

THE *Episcopal* CHURCH 
 OF *St. John the Baptist*

“Where All Are Welcome . . . No Exceptions!”

**The Third Sunday
in Lent**
March 7, 2021

The Holy Eucharist
The Word of God

Prelude *Voluntary 'In the Cross'* *Thomas Keesecker*
Hymn Tunes: Rathbun, & Near the Cross

Processional Hymn (*Please stand as able*) *Please see page 8*

Children's Chat - *Robert Freeman*

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People **God's mercy endures for ever.**

The Decalogue (*Please kneel or be seated*)
The Celebrant and People pray responsively

Hear the commandments of God to God's people:
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.
You shall have no other gods but me.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not make yourself any idol.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

Honor your father and your mother.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit murder.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit adultery.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

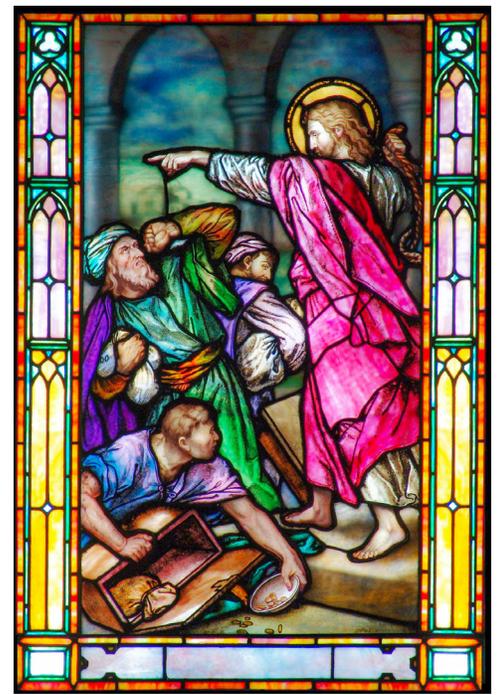
You shall not steal.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not be a false witness.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

The Celebrant may add the following sentence

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*



#441 | *"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"*

The Confession of Sin *(Please kneel as able or be seated)*

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *(Silence may be kept)*

People ***Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.***

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. ***Amen.***

Lord, Have Mercy *(Please stand as able)*

Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the first two phrases: 'Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.' and 'Christ, have mer - cy up -'. The second staff continues with 'on us.' and 'Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.' There are double bar lines separating the phrases.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant prays the Collect

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People ***Amen.***

First Reading *(Please be seated)*

Reader A Reading from Exodus:

Introduction to the First Reading

Escaping slavery in Egypt, the Israelites come to Mount Sinai, where Moses receives the Ten Commandments from God. These commandments embody respect for God, life, family, neighbor, and property.

Exodus 20:1-17

Then God spoke all these words:

I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 19



The stat - utes of the Lord re - joice the heart.

The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the firmament shows his handiwork.
One day tells its tale to another,
and one night imparts knowledge to another.
Although they have no words or language,
and their voices are not heard,
Their sound has gone out into all lands,
and their message to the ends of the world. [ANT.]

In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun;
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens
and runs about to the end of it again;
nothing is hidden from its burning heat. [ANT.]

The law of the LORD perfect and revives the soul;
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom
to the innocent.

The statues of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear and
gives light to the eyes. [ANT.]

The fear of the LORD is clean and endures for ever;
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.
More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb. [ANT.]

By them also is your servant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is great reward.
Who can tell how often he offends?
cleanse me from my secret faults. [ANT.]

Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me;
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent
of a great offense.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight,

O LORD, my strength and my redeemer. [ANT.]

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Second Reading

Reader A Reading from The First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians:

Introduction to the Second Reading

The message of the cross is pure foolishness and nonsense to the world because the cross reveals God in weakness, humiliation, and death. But through such divine foolishness and weakness, God is working salvation.

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Sequence Hymn (*Please stand as able*) – *Please see page 9*

#470 | *“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”*

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

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

The Holy Gospel (*The Gospel is carried into the congregation so that we remember it is our Good News to hear and to share.*)

John 2:13-22

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He

told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

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

THE SERMON

The Nicene Creed *(Please stand as able)*

*We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.*

*We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.*

*For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.*

The Prayers of the People *The Leader and People pray responsively.*

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

There is no God before you. Purify the faith of your church, that your people place their trust in nothing beside you. Your name is holy. Guide your church, that in every situation your people's words and actions honor your name. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

