

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Easter Sunrise April 20th, 2025



Alleluia!
Christ is risen!

WELCOME

To our **Church Family**

We're Glad You're Here.



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

We are so glad that you chose to worship with us today. If you are visiting with us for the first time, please visit our Welcome Center in the North Narthex. As our way of saying thank you, you will receive a St. Paul's Welcome Bag with a coffee cup and information about our church. You may also want to download our St. Paul's App and visit our website. Information on both is in the Welcome Bag. For our young worshipers we have children's packets to play and color with during the service. These are on the white stand near the east entrance to our sanctuary.

You are welcome at the table!

If you have been baptized and believe Christ is present in the Eucharist (Holy Communion), you are welcome to join us at the table. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers and return to your seats using the side aisles. If you do not wish to partake in the Sacrament but would like to receive a blessing, please just cross your hands over your chest when you come forward.

Grape juice and Gluten-free wafers are available on request. Grape juice is in the colored glasses in the center of the communion tray. If you are not able to come forward and would like to receive communion, please inform an usher and the pastor will bring communion to you.

Altar Flowers

The **Altar flowers** were given today by Carol Stoner to the glory of God.

The **Throne Flowers** were given by Nancy and Dan Lint in honor of their birthdays.

Introduction

"The last enemy to be destroyed is death," Paul writes. Today Christ is risen, and we gather together with astonishment and joy. Christ is risen, and we have been set free from the bonds of death. Christ is risen, and we are forgiven. Christ is risen, and with the women at the tomb and Peter, we are amazed. Let us rejoice: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Readings and Psalm

Acts 10:34-43

God raised Jesus on the third day.

1 Corinthians 15:19-26

Christ raised from the dead, the first fruits.

John 20:1-18 (alternate)

Seeing the risen Christ.

In our prayers today we will remember

Tina Cotopolis, Izabella Edwards, Randy Balder, Jessica Cascera, Chad Beyington, Jason Loveday, Darlene Lewis, Betty Scott, Anna Lagenfeld, Jay Danielson, Chrissy Sturtz, Matt Moore, Amy Williams, Phyllis Wilson, Jackie Whitman, Jessie Shaffer, and Rachel Berkey.

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

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. ²So 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." ³Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. ⁴The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then 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

³⁴Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ — he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how 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. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not 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. ⁴²He 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. ⁴³All 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.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:19-26

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

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

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

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

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

¹²and 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. ¹³They 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." ¹⁴When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus 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." ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷Jesus 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.'" ¹⁸Mary 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

Rev. Mark Kreemer

HYMN OF THE DAY

Now the Green Blade Rises

ELW 379

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

After each petition the following response is given:

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

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

Offertory

Heut' triumphieret Gottes Sohn, BWV 630

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

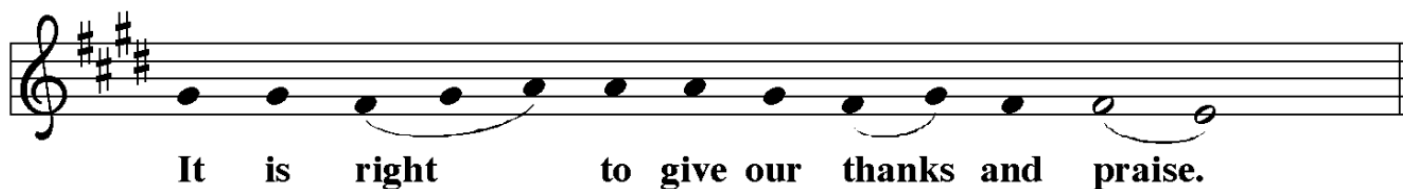
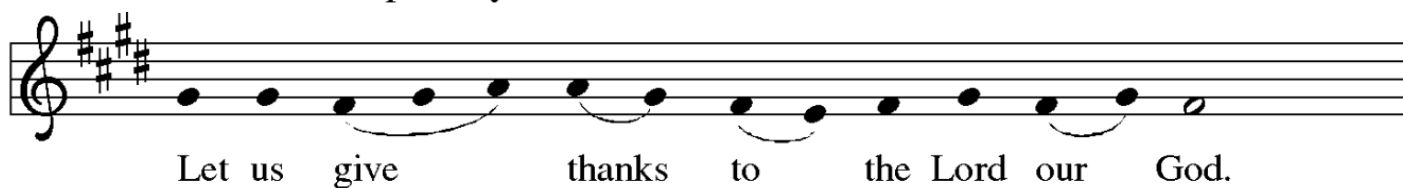
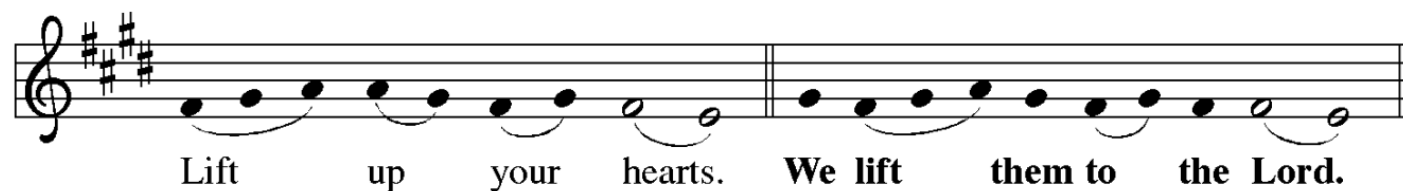
(Today God's Son triumphs)

