

HYMN OF INVOCATION: "Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven" LSB 477



1 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Hearts to heav'n and voic - es raise:

2 Al - le - lu - ia, Christ is ris - en! Death at last has met de - feat:

△ 3 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry be to God on high:



Sing to God a hymn of glad-ness, Sing to God a hymn of praise;

See the an-cient pow'rs of e - vil In con - fu - sion and re - treat;

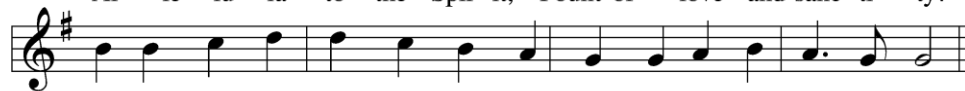
Al - le - lu - ia to the Sav - ior Who has gained the vic - to - ry;



He who on the cross a vic - tim For the world's sal - va - tion bled—

Once He died, and once was bur - ied: Now He lives for - ev - er - more,

Al - le - lu - ia to the Spir - it, Fount of love and sanc - ti - ty!



Je - sus Christ, the King of Glo - ry, Now is ris - en from the dead.

Je - sus Christ, the world's Re - deem - er, Whom we wor - ship and a - dore.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia To the tri - une Maj - es - ty!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Leader: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

People: **But if we confess our sins,
God, who is faithful and just
will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and self-examination.)

Leader: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: Most merciful God,
 we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean.
 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 justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment.
 For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
 Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will
 and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Leader: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us,
 and for His sake God forgives us all our sins.
 To those who believe in Jesus Christ
 He gives the power to become the children of God
 and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.
 May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us,
 bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

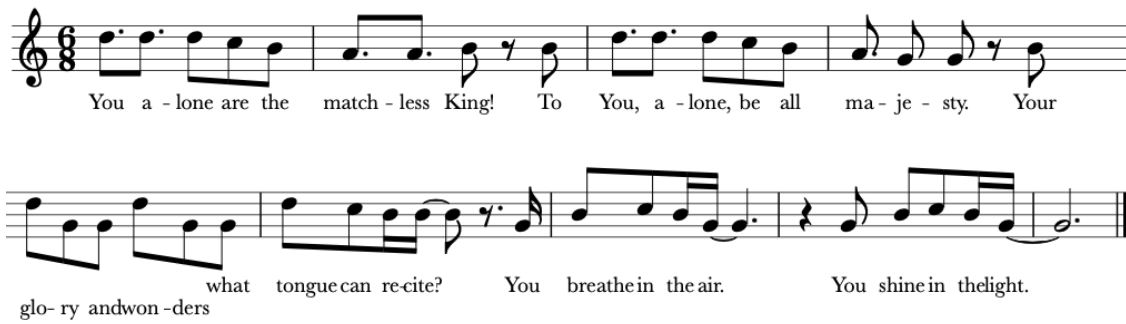
People: Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN: *“O Worship the King”* LSB 804
 ~ Chorus by Chris Tomlin

1 O wor - ship the King, all - glo - rious a - bove.
 2 O tell of His might, O sing of His grace,
 O grate - ful - ly sing His pow'r and His love;
 Whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space;
 Our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
 His char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form,
 Pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor and gird - ed with praise.
 And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.

(Song continues on next page with the Chorus, after verses 1 and 2 are sung.)

CHORUS:



You a - lone are the match - less King! To You, a - lone, be all ma - je - sty. Your
glo - ry and won - ders what tongue can re - cite? You breathe in the air. You shine in the light.

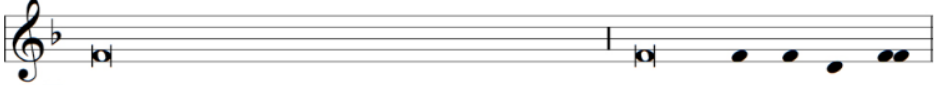
- 3 This earth, with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, Thy pow'r hath founded of old,
Established it fast by a changeless decree,
And round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.
- 4 Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light,
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain. (*Chorus*)
- 5 Frail children of dust and feeble as frail,
In Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail.
Thy mercies, how tender, how firm to the end,
Our maker, defender, redeemer, and friend! (*Chorus 2x*)
- 6 O measureless Might, ineffable Love,
While angels delight to hymn Thee above,
Thy humbler creation, though feeble their lays,
With true adoration shall sing to Thy praise.