The heavens declare your glory. Renew your creation. Provide leaders in the struggle for clean air and water; protect creatures and crops that rely on healthy ecosystems; give all people the willingness to repent when our way of life pollutes the earth and skies. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Your foolishness is wiser than human wisdom. Fill leaders with the foolishness of your peace and mercy. Your law defends the vulnerable. Work through legislators, judicial systems, and systems of law enforcement to protect the wellbeing and freedom of all. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Your weakness is stronger than human strength. Protect those who are vulnerable and give courage to all who are suffering. Defend victims of crime and lead to repentance and bring redemption to those who have harmed others. Give sabbath rest to all who labor. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You call us to proclaim Christ crucified. Give clarity to this congregation and our leaders, so that we might follow Christ beyond our own habits and comfort. Clear out anything in our common life that would obscure the gospel or that serves our own interests. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

The cross of Christ is your power for all who are being saved. Thank you for Perpetua, Felicity, and all the martyrs whose witness reveals the power of the cross. Give us the same trust in life and in death. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others, especially remembering those on our parish prayer list and those we name in our hearts.

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

(The Celebrant may add a concluding Collect, or a Doxology.)

The Peace *(Please stand as able)*

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

The Holy Communion

Being seated, we begin with a time of offering, giving money as a sign that our life serves God's purposes and showing our gratitude for God's many blessings.

Your faithful tithes and offerings are much needed and can be sent to:

The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist, PO Box 441, Milton, DE 19968 OR

Securely online through our website - <https://www.stjohnthebaptistmilton.org/give.html>

Offertory Sentence & Interlude

Doxology *(The offering is presented as the Doxology is sung. Please stand as able)*

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow;
Praise him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye
heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

WORDS: Isaac Watts (1674-1748). Music: Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510-1561.

Offertory Hymn

Please see page 10

#685 | "Rock of Ages"

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.**

Eucharistic Prayer C

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus: *Holy, holy, holy Lord*

Hymnal S130

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and mi - ght, Hol - ly, ho - ly,
11 ho - ly Lord, God of power and mi - ght, heav - en and earth are fu -
20 ll, fu - ll of your glor - ry Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the
31 high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes - in the name of the Lo - rd. Ho -
41 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people may kneel as able, or be seated. The Celebrant continues.

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

***We celebrate his death and resurrection,
as we await the day of his coming.***

Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. *Amen.*

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

People ***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.***

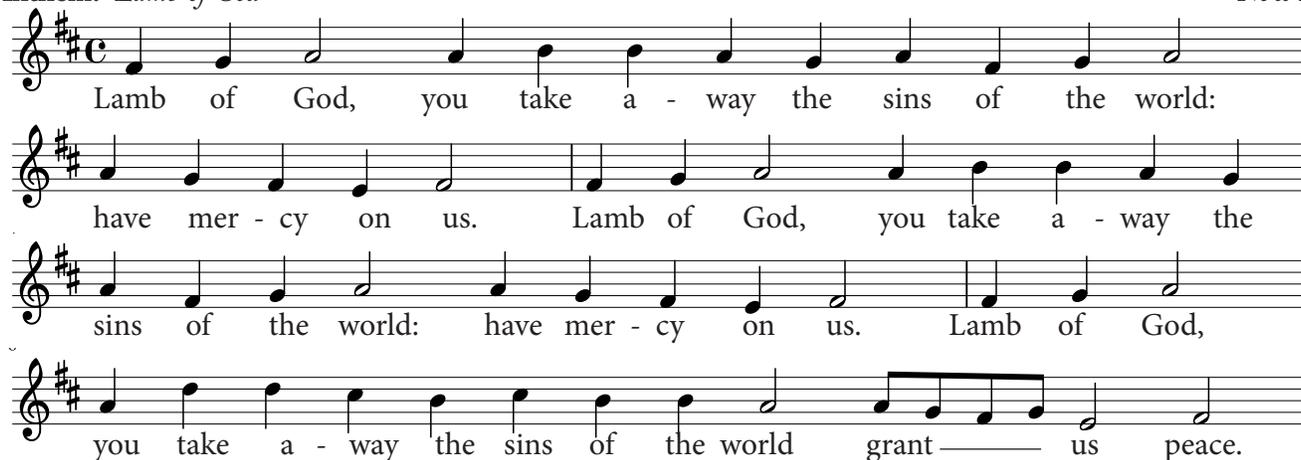
***And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.***

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People *Therefore let us keep the feast.*

Fraction Anthem: *Lamb of God*

New Plainsong



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sins of the world grant us peace.

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Lord Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart and my soul. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you, my Lord and my God! Amen.