OFFERING PRAYER

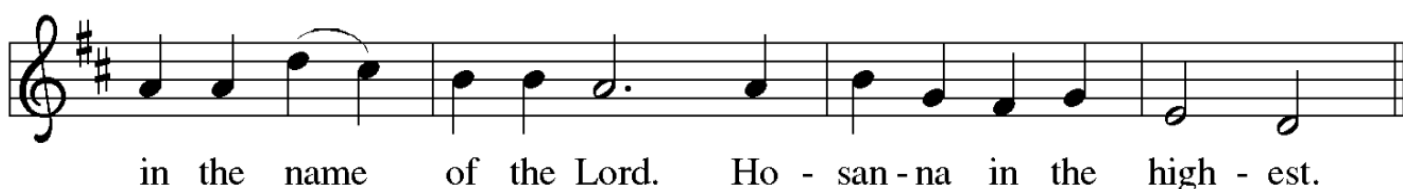
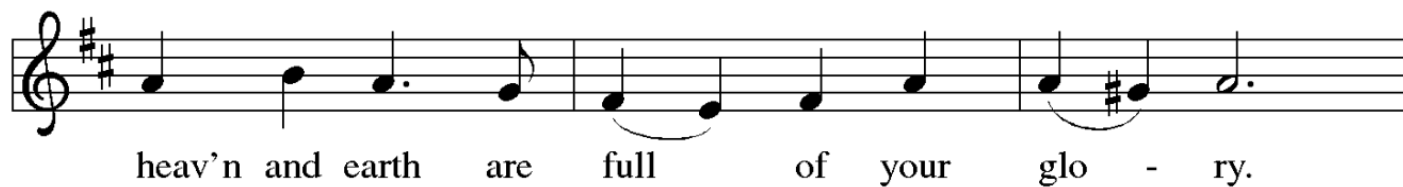
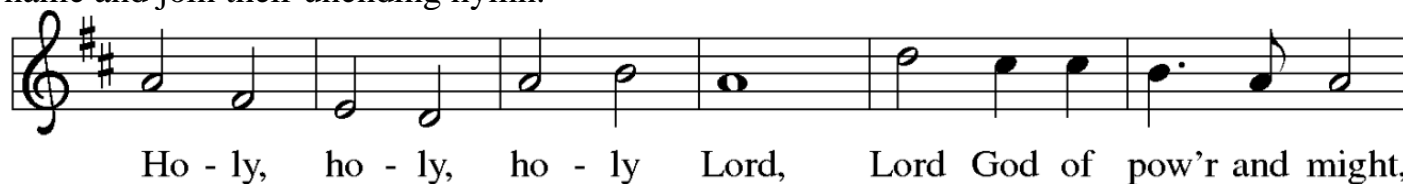
Let us pray.

Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. **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

Come to the table of grace.
Receive the gift of new life.

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.
 Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN Thine Is the Glory ELW 376

Blessing

The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, ✚ Savior, and Spirit,
 light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always.
Amen.

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Fanfare and Processional

Lynn Trapp (b. 1963)

New Assisted Hearing Devices Available

Four assisted listening devices are available at the sound system table in the back of the sanctuary at the beginning of worship. Please see Jim Johnson or John Stanko if you need assistance with these devices.



You can also use your smartphone to access the system. Go to your app store and download the **WaveCAST** app. Then connect to the sanctuary Wi-Fi:

Network: sound media
Password: Sound@127

Once connected to the Wi-Fi, open the WaveCAST app and tap on **St. Paul’s** to access the worship service. If you need help, please see Jim or John.