KYRIE: "Lord, Have Mercy"

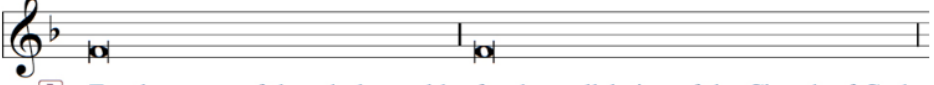

Mark 10:4

Leader: 
A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



People: 
C Lord, have mer - cy.

Leader:  **A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

People:  **C** Lord, have mer - cy.

Leader:  **A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,
 and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

People:  **C** Lord, have mer - cy.

Leader:  **A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise
 let us pray to the Lord.

People:  **C** Lord, have mer - cy.

Leader:  **A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.

People:  **C** A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE:

“This Is the Feast”

Refrain

C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

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

1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
 5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
 gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

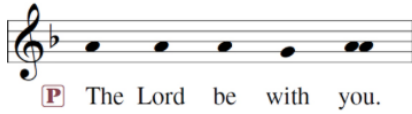
Final Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

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

SALUTATION:

Leader:



People:



COLLECT OF THE DAY:

Leader: Let us pray.

**People: Grant, almighty God,
that we who have celebrated the mystery of the Lord's resurrection
may be the help of Your grace
bring forth the fruits thereof in our life and conduct,
through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever.**

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: *Acts 5:29-42*

Peter and the other apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than people. You murdered Jesus by hanging Him on a cross. But the God of our ancestors brought Him back to life. God used His power to give Jesus the honored position—the one next to Him on the heavenly throne as leader and savior. He did this to lead the people of Israel to Him, to change the way they think and act, and to forgive their sins. We are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey Him.”

When the men on the council heard this, they became furious and wanted to execute the apostles. But a Pharisee named Gamaliel stood up. He was a highly respected expert in Moses' Teachings. He ordered that the apostles should be taken outside for a little while.

Then he said to the council, “Men of Israel, consider carefully what you do with these men. Some time ago Theudas appeared. He claimed that he was important, and about four hundred men joined him. He was killed, and all his followers were scattered. The whole movement was a failure.

“After that man, at the time of the census, Judas from Galilee appeared and led people in a revolt. He, too, died, and all his followers were scattered.

“We should keep away from these men for now. We should leave them alone. I can guarantee that if the plan they put into action is of human origin, it will fail. However, if it’s from God, you won’t be able to stop them. You may even discover that you’re fighting against God.”

The council took his advice. They called the apostles, beat them, ordered them not to speak about the one named Jesus, and let them go.

The apostles left the council room. They were happy to have been considered worthy to suffer dishonor for speaking about Jesus. Every day in the temple courtyard and from house to house, they refused to stop teaching and telling the Good News that Jesus is the Messiah. – GW ®

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: *1 Peter 1:3-9*

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! God has given us a new birth because of His great mercy. We have been born into a new life that has a confidence which is alive because Jesus Christ has come back to life. We have been born into a new life which has an inheritance that can’t be destroyed or corrupted and can’t fade away. That inheritance is kept in heaven for you, since you are guarded by God’s power through faith for a salvation that is ready to be revealed at the end of time.

You are extremely happy about these things, even though you have to suffer different kinds of trouble for a little while now. The purpose of these troubles is to test your faith as fire tests how genuine gold is. Your faith is more precious than gold, and by passing the test, it gives praise, glory, and honor to God. This will happen when Jesus Christ appears again.

Although you have never seen Christ, you love Him. You don’t see Him now, but you believe in Him. You are extremely happy with joy and praise that can hardly be expressed in words as you obtain the salvation that is the goal of your faith. – GW ®

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

ALLELUIA:

John 6:6

People:

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: *John 20:19-31*

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 20th chapter.

People:

Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

That Sunday evening, the disciples were together behind locked doors because they were afraid of the Jews. Jesus stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you!” When He said this, He showed them His hands and His side. The disciples were glad to see the Lord.

Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, so I am sending you.” After He had said this, He breathed on the disciples and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. Whenever you forgive sins, they are forgiven. Whenever you don’t forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

Thomas, one of the twelve apostles, who was called Didymus, wasn’t with them when Jesus came. The other disciples told him, “We’ve seen the Lord.”

Thomas told them, “I refuse to believe this unless I see the nail marks in His hands, put my fingers into them, and put my hand into His side.”

A week later Jesus’ disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Even though the doors were locked, Jesus stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!”

Then Jesus said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and look at my hands. Take your hand, and put it into my side. Stop doubting, and believe.”

Thomas responded to Jesus, “My Lord and my God!”

Jesus said to Thomas, “You believe because you’ve seen me. Blessed are those who haven’t seen me but believe.”

Jesus performed many other miracles that His disciples saw. Those miracles are not written in this book. But these miracles have been written so that you will believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and so that you will have life by believing in Him.
– GW ®

Leader: This the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **C** Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY: “These Things Did Thomas Count as Real” LSB 472

1 These things did Thom - as count as real: The
2 The vi - sion of his skep - tic mind Was
3 His rea - soned cer - tain - ties de - nied That
4 May we, O God, by grace be - lieve And

warmth of blood, the chill of steel, The grain of wood, the
keen e-nough to make him blind To an - y un - ex -
one could live when one had died, Un - til his fin - gers
thus the ris - en Christ re - ceive, Whose raw im - print - ed

heft of stone, The last frail twitch of flesh and bone.
pect - ed act Too large for his small world of fact.
read like braille The mark - ings of the spear and nail.
palms reached out And beck - oned Thom - as from his doubt.

SERMON: "The Importance of Community"

Text: John 20

APOSTLES' CREED: (* catholic means the universal Christian Church)

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

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 into hell. 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.

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. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER:

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,

Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.

Amen.

OFFERING: *The Offering Box is located in the center aisle. If you so desire, Text Giving is now available by texting GIVE to 562-210-0463. For On-line Giving information, contact Maraley at mshaeffer@bethanylutheran.org or call 562-421-4711, ext. 21. Thank you!*

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +


PREFACE:

Leader:





People:



Leader: 
P Lift up your hearts.

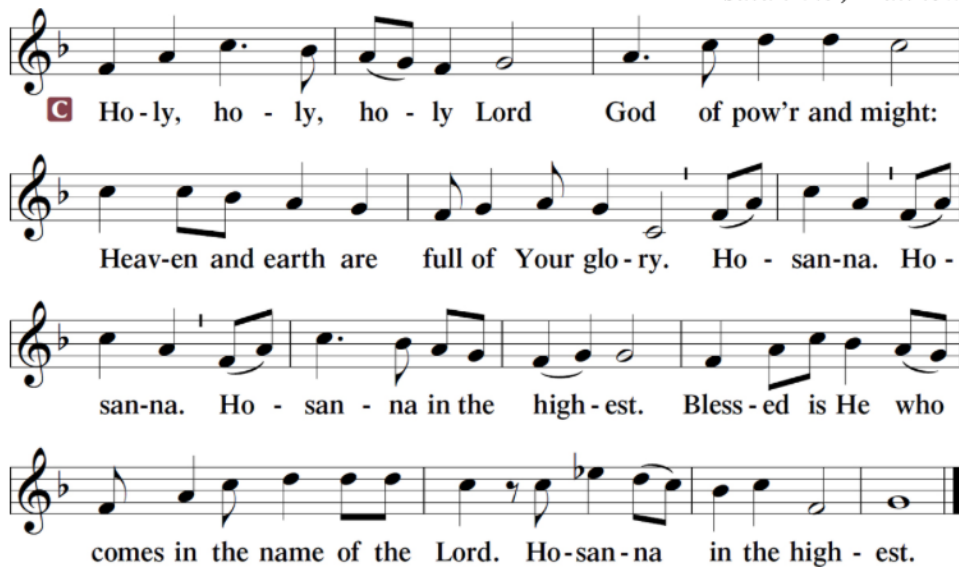
People: 
C We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: 
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: 
C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Leader: It is truly good, right, and salutary... evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS: *“Holy, Holy, Holy”* *Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Hosanna is a Hebrew word of praise meaning “save us now.”

