

# EASTER: THE GREAT FIFTY DAYS

**The Baptism of Bailey Claxton**  
**St. George's Church**  
**Glenn Dale Parish • The Episcopal Diocese of**  
**Washington**  
**April 30, 2023**

*Welcome to St. George's! We are glad to see you this morning, whether in person or virtually. Zoom participants are welcome to leave your video camera on; at certain points during the service participants in the sanctuary will see the gallery view of those taking part in the service via Zoom.*

**Prelude: Alleluia! Sing to Jesus**

**Opening Hymn: Hymnal 1982 #213 Come away to the skies**

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788) Music: Middlebury from *The Southern Harmony*. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323

  
Come a - way to the skies, my be - lov - ed, a - rise and re - joice in the  
Now with sing - ing and praise, let us spend all the days, by our hea - ven - ly  
For the glo - ry we were first cre - a - ted to share, both the na - ture and  
We with thanks do ap - prove the de - sign of that love which hath joined us to  
Hal - le - lu - jah we sing, to our Fa - ther and King, and his rap - tu - rous  
  
day thou wast born; on this fes - ti - val day, come ex - ult - ing a -  
Fa - ther be - stowed, while his grace we re - ceive from his boun - ty, and  
king - dom di - vine! Now cre - a - ted a - gain that our lives may re -  
Je - sus' Name; so u - ni - ted in heart, let us nev - er - more  
prais - es, re - peat: to the Lamb that was slain, hal - le - lu - jah a -  
  
- way, and with sing - ing to Zi - on re - turn.  
live to the hon - or and glo - ry of God.  
- main, through - out time and e - ter - ni - ty thine.  
part, till we meet at the feast of the Lamb.  
- gain, sing, all hea - ven, and fall at his feet.

**Celebrant:** Alleluia. Christ is Risen!

**People:** The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

**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 inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily proclaim your Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## My Heart Sings Out #34 *Amen, we praise your name*

Words and Music: *Masithi* South African Hymn © 1983 Lumko Institute. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323

The musical score is written for a Cantor and a choir (All). It is in 4/4 time and B-flat major. The Cantor's part is on a single staff, while the choir part is on two staves (treble and bass). The lyrics are: "Sing a - men: A - men, we praise your name, O God. Sing a - men: A - men, we praise your name, O God. Sing a - men: A - men, A - men, A - men, A - men, a - men, we praise your name, O God. Sing a - men." The score includes repeat signs and a final double bar line. A note "(not sung final time)" is placed above the final measure of the Cantor's part.

### The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* And also with you.

*Celebrant:* Let us pray together the Collect of the Day: **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.**

*The people are seated for the reading of the lessons*

### Acts 2:42-47

Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd: **therefore can I lack nothing.**

You Lord make me lie down in green pastures: **and lead me beside the waters of peace.**

You revive my spirit: **and guide me in right pathways for your name's sake.**

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:

**for you are with me, your rod and your staff are my comfort.**

You spread a table for me in the sight of my enemies:

**you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is overflowing.**

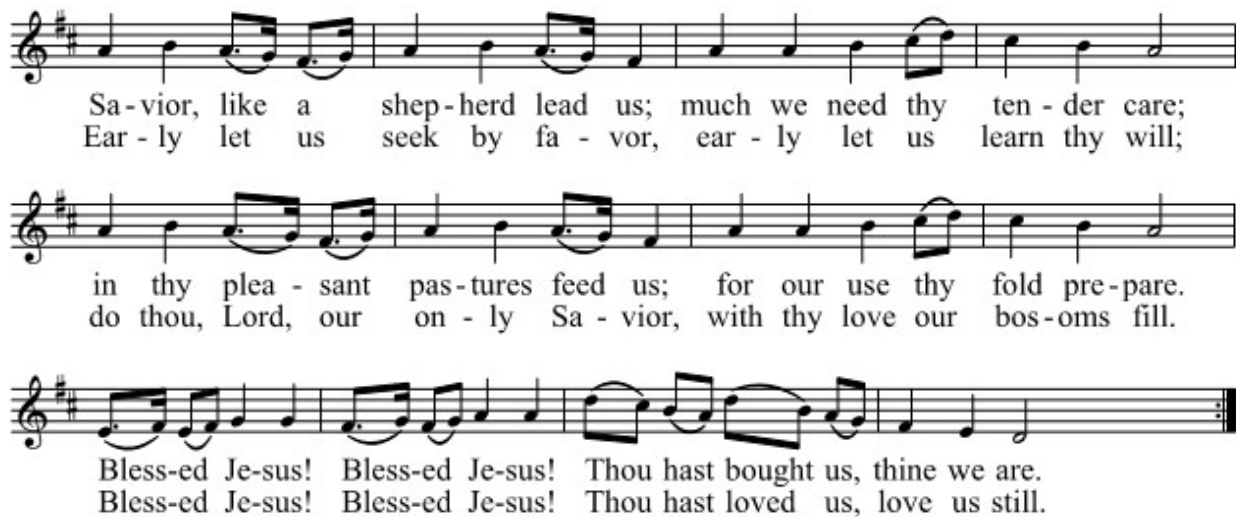
Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:

