

# St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Easter Morning March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024



*Alleluia!*  
*Christ is risen!*

# *WELCOME*

To our Church Family

*We're Glad You're Here!*

**THE CONGREGATION GATHERS AT THE TOMB**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Sisters and brothers in Christ, on this most holy morning when our Savior Jesus Christ passed from death to life, we gather with the church throughout the world in prayer. This is the passover of Jesus Christ. Through light and the word, through water, bread and wine, we proclaim Christ's death and resurrection, share Christ's triumph over sin and death, and await Christ's coming again in glory. We come like the women to the tomb and see the light of the fire shining in the darkness. We come searching for hope. This morning we gather by the fire of a new light. We come seeking God's eternal light found in the Savior of the world.

**THE DAWN OF EASTER**

Whom do you seek in the tomb, O followers of Christ?

**Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified!**

Let us pray.

Eternal God, in Jesus Christ you have given the light of life to all the world. Bless this new fire, and increase in us a desire to shine forth with the brightness of Christ's rising, until we feast at the banquet of eternal light; through the Son of Righteousness, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**GOSPEL John 20:1–10**

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 20th Chapter.

**Glory to you O Lord**

<sup>1</sup>Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. <sup>2</sup> So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." <sup>3</sup> Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. <sup>4</sup> The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. <sup>5</sup> He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. <sup>6</sup> Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, <sup>7</sup> and the <sup>4</sup> cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. <sup>8</sup> Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; <sup>9</sup> for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. <sup>10</sup> Then the disciples returned to their homes.

# **We Process into the Sanctuary**

**GATHERING HYMN**

**Jesus Christ Is Risen Today**

**ELW 365**

## **GREETING**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## **FIRST READING: Acts 10:34–43**

<sup>34</sup>Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ — he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup>That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup>We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup>not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup>He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup>All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **ANTHEM**

**Come Away To the Skies**  
Lydia Nall, soprano

**Michael Larkin (b. 1951)**

## Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:19-26

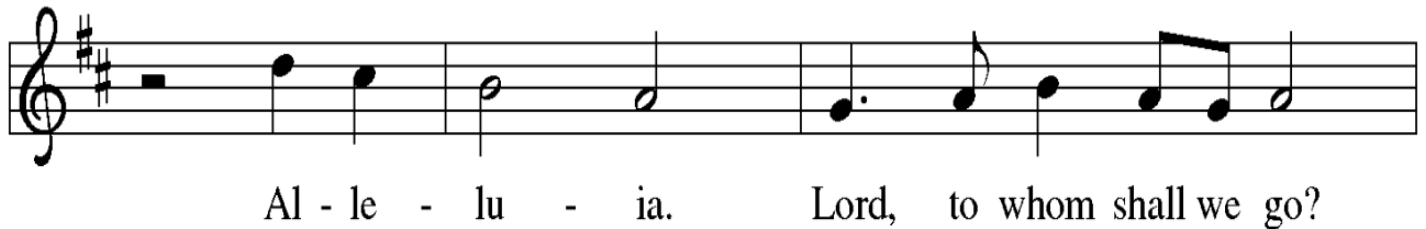
<sup>19</sup>If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

<sup>20</sup>But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. <sup>21</sup>For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; <sup>22</sup>for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. <sup>23</sup>But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. <sup>24</sup>Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. <sup>25</sup>For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. <sup>26</sup>The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## THE CONCLUSION OF OUR GOSPEL FROM JOHN THE 20TH CHAPTER.

<sup>11</sup>But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb;

<sup>12</sup>and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. <sup>13</sup>They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." <sup>14</sup>When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>15</sup>Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." <sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). <sup>17</sup>Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" <sup>18</sup>Mary Magdalene

went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

## **SERMON**

### **HYMN OF THE DAY**

Thine Is the Glory

ELW 376

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

*After each petition the following response is given:*

God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always  
**And also with you**

### **Offertory**

Heut' triumphieret Gottes Sohn, BWV 630  
(Today God's Son triumphs)

