

The LITURGY of MORNING PRAYER & HOLY COMMUNION on the 3RD SUNDAY AFTER EASTER, 2025 A.D.

Church! The liturgy is entirely contained within this booklet. In general, we stand (*) to sing, sit to listen, and kneel (†) to pray. **Boldface** indicates congregational participation. At Holy Communion, all baptized Christians who love our Divine Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ in sincerity and are living in peace and charity with their neighbors are invited to receive the Eucharist. Further instructions on how to receive Holy Communion or a blessing can be found beginning on page 26.

The Liturgy begins at 10am, ending around 11:25am. There will be no agape feast this week due to Mother's Day. May God bless you on this Lord's Day!

Witness and Martyrdom

Music: Gretchaninoff, Holy Radiant Light (Svete Tihiy)

Therefore it is necessary to choose one of the men who have been with us the whole time the Lord Jesus was living among us, beginning from John's baptism to the time when Jesus was taken up from us. For one of these must become a witness with us of his resurrection." (Acts 1:21-22)

To witness is to see something important or amazing. In Greek such a person is a mártus. If this person shares what they've seen, we call this "bearing witness", in Greek, marturéo.

Following Jesus' ascension the disciples gathered to find a replacement for Judas. There were two criteria: first, that person had to have been with Jesus from His baptism, through His ministry, His miracles, His travel throughout Judea and Samaria, His entry into the Holy City on Palm Sunday, His feast at the Last Supper, His being taken away to be crucified, His appearance after His resurrection, and His ascension. Second, and most important, of all he had experienced in his three years with Jesus, the one thing singled out for witness was His resurrection!

Tracking the word 'witness' through the 25 years covered in the Book of Acts we find their preaching was entirely focused on the resurrection of Jesus. Nowhere is their 'witness' associated with His suffering, crucifixion, or death. God's powerful response to the act of evil men was their focus. The world's reaction was amazing (thousands believed).

As their world of 'witness' began to increase—Spain to the west, Ethiopia to the south, the borders of modern day Russia to the north, and India to the east—the message remained constant: the risen Christ was central. If the crucifixion of Jesus had turned them into cowards (and it had), it was the resurrection of Jesus that made them bold.

After their resurrection ministry was met with torture and death, 'witness' (mártus) took on the interpretation (martyr) we now associate with being put to death for one's faith:

Peter was crucified upside down by Emperor Nero in Rome.
Paul was beheaded by Emperor Nero in Rome.
Andrew was crucified in Greece.
Thomas was pierced with swords in India.
Philip was put to death in Carthage, North Africa.
Matthew was stabbed to death in Ethiopia.
Bartholomew was flayed alive in Armenia.
James (brother of Jesus) was clubbed to death in Jerusalem.
Simon refused pagan sacrifice and was killed in Persia.
Matthias was burned to death in Syria.
James (son of Zebedee) was beheaded by Herod in Jerusalem.

Be a resurrection witness (mártus); do not fear the consequences. His reward awaits us. Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life. (Revelation 2:10)

-Greg Athnos

128 EASTER



Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1925. ©1958, ren. 1986, Hymns Ancient and Modern, Ltd. (admin. Hope Publishing Company) Tune: Melchior Vulpius, 1609

GELOBT SEI GOTT 8.8.8 with alleliuas

THE ORDER FOR MORNING PRAYER

*Opening Sentence

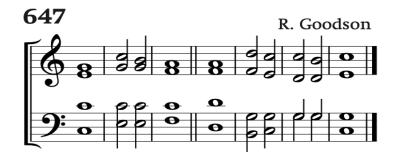
H e is risen. The Lord is risen indeed. St. Mark xvi. 6; St. Luke xxiv. 34.

This is the day which the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it. Psalm cxviii. 24.