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING:

Leader: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD:

Leader: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST:

Leader: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Leader: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink,
You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion,
Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb,
Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven,
Your coming for the final judgment,
and Your peace which remains with us always:

AGNUS DEI: "Lamb of God"

John 1:29

C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

PAX DOMINI:

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

*For those communing, who so desire, the center cups in each tray are alcohol free.
The wafers next to the Christ candle side are gluten free;
for those with dietary restrictions, please take a gluten free wafer.*


In our 9:30 a.m. service we will practice the Easter tradition of continuous communion. We will not kneel at the altar, rather we will join the procession of saints and come forward and remain standing as we receive the bread and wine. After receiving the elements, you are invited to return to your seat and continue in meditation, prayer and song.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:

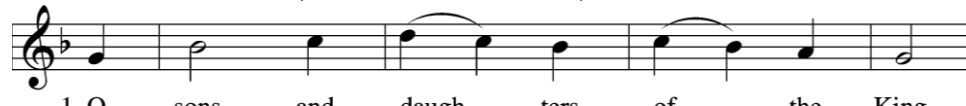
“O Sons and Daughters of the King”

LSB 471

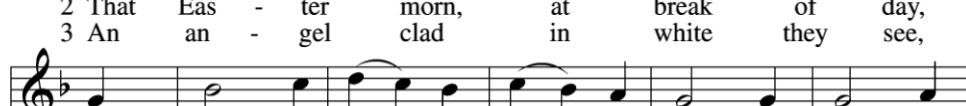
Refrain



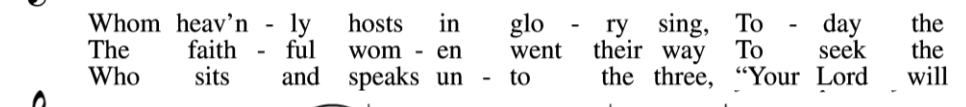
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



1 O sons and daughters of the King,
2 That Eas - ter morn, at break of day,
3 An an - gel clad in white they see,



Whom heav'n - ly hosts in glo - ry sing, To - day the
The faith - ful wom - en went their way To seek the
Who sits and speaks un - to the three, "Your Lord will



grave has lost its sting! Al - le - lu - ia!
tomb where Je - sus lay. Al - le - lu - ia!
go to Gal - i - lee." Al - le - lu - ia!

- 4 That night the apostles met in fear; Among them came their master dear
And said, "My peace be with you here." Alleluia!
- 5 When Thomas first the tidings heard That they had seen the risen Lord,
He doubted the disciples' word. Alleluia!
- 6 "My piercèd side, O Thomas, see, And look upon My hands, My feet;
Not faithless but believing be." Alleluia!
- 7 No longer Thomas then denied; He saw the feet, the hands, the side;
"You are my Lord and God!" he cried. Alleluia!
- 8 How blest are they who have not seen And yet whose faith has constant been,
For they eternal life shall win. Alleluia!
- 9 On this most holy day of days Be laud and jubilee and praise:
To God your hearts and voices raise. Alleluia! (*Refrain*)

“They’ll Know We are Christians By Our Love”

Verse 1:

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord
And we pray that our unity may one day be restored

Chorus:

And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our love
Yeah, they’ll know we are Christians by our love.

Verse 2:

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand;
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand;
And together we’ll spread the news that God is in our land.

Chorus

Verse 3:

We will work with each other, we will work side by side
We will work with each other, we will work side by side
And we’ll guard each man’s dignity and save each man’s pride

Chorus

Verse 4:

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come;
And all praise to Christ Jesus, His only Son.
And all praise to the Spirit who makes us one.

Chorus

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER:

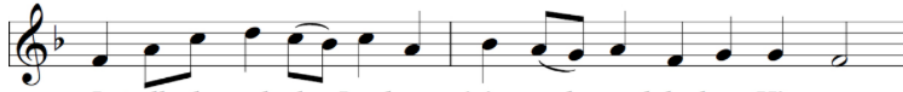
Leader: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting.
Depart + in peace.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI: "Thank the Lord"



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT:

Leader: Let us pray,
O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness,
Who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh,
we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon
and peace in this Sacrament,
and we ask You not to forsake Your children
but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit
that we may be enabled constantly to serve You;
through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

People:



C A - men.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION:

Leader:



P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

People:



C A - - men.