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

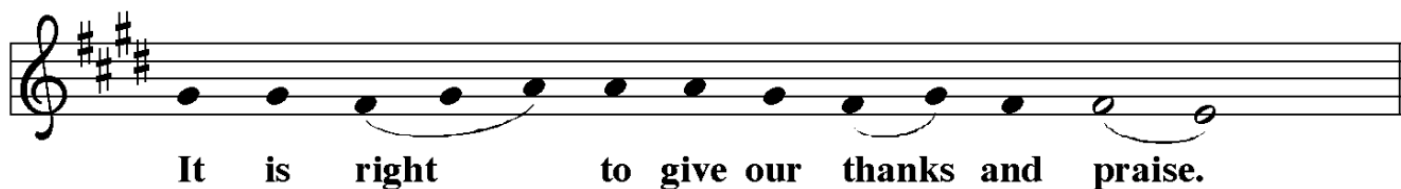
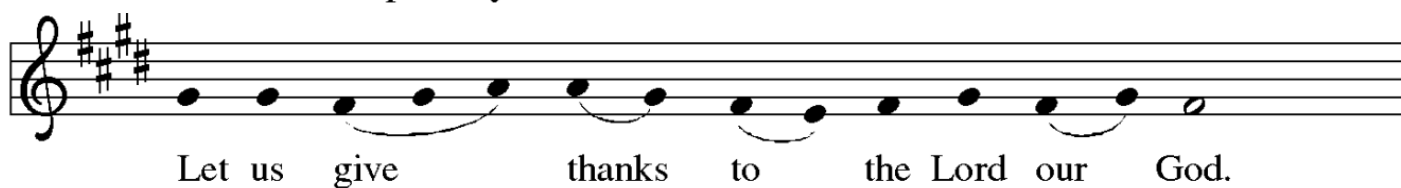
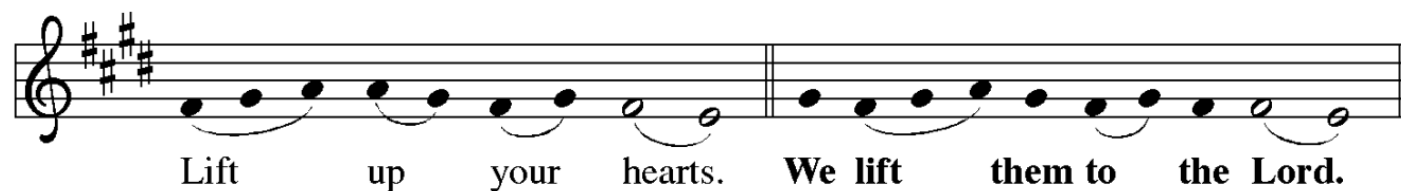
## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

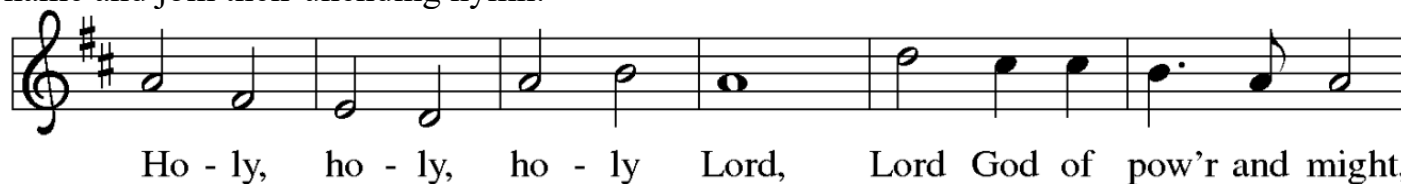
Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

**Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING



It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places.... And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

Gracious God, in great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to those in need, who preached the good news, who walked with the sick and suffering, and who on the cross opened his arms with love to all.

We ask your Holy Spirit to enter into this bread and wine, so that we may be strengthened and empowered by you to reach out, to preach, to walk and to share your love in our lives of service to others.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to all to drink saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world. Let us pray.

**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.**

### **Invitation to Communion**

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.  
Come and eat at God's table.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on

us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the

sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen.**

**COMMUNION HYMN**      That Easter Day With Joy Was Bright      ELW 384

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

**Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN**      **The Day of Resurrection**  
 (Alternate tune LANCASHIRE see attachment)  
 ELW 376



## **Blessing**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope  
✠ bless you now and always.

**Amen.**

## **Dismissal**

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## **POSTLUDE**

Fanfare and Processional

Lynn Trapp (b. 1963)

## **MUSIC NOTES:**

Lydia Nall is a senior at the University of Akron majoring in vocal performance. At the university, she is involved with the opera program as well as the concert and chamber choirs. She is also the president of the student chapter of the American Choral Directors Association, the vice president for the Student National Association of Teachers of Singing, and musical director of Kanga Blue a cappella. After graduation, Lydia will be attending The University of Akron for a master's degree in vocal performance.