Capital Campaign Report

Remaining Phase One Projects	\$396,278
Funds raised	\$382,538
<hr/>	
Remaining funds to be raised	\$ 13,740

Last Cathedral Concert for '24-'25

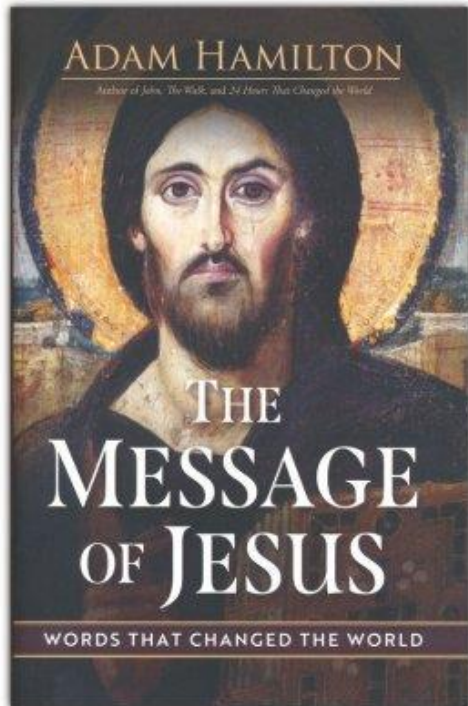
The Canton Symphony Orchestra Chorus
Sunday, May 17, 2025, 2:00 pm
“Come to the Water”

Adult Sunday School Class

God's Redemptive Grace in Jesus

*Jacob's well was there and Jesus, tired out from his journey,
was sitting by the well. (John 4:6)*

Did you know that Shechem of the Old Testament is Sychar in the New Testament? The lessons to come will focus on the tragic story of Dinah at Shechem told in Genesis 34 and then the story of the woman in Sychar at Jacob's well in John 4. God's grace abounds! Please join us on Sunday for this fascinating study at 11:30, third floor, Parish Hall. An elevator is available for your convenience. Please note. **No class on Easter (April 20).**



Thursday Morning Bible Study

The Message of Jesus: Words That Changed the World

By: Adam Hamilton

The four New Testament Gospels aren't the same story, but they offer the same Resurrection hope. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John devote most of their story detailing Jesus' last week in Jerusalem, all highlighting Jesus' triumphant entry into the city, the suffering and humiliation of the cross, and the empty tomb come Sunday morning, but the stories they tell aren't quite the same.

Each Gospel offers a different lens through which we understand Jesus' Passion. One portrait reveals Jesus to be in control, while another emphasizes his suffering. In one story

Jesus offers hope to the thief on the cross, and in another Jesus only receives derision. These different perspectives aren't a reason to dismiss the Gospels; rather they reveal an abundant, diverse, and complementary picture of God's work in the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

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.

Community Social Media Pages

Facebook & Instagram, Search “*Massillon Lutheran Churches*”

Facebook

“St Paul's Lutheran Church in Massillon” or “Cathedral Concerts at St Paul's”

Forty Days of Giving

This Lenten season we have joined other congregations in the Safe Water Access Project to provide a well in a needy community. It is now time to bring your giving folders in and place them on the altar at offering time.

Thank you so much for your generosity during the 40 days of Lent.

Thank you to those serving today:

Presiding Minister	Rev. Mark Kreemer
Director of Music	Dr. Abigail Haake
Assisting Minister	Karl Kalk
Lector	Rev. Lynn Williamson
Greeter	Sue Ambrosic
Communion Assistants	Tracie Schmolt & Carol Stoner
Sacristan	Sandi Bennett
Ushers	Greg & Lynda Klein, Henry & Thomas Haake
Soundboard	Jim Johnson
Video/Live-Stream	John Stanko

Hymns, Liturgies, and Live stream permissions granted by the following:

Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License # **SAS027923**

Copyright © 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

GATHERING HYMN

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

ELW 365

Public Domain

HYMN OF THE DAY

Now the Green Blade Rises

ELW 379

"Permission to podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #A-734490. All rights reserved

Communion Hymns:

That Easter Day With Joy Was Bright

ELW 384

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing! ELW 385

"Permission to podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #A-734490. All rights reserved

SENDING HYMN:

Thine Is the Glory

ELW 376


Public Domain




The Day, the Day

What is Easter anyway? Christians consider Easter to be the “first day.” From Easter comes the practice of worshiping on Sunday morning. It is the first day of the week. It is also the first day of new creation, sometimes called the “eighth day” of the week, for on it Christ restored the image of God in the human and in so doing also brought restoration and renewal to all of creation. The Easter season proceeds from and celebrates this first day. In the resurrected Christ, there is time after the end, life after death, restoration of what was broken, the brightening of what had gone dark. In the fifty days of Easter, Christian communities around the world strive to worship God in a way that illustrates that the body of Christ lives now in the heavenly places and also in the gathered body in the world. Worship is where heaven and earth meet.


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

Now the Green Blade Rises



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
 2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
 3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
 4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
 think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
 he that for three days in the grave had lain;
 your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
 laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
 raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
 fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

Text from *Oxford Book of Carols*, © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

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

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