**and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

## Gospel Hymn: Hymnal #708 *Savior like a shepherd lead us*

Words: *Hymns for the Young*, ca 1830. Music: *Sicilian Mariners* from *The European Magazine and London Review*, 1792

Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Sa-vior, like a shep-herd lead us; much we need thy ten-der care;  
Ear-ly let us seek by fa-vor, ear-ly let us learn thy will;  
in thy plea-sant pas-tures feed us; for our use thy fold pre-pare.  
do thou, Lord, our on-ly Sa-vior, with thy love our bos-oms fill.  
Bless-ed Je-sus! Bless-ed Je-sus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are.  
Bless-ed Je-sus! Bless-ed Je-sus! Thou hast loved us, love us still.

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

**People:** **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

## John 10:1-10

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## The Sermon: The Rev. Connie Reinhardt

### Baptismal Hymn: *Down to the River to Pray*

Words and Music: Traditional American Transcribed by George H. Allan, *Slave Songs of the United States* 1867. Public Domain



As I went down to the river to pray, stud - y-in' a-bout that good ol' way and  
As I went down to the river to pray, stud - y-in' a-bout that good ol' way and  
As I went down to the river to pray, stud - y-in' a-bout that good ol' way and  
As I went down to the river to pray, stud - y-in' a-bout that good ol' way and  
As I went down to the river to pray, stud - y-in' a-bout that good ol' way and



who shall wear the star - ry crown, Good Lord show me the way. O sis - ters, let's go down,  
who shall wear the robe and crown, Good Lord show me the way. O bro - thers, let's go down,  
who shall wear the star - ry crown, Good Lord show me the way. O sin - ners, let's go down,  
who shall wear the robe and crown, Good Lord show me the way. O mo - thers, let's go down,  
who shall wear the star - ry crown, Good Lord show me the way. O fa - thers, let's go down,



let's go down, come on down. O sis - ters, let's go down, down to the riv - ver to pray.  
let's go down, come on down. O bro - thers, let's go down, down to the riv - ver to pray.  
let's go down, come on down. O sin - ners, let's go down, down to the riv - ver to pray.  
let's go down, come on down. O mo - thers, let's go down, down to the riv - ver to pray.  
let's go down, come on down. O fa - thers, let's go down, down to the riv - ver to pray.

*Celebrant:* The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

*Sponsors:* I present Bailey Lyntria Judith Claxton to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

*The Celebrant asks the parents and godparents*

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

*Parents and Godparents:* I will, with God's help.

Will you by your prayers and witness help the child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

*Parents and Godparents:* I will, with God's help.

*The Celebrant asks the following questions of the parents and godparents on behalf of the baptismal candidate.*

*Question* Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

*Answer* I renounce them.

*Question* Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

*Answer* I renounce them.

*Question* Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

*Answer* I renounce them.

*Question* Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

*Answer* I do.

*Question* Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

*Answer* I do.

*Question* Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

*Answer* I do.

*The Celebrant addresses the congregation, saying*

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this person in her life in Christ?

***People* We will.**

*Celebrant:* Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our baptismal covenant.

Do you believe in God the Father?

***People:* I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

*Celebrant:* Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

***People:* I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

*Celebrant:* Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

***People:* I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic Church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting.**

*Celebrant:* Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

*People* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant:* Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

*People:* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant:* Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

*People:* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant:* Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

*People:* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant:* Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

*People:* **I will, with God's help.**

### **Prayers for the Candidate.**

Let us now pray for Bailey, who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Deliver her, O Lord, from the way of sin and death: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Open her heart to your grace and truth: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Fill her with your holy and life-giving Spirit: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Keep her in the faith and communion of your holy Church: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Teach her to love others in the power of the Spirit: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Send her into the world in witness to your love: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Bring her to the fullness of your peace and glory: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Celebrant:* Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. *Amen.*

### **Thanksgiving over the Water**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life. We thank you, God, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit.

Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water*

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Bailey, child of God, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. ***Amen.***

Bailey, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. ***Amen.***

Let us pray: Holy and Gracious God, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised her to the new life of grace. Sustain her O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give her an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. ***Amen.***

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.**

## **The Peace**

*Celebrant:* The Peace of the Risen Christ be always with you.

***People:* And also with you.**

## **Blessings for Birthdays & Anniversaries**

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant(s) and anyone celebrating their birthday or anniversary this week as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## **The Offertory**

*The Celebrant says the offertory sentence*

Do good works and share what you have, for these are the sacrifices pleasing to God.

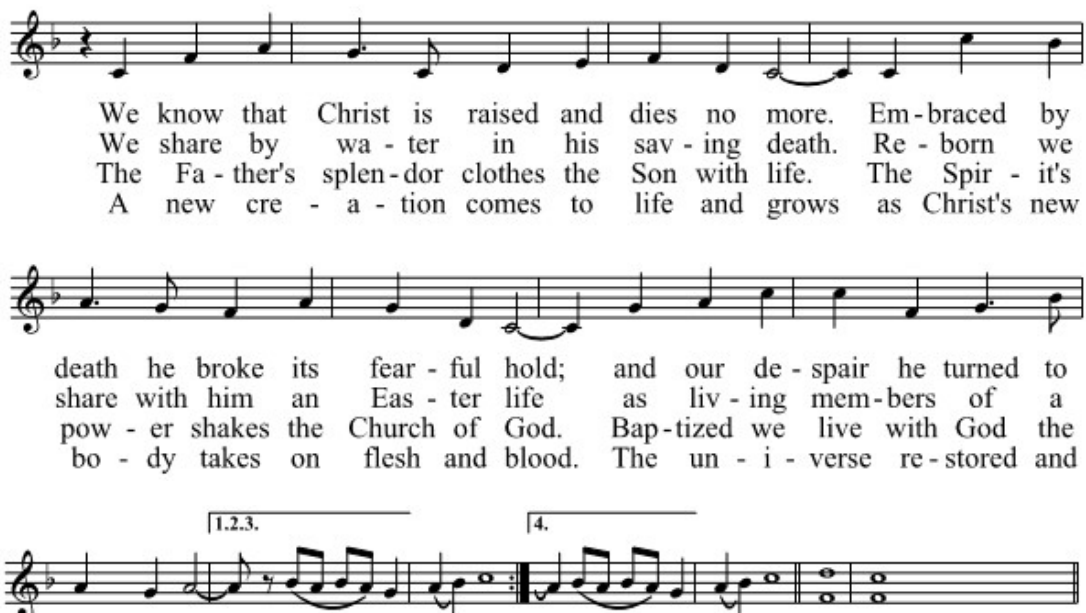




Although St. George's no longer physically "passes the basket" everyone is invited and encouraged to make a financial offering to express your gratitude to God for the gifts we are given and in support of our mission and ministries. We encourage you to give electronically wherever possible; you can text [stgeodragon](https://www.stgeorgesglennedale.org) to 72356. Or just use your web browser to go to [www.onrealm.org/StGeorgesChurch/Give](http://www.onrealm.org/StGeorgesChurch/Give). You may also donate via Zelle to [donations@stgeorgesglennedale.org](mailto:donations@stgeorgesglennedale.org) or use Cash App to send your donation to [\\$StGeorgesGlennDale](https://www.cash.app/$StGeorgesGlennDale). Baskets at the doors of the Sanctuary may be used for donations of checks or cash. Many thanks for your financial support of St. George's.

## Offertory Hymn: Hymnal 1982 #296 *We know that Christ is raised*

Words: John Brownlow Geyer (b. 1932). Music: Engelberg, Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924) Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



We know that Christ is raised and dies no more. Em-braced by  
 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death. Re - born we  
 The Fa - ther's splen-dor clothes the Son with life. The Spir - it's  
 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows as Christ's new

death he broke its fear - ful hold; and our de - spair he turned to  
 share with him an Eas - ter life as liv - ing mem-bers of a  
 pow - er shakes the Church of God. Bap-tized we live with God the  
 bo - dy takes on flesh and blood. The un - i - verse re - stored and

blaz - ing joy. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 liv - ing Christ. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Three in One. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 whole will sing: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! A-men.