*Preces



* Venite



- Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed : O come let us adore him. Alleluia.
- 1 O come, let us sing | unto · the LORD;
 - * let us heartily rejoice in the strength of | our salvation.
- 2 Let us come before his presence with |
 thanksgiving;
 - * and show ourselves | glad in him with psalms.
- 3 For the LORD is a | great God;
 - * and a great | King above all gods.
- 4 In his hand are all the corners | of the earth;
 - * and the strength of the hills is | his also.
- 5 The sea is | his, and · he made it;
 - * and his hands pre|pared the **dry** land.
- 6 O come, let us worship and | fall down,
 - * and kneel before the | LORD our Maker.
- 7 For he is the | Lord our God;
 - * and we are the people of his pasture, and the | sheep of **his** hand.
- 8 O worship the LORD in the | beauty · of holiness; * let the whole earth | stand in awe of him.

9 For he cometh, for he cometh to | judge the earth;
* and with righteousness to judge the world,
and the | peoples with his truth.

Glory be to the Father, and | to the Son,

* and | to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and | ever shall be,

* world without | end. Amen.

*The Portion of the Psalter: Psalm 23



I WILL give thanks unto thee, O Lord, with my whole heart; * even before the gods will I sing praise unto thee.

- 2 I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy Name, because of thy loving-kindness and truth; * for thou hast magnified thy Name, and thy word, above all things.
- 3 When I called upon thee, thou heardest me; * and enduedst my soul with much strength.
- 4 All the kings of the earth shall praise thee, O LORD; * for they have heard the words of thy mouth.

- 5 Yea, they shall sing of the ways of the LORD, * that great is the glory of the LORD.
- 6 For though the LORD be high, yet hath he respect unto the lowly; * as for the proud, he beholdeth them afar off.
- 7 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, yet shalt thou refresh me; * thou shalt stretch forth thy hand upon the furiousness of mine enemies, and thy right hand shall save me.
- 8 The LORD shall make good his loving-kindness toward me; * yea, thy mercy, O LORD, endureth for ever; despise not then the works of thine own hands.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, * and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, *world without end. Amen.

The Lesson: 2 Samuel 12:15b-23

And the Lord struck the child that Uriah's wife bare unto David, and it was very sick. 16 David therefore besought God for the child; and David fasted, and went in, and lay all night upon the earth. 17 And the elders of his house arose, and went to him, to raise him up from the earth: but he would not, neither did he eat bread with them. 18 And it came to pass on the seventh

day, that the child died. And the servants of David feared to tell him that the child was dead: for they said, Behold, while the child was yet alive, we spake unto him, and he would not hearken unto our voice: how will he then vex himself, if we tell him that the child is dead? 19 But when David saw that his servants whispered, David perceived that the child was dead: therefore David said unto his servants, Is the child dead? And they said, He is dead. 20 Then David arose from the earth, and washed, and anointed himself, and changed his apparel, and came into the house of the Lord, and worshipped: then he came to his own house; and when he required, they set bread before him, and he did eat. 21 Then said his servants unto him, What thing is this that thou hast done? thou didst fast and weep for the child, while it was alive; but when the child was dead, thou didst rise and eat bread. 22 And he said, While the child was yet alive, I fasted and wept: for I said, Who can tell whether God will be gracious to me, that the child may live? 23 But now he is dead, wherefore should I fast? can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me.

*Canticle: Pascha Nostrum



CHRIST our Passover is sacri|ficed for us:

- * therefore | let us keep the feast,
- 2 Not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of | malice · and wickedness; * but with the unleavened bread of sin|cerity and truth.

CHRIST being raised from the dead | dieth · no more;

- * death hath no more do minion over him.
- 4 For in that he died, he died unto | SIN once: * but in that he liveth, he | liveth unto God.
- 5 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead in | deed · unto | sin, * but alive unto God through | Jesus Christ our Lord.

CHRIST is risen | from the dead,

- * and become the | firstfruits · of | them that slept.
- 7 For since by | man came death, * by man came also the resur|rection of the dead.
- 8 For as in Adam | ALL die, * even so in Christ shall | all be made alive.