CLOSING HYMN:

“Take My Life”

Verse 1:

Take my life and let it be consecrated Lord to Thee
Take my moments and my days Let them flow in ceaseless praise
Take my hands and let them move At the impulse of Thy love
Take my feet and let them be Swift and beautiful for Thee

Verse 2:

Take my voice and let me sing Always only for my King
Take my lips and let them be Filled with messages from Thee
Take my silver and my gold Not a mite would I withhold
Take my intellect and use Ev'ry power as You choose

Chorus:

Here am I all of me Take my life it's all for Thee

Verse 3:

Take my will and make it Thine It shall be no longer mine
Take my heart it is Thine own It shall be Thy royal throne
Take my love my Lord I pour At Your feet its treasure store
Take myself and I will be Ever only all for Thee

POSTLUDE:

“Fugue in GMaj from Das Wohltemperierte Klavier”

Piano

~ J.S. Bach

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“Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven” LSB 477

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“Take My Life and Let it Be”

CCLI Song # 4162843.

Chris Tomlin | Frances Ridley Havergal | Henri Abraham Cesar Malan | Louie Giglio

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Christ Is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed!

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A letter Bethany Lutheran Church received concerning our Music Ministry opening:

Noah Freeman
842 Park Ave., Apt. ½
Pocatello, ID 83201

Wednesday, March 29, 2023

Bethany Lutheran Church
4644 Clark Ave.
Long Beach, CA 90808

Dear Members, Faculty, Staff, and Call Committee of Bethany Lutheran Church & School:

It is with joy that I can report the official acceptance of the call to Bethany Lutheran Church to serve as the Director of Music Ministries and Worship Arts. With firm conviction I believe that God is calling me to participate in ministry with you to further His kingdom. I am looking forward to seeing what the Lord will do through our ministry together at Bethany Lutheran. I rejoice when I think of what St. Paul writes to the people in Corinth, reminding them that each of us, though many, are all members of the body of Christ: one in Him (1 Corinthians 12:12).

The Lord is gracious and merciful, and his perfect plan has remained perfect all this time. He has continued to walk with me and He has continued to walk with Bethany Lutheran during this time of seeking, learning, and growing. While we may not understand every detail of God's plan for our lives, it is because He is perfect; we are not. Thanks be to God that this call process has been His will for His people in His timing. Thanks be to God for His love, His grace, and His mercy to each of us through Christ Jesus.

I am grateful for the opportunity to "sing to the LORD a new song" and "make a joyful noise to the LORD" in ministry with you. May our loving and gracious Lord bless our efforts in ministry together. I'm looking forward to joining the Bethany Lutheran family - taking part in your "Great Commission Congregation." See you again soon!

In Christ,



Noah Freeman

Cc: Rev. Dr. Mike Gibson, President of the Pacific Southwest District



BETHANY LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL SEEKING TEACHER

This is a full-time and hourly position with full benefits. The preschool teacher will work 40 hours per week in collaboration with the preschool director and staff.

Qualifications:

- A passion for sharing the love of Jesus with children
- Minimum 12 Early Childhood Education (ECE) units
- Minimum 150 hours of classroom experience
- Able to work an 8-hour shift between the hours of 7:00AM-5:30PM
- CPR and First Aid Certification preferred.

Submit resumes to the Preschool Director, Tammy Simpson @ tsimpson@bethanylutheran.org

BETHANY LUTHERAN DAY SCHOOL IS HIRING!

We are seeking a **fifth grade teacher** to teach in a self-contained classroom and provide an environment that is Christ-centered, engaging and academically excellent. Candidates must possess excellent communication and collaboration skills, the desire to work cooperatively with team-mates and have a whole-parish understanding of ministry. Teaching credential a must. A rostered teacher is preferred.

Interested or know someone who might be?

Contact Dr. Mary Fink at mfink@bethanylutheran.org

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CHRIST IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED!

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