## The Great Thanksgiving

**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 God thanks and praise.

*The Celebrant continues*

Worship and praise belong to you, Author of all being. Your power sustains, your love restores, our broken world. You are unceasingly at work, bringing order from chaos and filling emptiness with life.

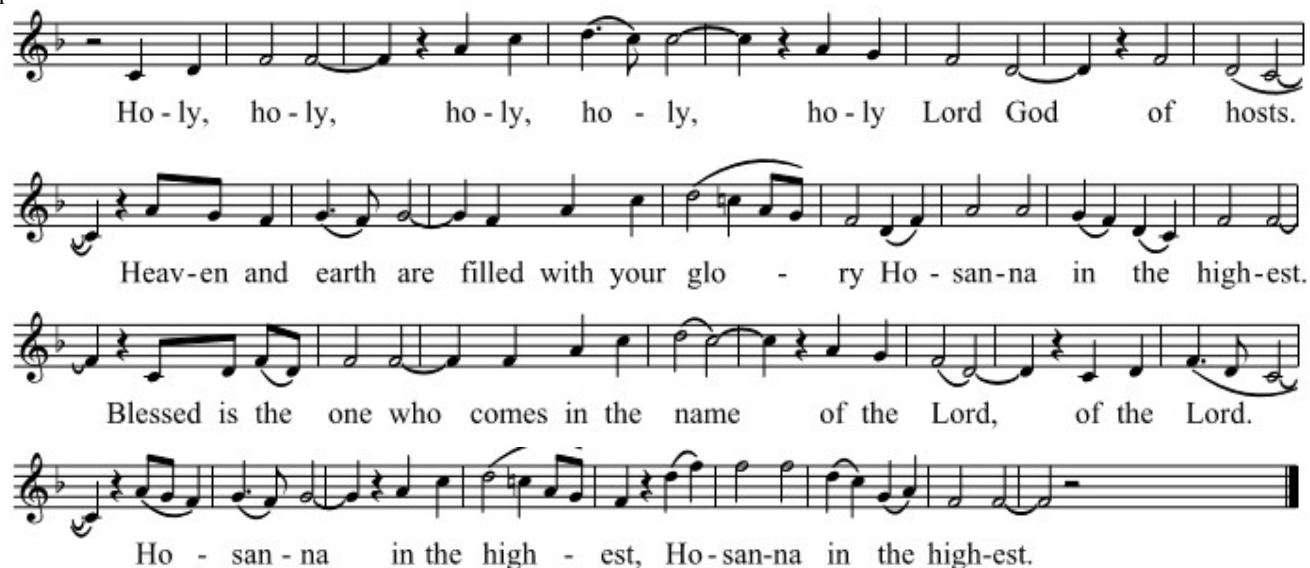
**Christ, raised from the dead, proclaims the dawn of hope. He lives in us that we may walk in your light. Your Spirit is fire in us, your breath is power to warm our hearts to love. As children of your redeeming purpose, freed by him who burst from the tomb and opened the gate of life, we offer you our praise, with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending glory:**



## Sanctus: *Holy, Holy, Holy* Levas #255

Music: Grayson Warren Brown (b. 1948), A Mass for Soulful People © 1979 North American Liturgy Resources.

Reprinted under OneLicence.net #A-701323



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts.

Heav-en and earth are filled with your glo - ry Ho - san-na in the high-est.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord, of the Lord.

Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho-san-na in the high-est.

Praise and thanksgiving be to you, Lord of all, for by the Cross eternal life is ours and death is swallowed up in victory. In the first light of Easter glory broke from the tomb and changed the women's sorrow into joy. From the Garden the mystery dawned that he whom they had loved and lost is with us now in every place for ever.

**Making himself known in the breaking of the bread, speaking peace to the fearful disciples, welcoming weary fishermen on the shore, Jesus renewed the promise of his presence and of new birth in the Spirit who sets the seal of freedom on all your people.**

Before he was given up to suffering and death, recalling the night of Israel's release, the night in which slaves walked free, at supper with his disciples Jesus took bread and offered you thanks. He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying: "Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you."

After supper, he took the cup, he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant; it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me."