Glory be to the Father, and | to the Son, * and | to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and | ever shall be, * world without | END. **A**men.

THE ORDER FOR HOLY COMMUNION

†The Collect for Purity

A LMIGHTY God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

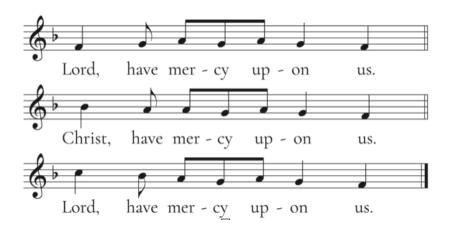
[†]The Summary of the Law

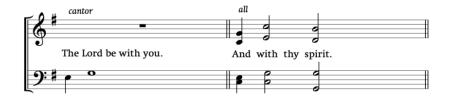
Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith.

THOU shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

†Kyrie eleison

Merbecke.





[†]The Collect for the 3rd Sunday after Easter

A LMIGHTY God, who showest to them that are in error the light of thy truth, to the intent that they may return into the way of righteousness; Grant unto all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's Religion, that they may avoid* those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Epistle: 1 Peter 2:11-17

DEARLY beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul; 12 having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation. 13 Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; 14 or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well. 15 For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men: 16 as free, and not using your liberty for a cloke of maliciousness, but as

the servants of God. 17 Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king.

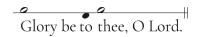
Gradual: Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. The Lord hath sent redemption unto his people. Alleluia.



Al - le- lu- ia.

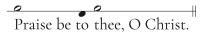
*The Holy Gospel: St. John 16:16-22

At the announcement of the Gospel, it is customary to mark your forehead, lips, and heart with the shape of a Cross, praying God would give you grace to know +, speak +, and love + the Gospel.



Jesus said to his disciples, A little while, and ye shall not see me: and again, a little while, and ye shall see me, because I go to the Father. 17 Then said some of his disciples among themselves, What is this that he saith unto us, A little while, and ye shall not see me: and again, a little while, and ye shall see me: and, Because I go to the Father? 18 They said therefore, What is this that he saith, A little while? we cannot tell what he saith. 19 Now Jesus knew that they were desirous to ask him, and said unto them, Do ye enquire among yourselves of that I said, A little while, and ye shall not see me: and again, a little while, and ye shall see me? 20 Verily, verily, I say unto you, That

ye shall weep and lament, but the world shall rejoice: and ye shall be sorrowful, but your sorrow shall be turned into joy. 21 A woman when she is in travail hath sorrow, because her hour it come: but as soon as she is delivered of the child, she remembereth no more the anguish, for joy that a man is born into the world. 22 And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you





*The Nicene Creed

I BELIEVE in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And of all things visible and invisible: And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the onlybegotten Son of God; Begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of very God; Begotten, not made; Being of one substance with the Father; By whom all things were made: Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven. And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, And was made man: And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried: And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures: And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father: And he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord, and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; Who spake by the Prophets: And I believe one, holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church: I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins: And I look for the Resurrection of the dead: And the Life of the world to come. Amen.

HOMILY

Notes

THE GIVING OF ROSES

On this day, our culture celebrates Mother's Day. Mothers are worth celebrating, but as the church, we want to remind everyone that Motherhood is first a spiritual reality and only secondarily a physical reality. After all, the church is most profoundly a mother. In order to highlight the spiritual reality of motherhood, we give roses to all women ages 13 or older. Not all of these women are physical mothers, some may never be, and some may struggle to be for many years, but they are all called to grow into spiritual mothers in this church. And we honor their vocation with a rose.

Offertory: "Ancient of Days" ~CTK girls' ensemble

Though the nations rage,
Kingdoms rise and fall,
There is still one King
Reigning over all.
So I will not fear,
For this truth remains:
That my God is the Ancient of Days.