## **FLOWERS**

**Altar Flowers** are donated today by Sue Ambrosic in honor of the Kitchen Angels.

## **In our prayers today we will remember**

*Richard Kreemer, Amy White, Lindsay Mays, Errett Butler, Barb and Tom Hamilton, Paula Kritzer, Dave Paul, Eleanore Grunde, Pat Adams, Chris Collard, Chrissy Sturtz, Carol Rohr, Mary Gainer, and Phyllis Keefer.*

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**Chancel Choir Practice, every Wednesday 7:00 pm**

**Handbell Choir Practice, Wednesdays at 6:00 pm**

**Needed: Handbell Ringers!**

**Can you count to three or four? Do you like having fun? Can you commit three Wednesdays? Come make a joyful noise and join us April 17 and 24 and May 1 in preparation to ring in worship on May 5!**

## Cathedral Concerts Series

**The Canton Symphony Chorus**  
**Sunday April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 pm**  
**Director Doug Berry**



**May 19<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 pm**  
**Camarada Brass Quintet & Silver and Strings Trio**



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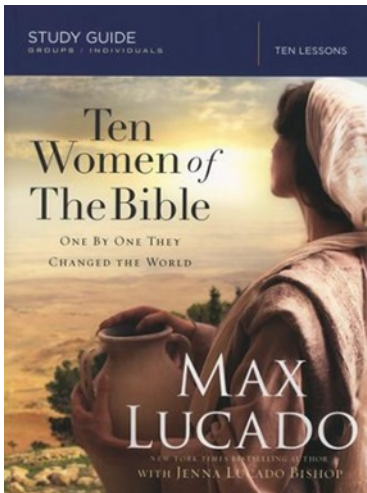
### **Adult Sunday School** **What Just Happened?**

“Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us...” (Luke 24:32a)

It is hard to imagine the reaction of those who personally encountered the resurrected Christ. Yet as recorded in the scriptures, we catch a glimpse of their confusion, amazement, and subsequent actions. During the month of April and into May, we'll look closely at those who had the supreme privilege of seeing the Lord Jesus after his resurrection. We will study the words of Jesus to them and their response, all so we might be more faithful. The class meets at 11:30 a.m. after the Sunday worship service, upper floor of Parish Hall. An elevator is available for easy access.

# Capital Campaign Report

<b>Phase One Projects</b>	<b>\$337,000</b>
<b>Funds raised</b>	<b>\$255,189</b>
<b>Interest</b>	<b>\$ 2,308</b>
<b>Building Fund</b>	<b>\$ 30,000</b>
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<b>Remaining funds to be raised</b>	<b>\$ 49,503</b>



## Thursday Morning Bible Study: 10:00 am

Ten Women of the Bible By: Max Lucado

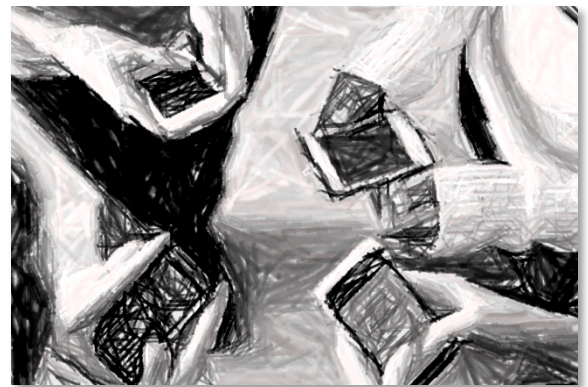
Their actions stood out to the writers of Scripture, even though society overlooked their contributions. In *Ten Women of the Bible*, a 10-session workbook, Lucado tells the stories of 10 pivotal biblical women, including Sarah, Rahab, Abigail, Esther, Sapphira, Mary Magdalene, and others. Each session features insights and study questions that explore their lives - and help you apply the lessons to yours.

## Download the St. Paul's Phone APP

Go to your Google or Apple app store on your smart phone and download the "My Church" by Pushpay. It is a free download.

Open the app and search for St Paul's by typing STPLC APP.

Then click on the St Paul's logo—that's it.



To take advantage of all the app's features you must create an account. Get notifications and reminders of upcoming events, access our live stream worship and worship bulletins, send prayer requests, and see the church calendar. You can even give electronically.