Distribution Anthem - "All Are Welcome" Words & Music: Marty Haugen

Vocalist: Robert Freeman Accompanist: Scott Kresge

Post Communion Prayer (Please kneel or be seated)

Celebrant Let us pray.

People *Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving kindness to us and to all whom you have made.*

We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your presence, that as we lament our separation from one another, we may continually show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Benediction

Recessional Hymn (Please stand as able) Please see page 11

#473 | "Lift High the Cross"

The Dismissal

Celebrant Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

Postlude "Rondeau" Henry Purcell

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The Rev. Thomas M. White, Rector

J. Edwin Stout, Acolyte

Scott Kresge, Organist/Videography/Streaming

Robert Freeman, Cantor/Soloist

Elizabeth Scheer, Videography/Streaming

Jesus Christ our Lord

441

1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tower - ing
 2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
 3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and
 4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the
 *5 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tower - ing

1 o'er the wrecks of time; all the light of
 2 ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
 3 love up - on my way, from the cross the
 4 cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that
 5 o'er the wrecks of time; all the light of

1 sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
 2 cross for - sake me: lo, it glows with peace and joy.
 3 ra - diance stream - ing adds new lus - ter to the day.
 4 knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.
 5 sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.

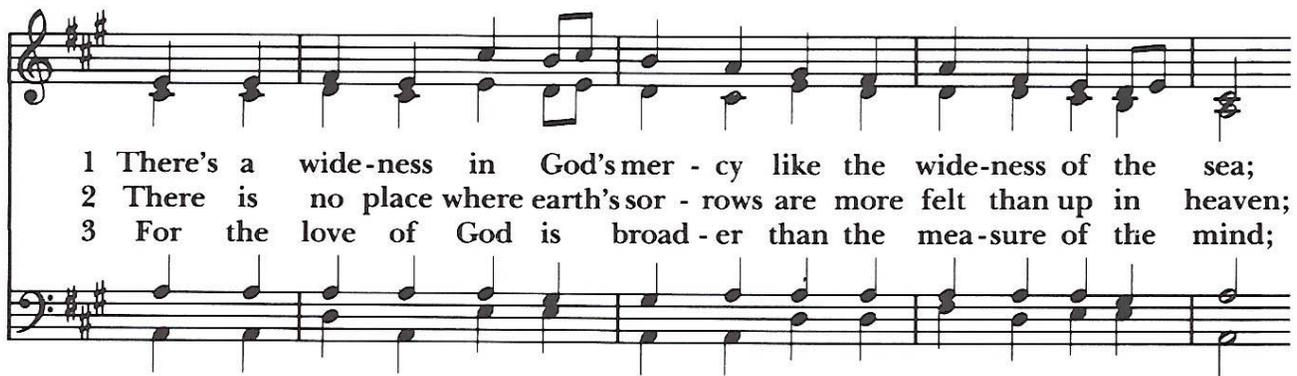
Words: John Bowring (1792-1872)

Music: Rathbun, Ithamar Conkey (1815-1867)

