

**Luther Memorial Lutheran Church**  
**13047 Greenwood Ave N, Seattle, WA 98133**  
**Worship for Sunday, 28 April 2024**  
**+ Fifth Sunday of Easter, Year B**

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**Prelude**

**Thanksgiving for Baptism**

*Please Stand*

**P:** Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

**P:** In the waters of baptism, we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ, and we are a new creation. For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God, who was, who is, and who is to come.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.*

**P:** We thank you, God, for your river of life, flowing freely from your throne: through the earth, through the city, through every living thing.

**C: You rescued Noah and his family from the flood; You opened wide the sea for the Israelites.**

**P:** Now in these waters you flood us with mercy, and our sin is drowned forever. You open the gate of righteousness and we pass safely through. In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters. You nourish us and enclose us in safety.

You call us forth and send us out. In lush and barren places, you are with us. You have become our salvation.

**C: Now breathe upon this water and awaken your church once more. Claim us again as your beloved and holy people. Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear.**

**P:** To you, our Beginning and our End, our Shepherd and Lamb, be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving, now and forever.

**Amen.**

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## Gathering Hymn #379

## *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.

### **Apostolic Greeting**

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

**C:** And also with you.

### **Prayer of the Day**

**P:** Let us pray:

O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

### **Welcome and Announcements**

## **First Reading Acts 8:26-40**

An angel of God spoke to Philip and said, “Be ready to set out at noon along the road that goes to Gaza, the desert road.” So Philip began his journey.

It happened that an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official in charge of the entire treasury of Candace, the ruler of Ethiopia, had come to Jerusalem on a pilgrimage and was returning home. He was sitting in his carriage and reading the prophet Isaiah.

The Spirit said to Philip, “Go up and meet that carriage.”

When Philip ran up, he heard the eunuch reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?”

“How can I,” the eunuch replied, “unless someone explains it to me?” With that, he invited Philip to get in the carriage with him. This was the passage of scripture being read:

“You are like a sheep being led to slaughter, you are like a lamb that is mute in front of its shearers: like them, you never open your mouth.

You have been humiliated and have no one to defend you. Who will ever talk about your descendants, since your life on earth has been cut short?”

The eunuch said to Philip, “Tell me, if you will, about whom the prophet is talking—himself or someone else?”

So Philip proceeded to explain the Good News about Jesus to him.

Further along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “Look, there is some water right there. Is there anything to keep me from being baptized?”

He ordered the carriage to stop; then Philip and the eunuch both went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came out of the water, the Spirit of God snatched Philip away; the eunuch didn’t see him anymore, and went on his way rejoicing.

Philip found himself at Ashdod next, and he went about proclaiming the Good News in all the towns, until he came to Caesarea.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 22:25-31**

*Read Responsively*

From you comes my praise in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the Lord.

**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,**

**Let those who seek the Lord give praise! May your hearts live forever!**

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord;

all the families of nations shall bow before God.

**For dominion belongs to the Lord,  
who rules over the nations.**

Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;  
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before  
the Lord.

**Their descendants shall serve the Lord,  
whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn,  
saying to them, "The Lord has acted!"

**Second Reading                    1 John 4:7-21**

Beloved, let us love one another because love is of God; everyone who  
loves is begotten of God and has knowledge of God.

Those who do not love have known nothing of God, for God is love. 9  
God's love was revealed in our midst in this way: by sending the Only  
Begotten into the world, that we might have faith through the Anointed  
One.

Love, then, consists in this: not that we have loved God, but that God  
has loved us and has sent the Only Begotten to be an offering for our sins.

Beloved, if God has loved us so, we must have the same love for one  
another.

No one has ever seen God. Yet if we love one another, God dwells in us,  
and God's love is brought to perfection in us.

The way we know that we remain in God and God in us is that we have  
been given the Spirit.

We have seen for ourselves and can testify that God has sent the Only  
Begotten as Savior of the world.

When any acknowledge that Jesus is the Only Begotten, God dwells in  
them and they in God.

We have come to know and to believe in the love God has for us. God is  
love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God in them.

Love will come to perfection in us when we can face the day of  
judgment without fear—because our relation to this world is just like  
Christ's. There is no fear in love, for perfect love drives out fear. To fear is  
to expect punishment, and anyone who is afraid is still imperfect in love.