*We invite you to **study, pray, reflect,** and **give** with us during ELCA World Hunger's 40 Days of Giving — for our families, our neighbors and communities around the world.*


These 40 days are a season to reflect and remember, to look forward and ahead. These are not easy times for many of us. We know the challenges our world faces. Yet the season of Lent reminds us that God is not yet through with us or our world. Amid our own dependence on God, we know by faith that God is even now at work, drawing us toward the resurrection and restoration of the world.

ELCA World Hunger's 40 Days of Giving invites us to be part of that work and to bear witness to it with partners, companions, friends, and neighbors. Will you join us? Pick up your coin banks at the entrance to the sanctuary and return them on April 7<sup>th</sup>.


### **Thank you to those serving today:**

<b>Presiding</b>	<b>Rev. Mark Kreemer</b>
<b>Director of Music</b>	<b>Dr. Abigail Haake</b>
<b>Lector</b>	<b>Rev. Lynn Williamson</b>
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	<b>Veronica Kreemer</b>
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	<b>Lea Lang &amp; Greg Klein</b>
<b>Greeters</b>	<b>Gary Collard</b>
<b>Sacristy</b>	<b>Sue Ambrosic</b>
<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Gary Collard, Chris Hall Shane Jackson, Craig Maurer</b>
<b>Soundboard</b>	<b>Jim Johnson</b>
<b>Video/Live-Stream</b>	<b>John Stanko</b>


# Jesus Christ Is Risen Today




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 you 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: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1-3; tr. J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt.; Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, st. 4  
 Music: EASTER HYMN, J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708



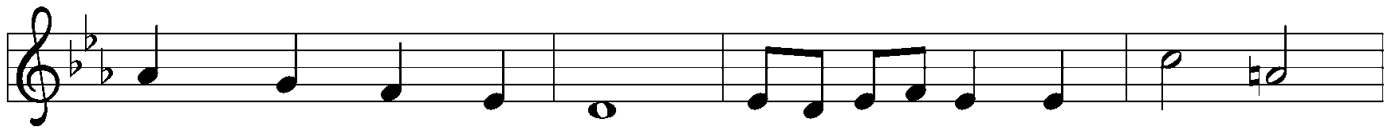
## Thine Is the Glory



- 1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the  
2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he  
3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-



vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment  
greet thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness  
out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,



rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave-clothes  
hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;  
through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

### *Refrain*



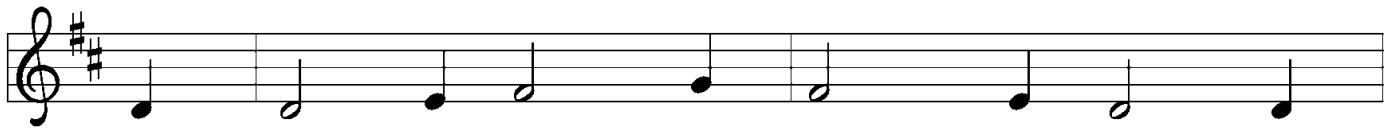
where thy bod - y lay.  
death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring  
to thy home a - bove.



Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

Text: Edmond Budry, 1854–1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875–1939  
Music: JUDAS MACCABAEUS, George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759

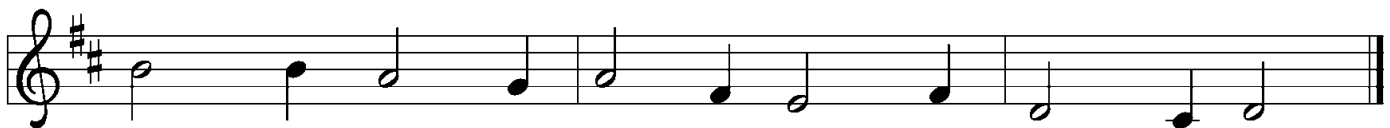
# That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright



1 That Eas - ter day with joy was bright; the  
 2 O Je - sus, king of gen - tle - ness, with  
 3 O Christ, you are the Lord of all in  
 4 All praise, O ris - en Lord, we give to



sun shone out with fair - er light when, to their long - ing  
 con - stant love our hearts pos - sess; to you our lips will  
 this our Eas - ter fes - ti - val, for you will be our  
 you, once dead, but now a - live! To God the Fa - ther



eyes re - stored, the a - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord!  
 ev - er raise the trib - ute of our grate - ful praise.  
 strength and shield from ev - 'ry weap - on death can wield.  
 e - qual praise, and God the Spir - it, now we raise!

Text: Latin hymn, 5th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.  
 Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621