**And so we recall his passion and death, his resurrection and ascension; and we look for the coming of his holy reign.**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us O God, and upon this bread and this wine, that they may be the Body and Blood of your Son, and that we may be kindled with the fire of your love and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

**Help us to live and work to your praise and glory, and may we grow together in unity and love until at last, in your new creation, we enter into our heritage in the company of the whole family of God.**

Through Jesus Christ our Lord by whom and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory be to you, Lord of all ages, world without end. **Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

*Celebrant:* The Risen Christ is in our midst, and so with Christ we 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. 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

*The bread is broken, and after a period of silence, all sing together:*

### Fraction Hymn: Wonder, Love and Praise #865 *Christ our Passover*

Setting: Thaddeus P. Cavuoti (b. 1955) from *Mass of St. Columba* © 1995 Thaddeus P. Cavuoti. Reprinted under OneLicence.net #A-701323



*The Celebrant then says:*

Mindful that not all are present physically to receive the sacrament, we pray with those who receive spiritual Holy Communion this day:

**Lord Jesus, in union with your faithful people, we offer to you our praise and thanks. Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we pray that you come spiritually into our hearts. Strengthen us with your grace, O Lord, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.**

*Celebrant:* The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ lived, died, and rose again for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*Wherever you are in your journey of faith, you are invited to receive the Holy Communion.*

*Whatever you believe or don't believe, you are welcome at this table.*

*For this is Christ's table, and all are welcome.*



*If you would like to receive a blessing rather than the bread and wine,  
Please indicate this to the Celebrant by crossing your arms in front of your chest.*

### **Communion Anthem: More Love to thee**

Words: Elizabeth Prentiss, 1856 and Jeremiah Ingalls. Music: Tom Tettke from Jeremiah Ingalls' *Christian Harmoy*, 1805

*More love to Thee, O Christ, more love to Thee!  
Hear Thou the prayer I make on bended knee.  
This is my earnest plea: more love O Christ, to Thee, more love to Thee, more love to Thee  
I love Thee, I love Thee, I love Thee, my Lord;  
I love Thee, my Savior, I love Thee, my God.  
Thy grace shall inspire both my heart and my tongue;  
Thy Name be my theme, and Thy love be my song.  
Once earthly joy I craved, sought peace and rest;  
Now Thee alone I seek, give what is best.  
And shall my every breath sing out Your praise;  
This be the only song my heart shall raise.  
This still my prayer shall be:  
more love, O Christ to Thee, more love to Thee, more love to Thee.  
I love Thee, my Jesus, I love Thee, my Lord.*

### **Communion Hymn: Hymnal 1982 #645 The King of love my shepherd is**

Words: Henry William Baker (1821-1877). Music: *St. Columba*, Irish Melody. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323

The King of love my shep-herd is, whose good-ness fail - eth nev-  
Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran-somed soul He lead-  
In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with Thee, dear Lord, be - side  
Thou spread'st a ta - ble in my sight; thy unc - tion grace be - stow-  
And so through all the length of days, thy good-ness fail - eth nev-

- er, I no - thing lack if I am His, and He is mine for - e - ver.  
- eth, and where the ver - dant pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.  
me, Thy rod and staff my com - fort still; Thy cross be - fore to guide me.  
- eth; and oh, what trans - port of de - light from thy pure chal - ice fow - eth!  
- er. Good Shep-herd, may I sing Thy praise with - in Thy house for - ev - er.

### **Post-communion Prayer**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray:

**Holy and gracious God, we thank you for feeding us with the bread of life, and sustaining us with the presence of the Risen Christ. Grant that we who have gathered together this season of Resurrection will go out as people of hope and new life. May the meal we have shared revive us in body and soul, and make us glad to share the good news that Christ is risen; for he is alive and reigns with you, forever and ever. Amen.**

## Announcements

### The Blessing

Let us go forth in light to honor our God and share what we know of the Risen Christ.  
And now may God strengthen you and bless you with peace;  
May Christ Jesus bring you the Easter joy of new life;  
And may the Holy Spirit alight on you and affirm you as God's beloved, this day and always. **Amen.**

### LEVAS #217 *He's Got the Whole World in His Hand*

Words: Traditional. Music: Negro Spiritual; arr. Hezekiah Brinson, Jr. (b. 1958) © 1990 Hezekiah Brinson, Jr.  
Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



He's got the whole world in His hand, He's got the whole world in His hand, He's got the



whole world in His hand, He's got the whole world in His hand,

2. He's got you and me sister, ....
3. He's got you and me brother, ...
4. He's got Bailey Claxton ...
5. He's got everybody here, ...

### The Dismissal

*Celebrant:* Let us go forth in the name of the Risen Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia!

*People:* Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

**Postlude:** *Shall We Gather at the River*