pete Jones and Rev. Katherine Pater

*Jesus invites all, without restriction, to share in this meal with him.
 Please come forward to receive, or signal an usher,
 and the elements will be brought to you.*

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

Rev. Katherine Pater

Leader: Risen Christ, we have glimpsed you here as we have shared bread and cup. So, help us to see you risen, present, and at work in our world and to join you in making all things new until you come again in glory, and we feast again with you for all eternity.

People: Alleluia! Amen.

GO IN GOD’S NAME

- * CLOSING HYMN "Lead On, O King Eternal" No. 269
- * BENEDICTION Rev. Pete Jones
- * CHORAL RESPONSE
- POSTLUDE *Trumpet Tune in F* Brunner

* Those who are able, please stand.

**Please use gender-neutral, non-binary, or feminine language for God if you feel so called.

***or Mother or Loving Parent

FLOWERS

The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Our parents and grandparents, John and June Hall and John and Mildred Grieb.

By Sally, Chip, Andrew and Emma Hall

THANK YOU

COFFEE HOUR HOST – Douglass Reitter

[For the month of May, Coffee hour is provided by The Deacons of Hitchcock.]

USHERS – The 2024 Confirmation Class

COMMUNION SERVERS – Kathleen Dunlop and Diane Gismond

TO GIVE



Send checks to Hitchcock Presbyterian Church
hitchcockpresby.org/give
Venmo: @Hitchcock_Presbyterian

THIS MONTH AT HITCHCOCK



Wednesday at Hitchcock- 4-8PM
LIA Cultural Arts Festival- 5/9 at 10AM
Thrift Spring Sale - 5/11 at 10AM
Children’s Choir Cantata - 5/15 at 7PM
Multicultural Potluck - 5/19 at 11:30AM

WORDLY TRANSLATION



ALL PEOPLE OF THE CHURCH – MINISTERS

Rev. Pete Jones, D. Min., Pastor

- | | |
|--|--|
| Rev. Katherine Pater..... Associate Pastor | Giselle Rodriguez..... Office Manager |
| Dr. John T. King..... Minister of Music | Matt Shine Information Technology |
| Rev. William Weisenbach, D. Min. Parish Associate | Pat Murphy..... Bookkeeper |
| Carol Lavis Dir. of Children’s Ministry | Alexander Galindo Facility Manager |
| Cecily DeMarco..... Music Intern/Organ Scholar | Alex Esquivel..... Sexton |

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Hitchcock Presbyterian Church • 6 Greenacres Avenue • Scarsdale, New York 10583

267 Come, Christians, Join to Sing

1 Come, Chris - tians, join to sing: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 2 Come, lift your hearts on high: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 3 Praise yet our Christ a - gain: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Loud praise to Christ our King: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 Let prais - es fill the sky: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 Life shall not end the strain: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Let all, with heart and voice, be - fore his throne re - joice;
 He is our guide and friend; to us he'll con - de - scend;
 On heav - en's bliss - ful shore his good - ness we'll a - dore,

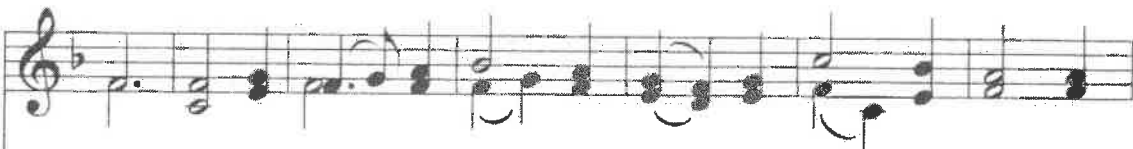
praise is his gra - cious choice: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 his love shall nev - er end: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 sing - ing for - ev - er - more: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Like many other hymns of praise, this text was originally addressed to children but has been embraced by adults as well. Although the tune's repetitive elements suggest folk origins (possibly with alternating groups of singers), no specific source has been identified.

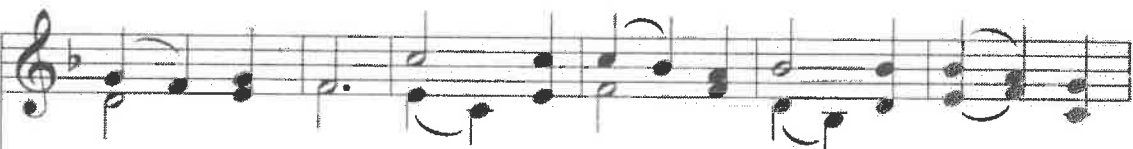
Alleluia! Sing to Jesus



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter, his the
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we left in sor - row
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of an - gels, here on earth our food, our
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Lord om - nip - o - tent we



throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the vic - to -
 now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is near us; faith be - lieves nor
 stay; Al - le - lu - ia! here the sin - ful flee to you from
 own; Al - le - lu - ia! born of Mar - y, earth your foot - stool,