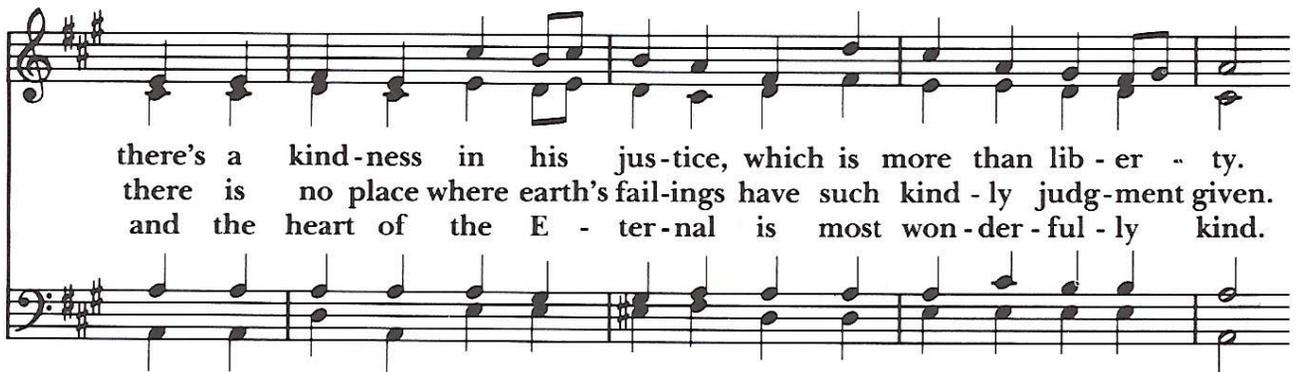
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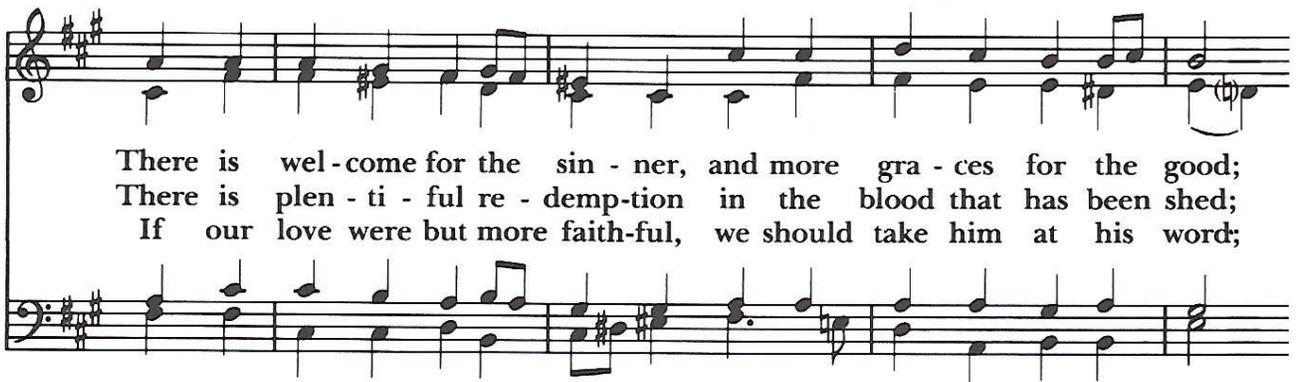
Jesus Christ our Lord



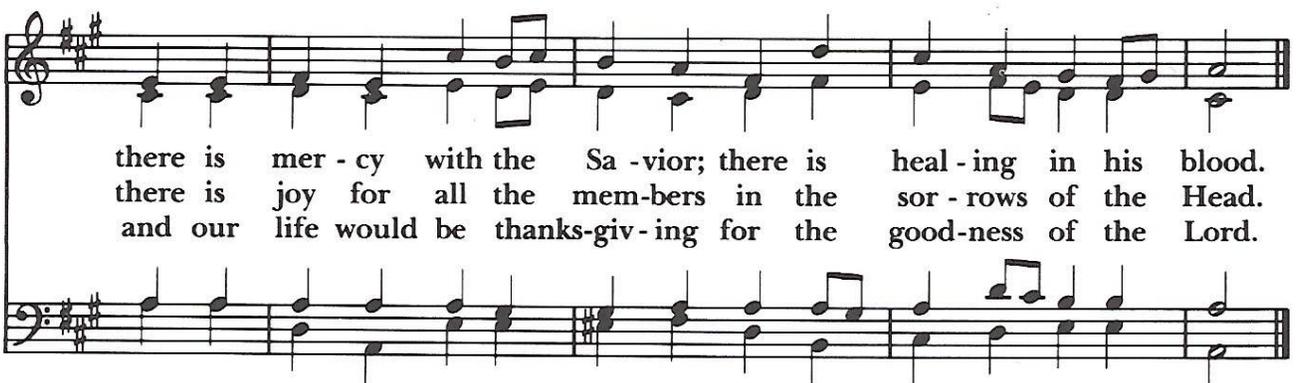
1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy like the wide-ness of the sea;
 2 There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heaven;
 3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sure of the mind;



there's a kind-ness in his jus-tice, which is more than lib - er - ty.
 there is no place where earth's fail-ings have such kind - ly judg - ment given.
 and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.



There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and more gra - ces for the good;
 There is plen - ti - ful re - demp - tion in the blood that has been shed;
 If our love were but more faith - ful, we should take him at his word;



there is mer - cy with the Sa - vior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
 there is joy for all the mem - bers in the sor - rows of the Head.
 and our life would be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

Words: Frederick William Faber (1814-1863), alt.
 Music: Beecher, John Zundel (1815-1882), alt.

87. 87. D

The Christian Life

685

1 Rock of a - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my-self in thee;
 2 Should my tears for ev - er flow, should my zeal no lan-guor know,
 3 While I draw this fleet-ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,

let the wa - ter and the blood from thy wound-ed side that flowed,
 all for sin could not a - tone: thou must save, and thou a - lone;
 when I rise to worlds un - known and be - hold thee on thy throne,

be of sin the dou-ble cure, cleanse me from its guilt and power.
 in my hand no price I bring, sim - ply to thy cross I cling.
 Rock of a - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my-self in thee.