We love because God first loved us. If you say you love God but hate  
your sister or brother, you are a liar. For you cannot love God, whom you  
have not seen, if you hate your neighbor, whom you have seen. If we love  
God, we should love our sisters and brothers as well; we have this  
commandment from God.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

*Please Stand*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel      **John 15:1-8**

P: The holy Gospel according to John, the 15th Chapter

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

“I am the true vine, and my Abba is the vine grower who cuts off every branch in me that doesn’t bear fruit, but prunes the fruitful ones to increase their yield.

You’ve been pruned already, thanks to the word that I have spoken to you.

Live on in me, as I do in you. Just as a branch cannot bear fruit of itself apart from the vine, neither can you bear fruit apart from me.

I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who live in me and I in them will bear abundant fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

Those who don’t live in me are like withered, rejected branches, to be picked up and thrown on the fire and burned.

If you live on in me, and my words live on in you, ask whatever you want and it will be done for you.

My Abba will be glorified if you bear much fruit and thus prove to be my disciples.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ**

## Sermon



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.  
 2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.  
 3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.  
 4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows



Em - braced by death, he broke its fear - ful hold,  
 Re - born, we share with him an Eas - ter life,  
 The Spir - it's fis - sion shakes the church of God.  
 as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.  
 as liv - ing mem - bers of our Sav - ior Christ.  
 Bap - tized, we live with God the Three in One.  
 The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing:



Hal - le - lu - jah!

**Prayers and Peace**

P: ...Hear us, O God,

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*From your place in the congregation, feel free to share a sign of peace with other members of the assembly.*

**Offering**

**Offertory Anthem**

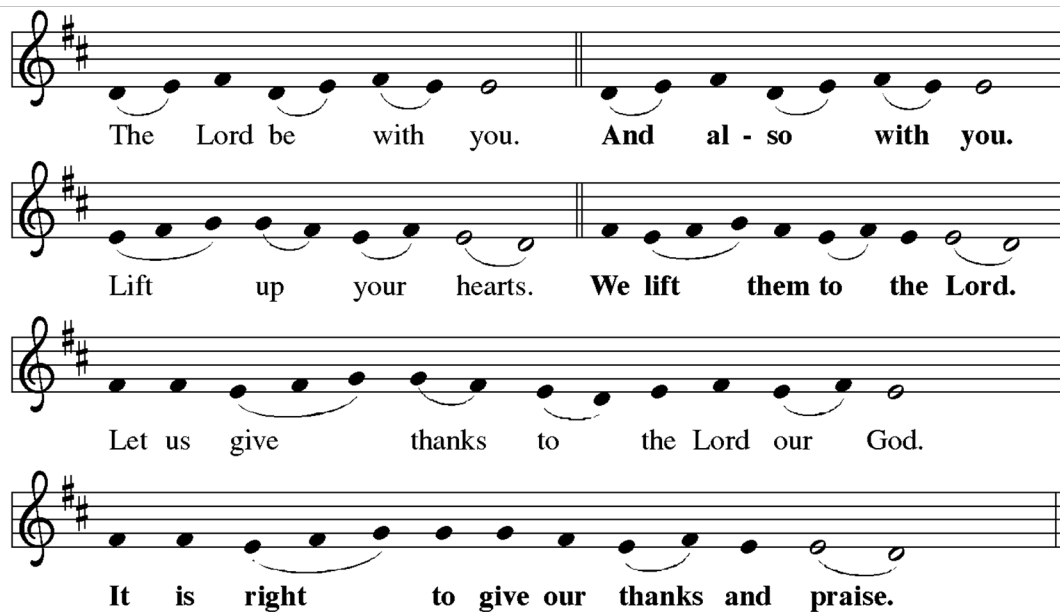
**Offertory Prayer**

*Please stand*

P: 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.