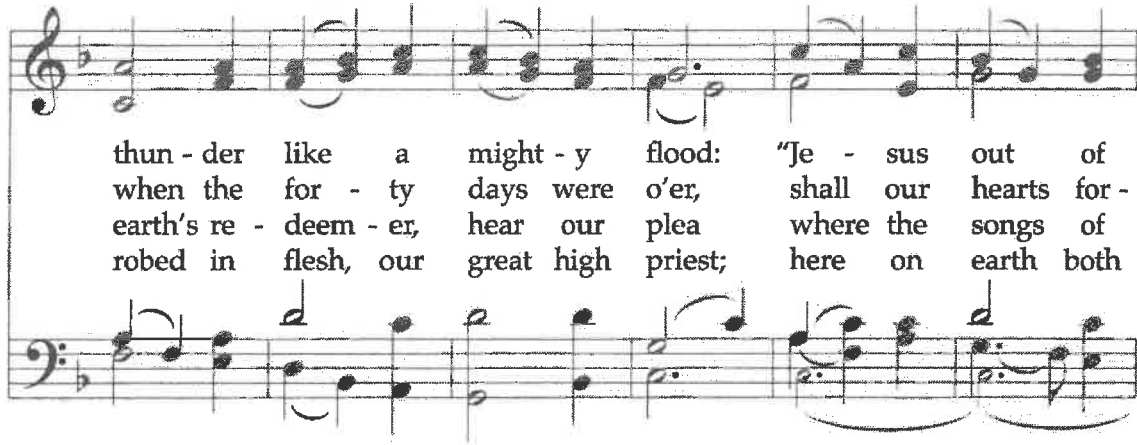


ry a - lone! Hark! The songs of peace - ful Zi - on
 ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re - ceived him,
 day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, friend of sin - ners,
 heaven your throne. As with - in the veil you en - tered,

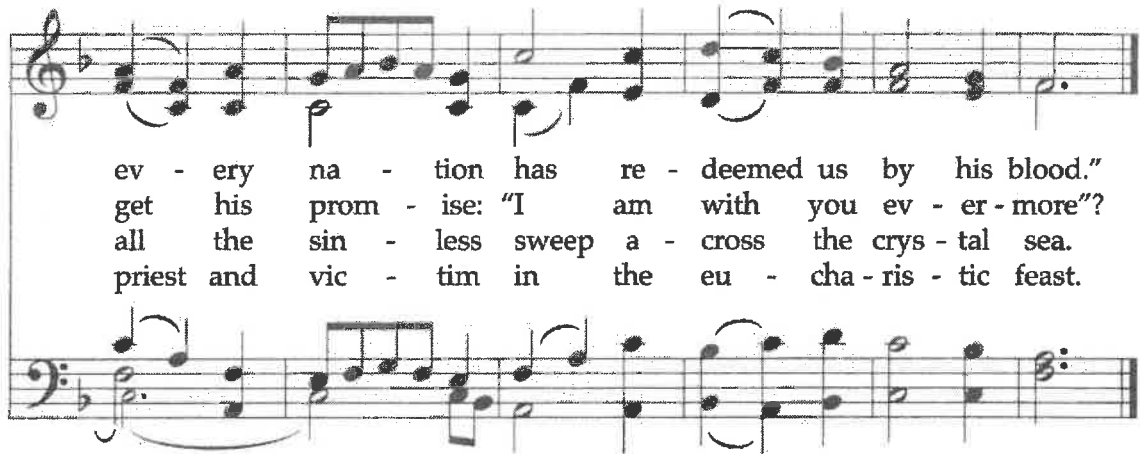


The author regarded this text as a communion hymn, a theme that seems eclipsed by the attention to Christ's exaltation, but a helpful reminder that such hymns are not always quiet and meek. This text is sung to various tunes, but this rousing Welsh one is a favorite choice.

JESUS CHRIST: ASCENSION AND REIGN



thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus out of
when the for - ty days were o'er, shall our hearts for -
earth's re - deem - er, hear our plea where the songs of
robed in flesh, our great high priest; here on earth both



ev - ery na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."
get his prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more"?
all the sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
priest and vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.

269 Lead On, O King Eternal!

1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal! The day of march has come;
 2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
 3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears,

hence-forth in fields of con - quest your tents shall be our home.
 and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;
 for glad-ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er your face ap - pears;

Through days of prep - a - ra - tion your grace has made us strong,
 for not with swords' loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir - ring drums;
 your cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light.

and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.
 with deeds of love and mer - cy the heaven-ly king-dom comes.
 The crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might!

Not everything that looks like a battle ends up being one. This text, written for a seminary graduation, works well with its martial tune in the first stanza; but later stanzas turn from such imagery and focus on "deeds of love and mercy" and courage for life's journey.