Refrain - None above Him, none before Him, All of time in His hands; For His throne, it shall remain and ever stand. All the power, all the glory -I will trust in His name, For my God is the Ancient of Days.

Though the dead of night
Overwhelms my soul,
He is here with me;
I am not alone.
O His love is sure,
And He knows my name,
For my God is the Ancient of Days.
(Refrain)

Though I may not see
What the future brings
I will watch and wait
For the Savior King!
Then my joy complete Standing face to face
In the presence of the Ancient of Days.
(Refrain)

* Presentation Doxology



[†]Prayer for the whole state of Christ's Church

Apostle hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men; We humbly beseech thee most mercifully to accept our alms and oblations, and to receive these our prayers, which we offer unto thy Divine Majesty; beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord: And grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

W E beseech thee also, so to direct and dispose the hearts of <u>all Christian Rulers</u>, that they may truly and impartially administer justice, to the punishment of wickedness and vice, and to the maintenance of thy true religion, and virtue.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all <u>Bishops and other Ministers</u>, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy People give thy heavenly grace; and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear, and receive thy holy Word; truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succour all <u>those who</u>, in this transitory life, <u>are in trouble</u>, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also \pm bless thy holy Name for all thy <u>servants</u> <u>departed this life</u> in thy faith and fear; beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service, and to give us grace so to follow their good examples, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

†A General Confession & Absolution

Y E who do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead a new life, following

the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways; Draw near with faith, and take this holy Sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to Almighty God, devoutly kneeling.

(Here, we pause briefly to recall our sins.)

Amer of all things, Judge of all men; We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, Which we, from time to time, most grievously have committed, By thought, word, and deed, Against thy Divine Majesty, Provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, And are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; The remembrance of them is grievous unto us; The burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, Forgive us all that is past; And grant that we may ever hereafter Serve and please thee In newness of life, To the honour and glory of thy Name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

A LMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him; Have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

†Comfortable Words

Hear what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith unto all who truly turn to him.

OME unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. St. Matt. xi. 28.

So God loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. St. John iii. 16.

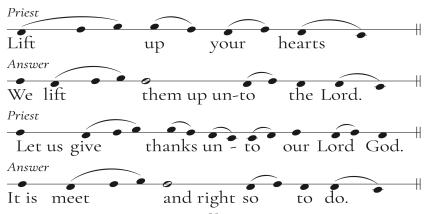
Hear also what Saint Paul saith.

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, That Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. I Tim. i. 15.

Hear also what Saint John saith.

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the Propitiation for our sins. 1 St. John ii. 1, 2.

†Sursum corda



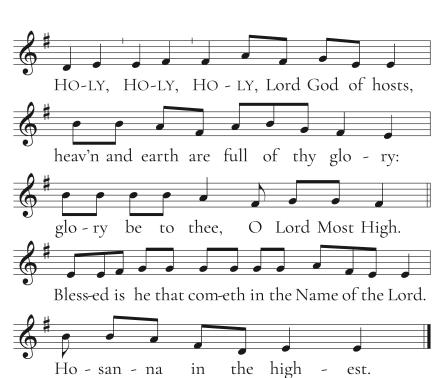
†Preface

I T is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God.

THEREFORE with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

†Sanctus & Benedictus

Merbecke



[†]The Prayer of Consecration

A LL glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption; who made there (by his one oblation of himself once offered) a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again: For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took Bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you; Do this in remembrance of me. + Likewise, after supper, he took the Cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins; Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me. +

†The Oblation

Wherefore O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy Divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and

glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

†The Invocation

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

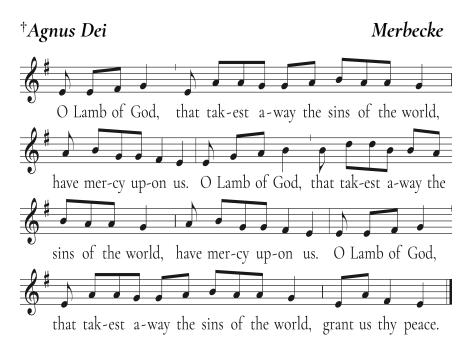
A ND we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness, mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion. And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee, that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him. And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice; yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service; not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