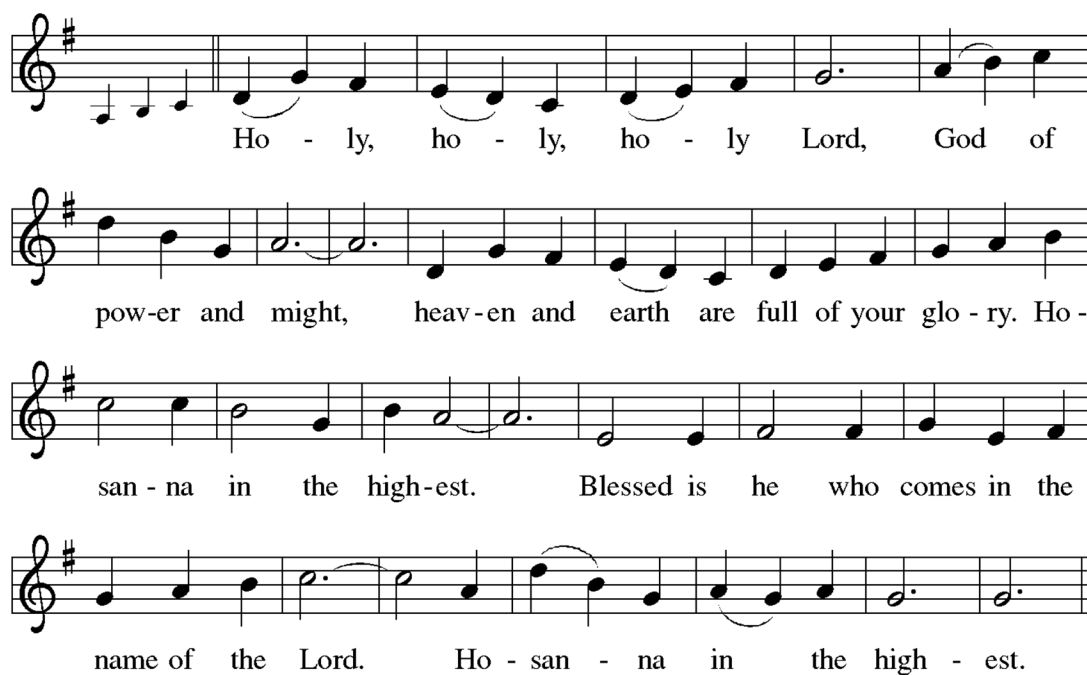
**C: Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,  
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;  
who in dying has destroyed death,  
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.  
And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the  
resurrection,  
with earth and sea and all their creatures,  
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Eucharistic Liturgy

All praise to you, glorious God of grace.  
Throughout the ages you have blessed us with foremothers of the faith.  
With Sarah, we bless you for your gift of life.  
With Ruth, we praise you for family and food.  
With Miriam, we celebrate our escape from the foe.  
Remembering Deborah, we honor the words of your prophets.  
Remembering the woman at the well, we laud you for living water.  
Remembering Junia, we thank you for those who minister among your people.  
One with the daughter of Jairus, we wake to life in you.

With Mary, we magnify your name:  
My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
**my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.**

Remembering Martha and Mary, we join Jesus at this meal.  
Living, he healed the bleeding woman;  
dying, he cared for his mother;  
risen, he sent Mary Magdalene in mission.

On the night before he died, he 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 for 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.

With Mary, again we magnify your name:  
My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
**my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.**

Mighty God of mercy,  
as you heard the prayers of Hannah, so now hear us.  
Send your Spirit on this bread and wine,  
that sharing the body and blood of Christ we become his body in the world.  
Send your Spirit on this assembly, that like Phoebe,  
we serve one another with zeal.



Send your Spirit on the church, that like Anna, we tell others of your mercy.  
Send your Spirit into our hearts, that like Dorcas,  
we care for the poor and needy.

With Mary, once more we magnify your name:  
My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
**my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.**

All praise to you, powerful God of peace.  
We adore you, our God,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
you who mother and feed and comfort us,  
today, tomorrow, and forever.  
**Amen.**

**C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom  
come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our  
daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin  
against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and  
forever. Amen.**

### **Distribution of Holy Communion**

*You may be seated*

*Please proceed up the center aisle to pick up a piece of bread from the Presiding minister. You will then take an already filled glass of either wine or grape juice from the tray the assisting minister is holding.*

*There will be baskets off to the side where you can dispose of your used cups. The communion bread is all gluten free, but does contain honey. All are welcome to receive from Christ's table.*