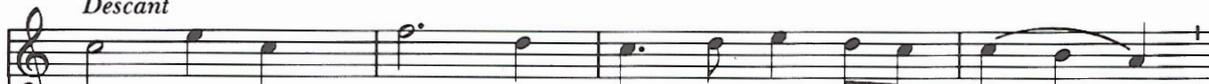
Words: Augustus Montague Toplady (1740-1778), alt.
 Music: *Toplady*, Thomas Hastings (1784-1872)

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Jesus Christ our Lord

473

Descant

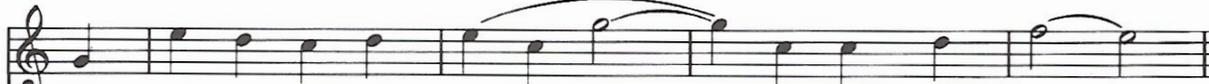


Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

Refrain



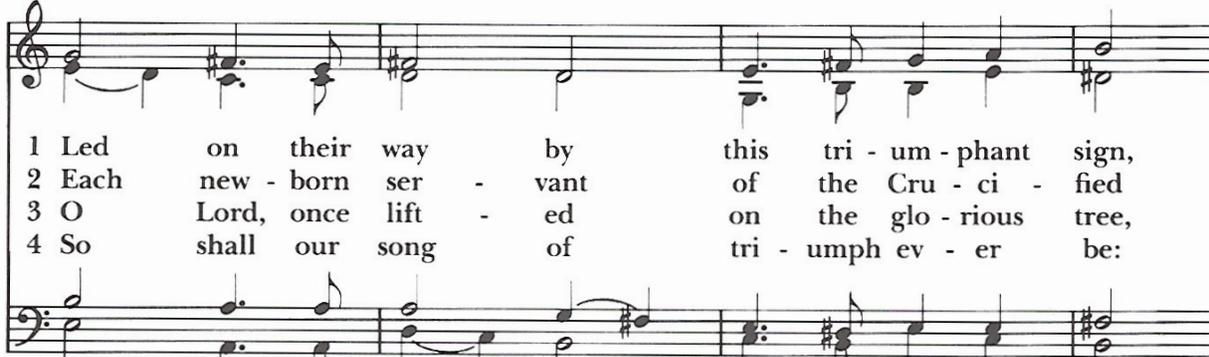
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim



till all the world a - dore _____ his sa - cred Name.

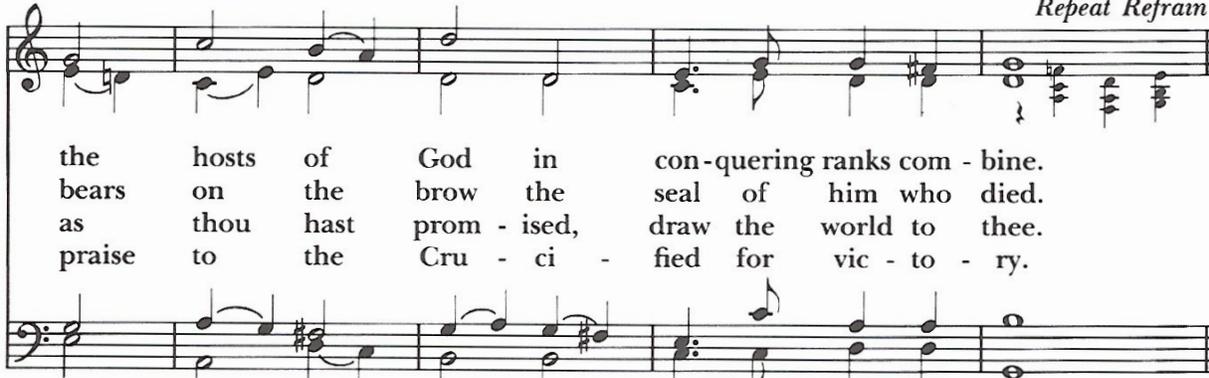


till all the world _____ a - dore _____ his sa - cred Name.



1 Led on their way by this tri - um - phant sign,
 2 Each new - born ser - vant of the Cru - ci - fied
 3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
 4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Repeat Refrain



the hosts of God in con - quering ranks com - bine.
 bears on the brow the seal of him who died.
 as thou hast prom - ised, draw the world to thee.
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.

Words: George William Kitchin (1827-1912); alt. Michael Robert Newbolt (1874-1956)
 Music: *Crucifer*, Sydney Hugo Nicholson (1875-1947); desc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

10 10 with Refrain