And now, as our Saviour Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,



[†]Prayer for Humble Access

We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his Body, and our souls washed through his most precious Blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen



Instructions for taking Holy Communion

If you are baptized into God's family and you sincerely love Christ, then you are welcome to partake of His Sacrament, whether you are a member of the Reformed Episcopal Church or another Christian denomination. To partake by the Common Cup, simply ingest the consecrated host that is placed in your palm. To partake by Intinction (where the consecrated host is dipped in the Precious Blood and placed upon your tongue), leave the consecrated host in your palm. If you are not receiving Holy Communion today, either because you are not baptized or for conscience's sake, you are still invited forward to receive a blessing. Indicate this preference by crossing your arms over your chest. Baptized children are welcome to receive Holy Communion if that is the practice and desire of the parents. If you have a severe gluten allergy, you may receive consecrated gluten-free hosts in the small section to the far right of the Communion rail. If you are returning to church after a long time away, you are encouraged to wait to receive Communion until you speak to one of the clergy. Instead, receive a blessing at the rail.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Using the Hymnals in the pews, all are invited to sing the following hymns during the time when we receive communion:

- #140, At the lamb's high feast
- #274, Come, risen Lord
- #292, I come with Joy

†Prayer of Thanksgiving

A LMIGHTY and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee, for that thou dost vouchsafe to feed us who have duly received these holy mysteries with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favour and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, which is the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs through hope of thy everlasting kingdom, by the merits of his most precious death and passion. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.



†Blessing

THE Peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: And the Blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. Amen.

*Recessional Hymn (next page)

V: Let us go forth in joy and peace to love and serve the Lord.

R: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Upcoming Events

- Thursday, May 29th, 6pm: Ascension Day Feast and Festival (Luau-themed!)
- June 11-12: Cell Groups resume

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Text: John of Damascus, 8th century; tr. J.M. Neale Tune: Arthur Seymour Sullivan, 1872 ST. KEVIN 7.6.7.6 D

Christ the King Anglican

The Most Rev. Steve Wood
Archbishop, ACNA
The Most Rev. Dr. Ray R. Sutton
Presiding Bishop, REC
The Rt. Rev. Willie Hill
Bishop Ordinary, REC-SE
The Rev. Cn. Tony H. Melton
Rector, Christ the King
The Rev. Dr. Tyler Holley
Associate Rector, Christ the King
The Rev. Josh Grote
Assisting Priest, Christ the King

The Rev. Dcn. Bill Johnston
Deacon, Christ the King
The Rev. Dcn. Dr. Kyle Hughes
Director of Catechesis, Christ the King
Mrs. Karisa Hughes
Director of Community, Christ the King
Mrs. Jane Niederbrach
Director of Music, Christ the King
The Rev. Spencer Amaral
Missioner, Incarnation Anglican
The Rev. Yudel Perez
Missioner, Cristo Rey

Mission Statement: To radiate the Truth, Goodness, and Beauty of King Jesus

Vision Statement: Reconnecting Northwest Atlanta to God and His Church by courageously planting vibrant and Christ-centered parishes in the Anglican Way.

What we Believe: We are a conservative, orthodox Anglican church. We profess our faith through the three ancient creeds of the Church: the Apostles', Nicene, and Athanasian Creeds. The Holy Scriptures and the Book of Common Prayer (1928) are our rule for Faith and Practice.

How we Live the Faith: We pursue a life in God for the sake of the world in the Anglican Way. This means that we follow the "Threefold Rule."

- * Celebrate Weekly Communion
- * Pray the <u>Daily Office</u>
- * Practice <u>Personal Devotion</u>