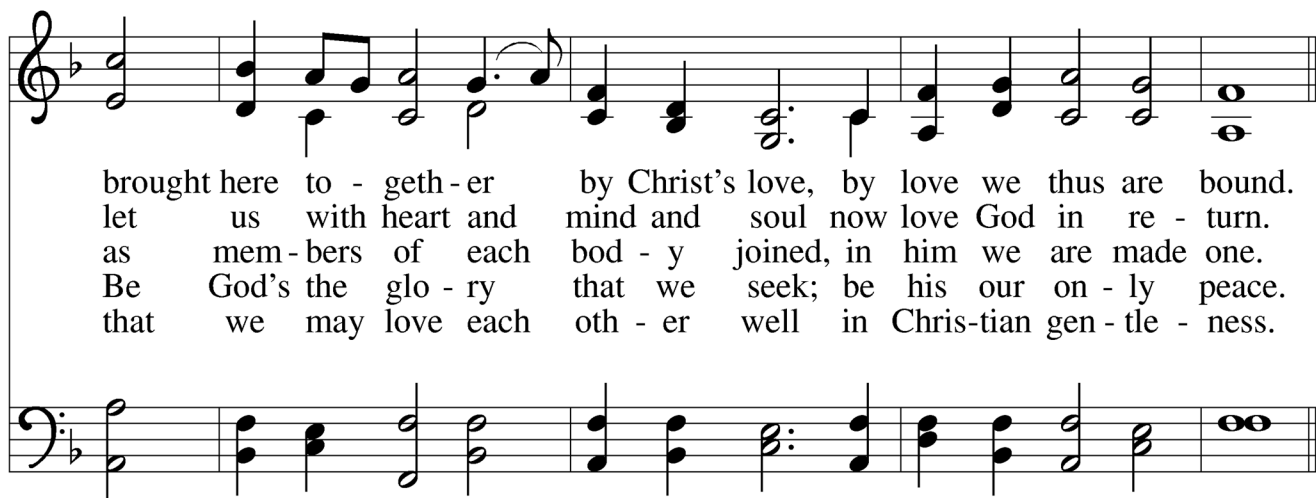
*You may also come forward with your arms crossed to receive a blessing.*

# Communion Hymn #359

# Where Charity and Love Prevail



1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;  
2 With grate-ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;  
3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;  
4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.  
5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.  
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.  
as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.  
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.  
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

## Post-communion Prayer

P: 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.

C: Amen.

## Blessing

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

C: Amen.

# Sending Hymn #367 *Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds*



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds  
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings,  
 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love;  
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring



in praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has  
 there - fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has  
 set heart and will on things a - bove that we  
 and with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has



tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of  
 tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Now still he  
 con - quer through your tri - umph; grant grace suf -  
 tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the



an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry  
 comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all  
 fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly  
 Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 strife. "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

## Postlude

## Dismissal

P: Alleluia! Go in peace. Share the good news.

**C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia.**

## Today's Worship Leaders:

Pastor Sara Funkhouser

Cynthia Dario-Good

Leia Smith

Dave Cederberg

Laurie Meade (all readings, including Psalm)

Jen and Matt Smith

Lollie Ellingson

Presider/Preacher

Musician

Communion Assistant

Usher

Lector

FOSS Transport

Altar Care

## Next Week's Readings

First Reading: *Acts 10:44-48*

Psalm: *Psalm 98*

Second Reading: *1 John 5:1-6*

Gospel: *John 15:9-17*

## Upcoming Events

21	APR, SUN	● 10:30 – 11:30am ● 4 – 6pm	In-Person & Live Stream Worship Sanctuary Skandia Society Rehearsal Celebration Hall
22	APR, MON	● All day ● 5 – 8pm	Pastor Sara @ Bishop's Convocation (Day 1/3) LMLC Office Anne Marcus Cooking Class Kitchen
23	APR, TUE	● All day ● 1 – 5pm ● 7 – 9:30pm	Pastor Sara @ Bishop's Convocation (Day 2/3) LMLC Office Pastor Sara @FOSS Foss Home & Village Seattle Photograph Society - Leia Smith Celebration Hall
24	APR, WED	● All day ● 9:30 – 11am	Pastor Sara @ Bishop's Convocation (Day 3/3) LMLC Office Seekers Bible Study Library
25	APR, THU	● 9am – 1pm ● 11:30am – 12:30pm	Pastor Sara @FOSS Foss Home & Village Pause for Prayer Zoom
26	APR, FRI	● 10am – 12pm ● 4 – 8pm	Pastor Sara @FOSS LMLC Office Inside Health Institute Kitchen
27	APR, SAT	● 12 – 4pm	Used Book Sale Celebration Hall