

Our mission is to

## Glorify God

as we

#### Gather

around the Gospel to help people

#### Grow

in the **Gospel** and

Go

with the Gospel

**Welcome!** We thank God that you have joined us at worship today.

Restrooms are located in the basement. Hearing loop headphones and Large Print Hymnals are available from an usher.

If your children need to leave worship, please take them to the basement. A TV broadcasts the service in the basement.

Today we gather together in the presence of God. He is present among us in a special way through his Word and Sacrament. We acknowledge our sin and rejoice in the good news of forgiveness through the life and death of Christ. This is the focus of our worship.

April 24 & 27, 2025 **2**nd **Sunday of Easter** 

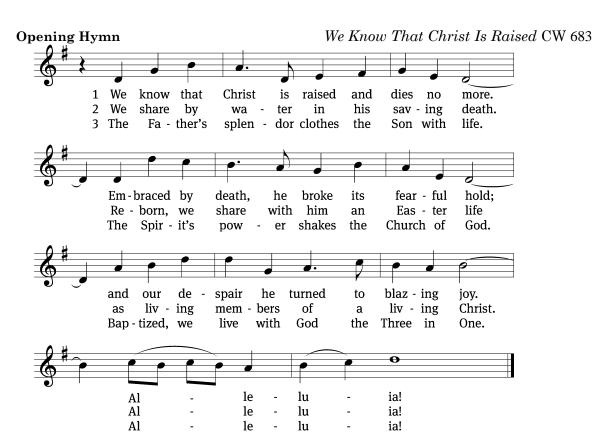


# We Have a Meaningful Mission

Jesus remained dead, all he would provide is an example of a beautiful life. Therefore, if Jesus remained dead, the mission of his followers would simply be to share advice. "Here is how Jesus would want us to love one another. Or "Jesus would want us to think about money like this." Or "This is how Jesus would pray." But because he lives, his followers now have a meaningful mission. It is not to share advice, but to testify to what we have seen and know to be true. Christ has risen! Thus, Jesus is not a standard, but our Savior. Jesus is not primarily an example for this life, but the doorway into eternal life. His resurrection to glory will be the resurrection of all who put their faith in him. Sharing that good news—that's our mission.

The Sunday after Easter can seem like a bit of a letdown. Chances are the church isn't quite as full. There might not be a choir or special instruments to go along with our hymns. Even the lilies have begun to wilt. It might feel like the fun is all over. Wrong! The adventure has just begun. Because he lives! Therefore, we have a meaningful mission. Let us open our eyes to the privilege and the opportunity.

Because God speaks of communing together as an expression of unity in faith (1 Corinthians 10:17) and warns there are dangers in taking communion in an improper way (1 Corinthians 11:27-29), we practice close communion. WELS, ELS, and members of other churches around the world who are in fellowship with WELS are welcome to commune with us. If you would like to learn more about becoming a member and communing with us in the future, please speak to pastor or an usher.



Text: John B. Geyer, 1932-2020, alt.

Tune: Charles V. Stanford, 1852-1924

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Tune: Public domain

#### Stand

M: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

## **CONFESSION OF SINS**

M: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

C: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

M: If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

C: Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

M: If we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.

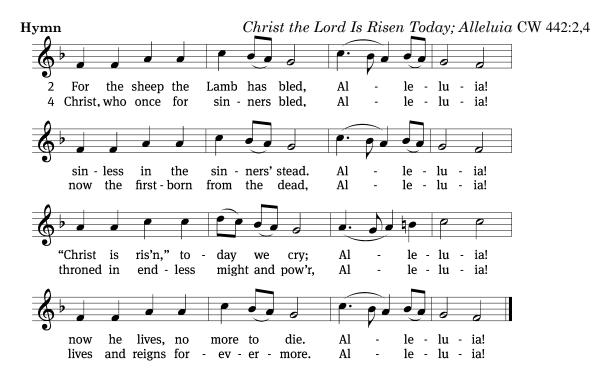
C: Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

M: We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. God sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins and for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.



Sunday 8:00 am service continues with the Rite of Holy Baptism. Thursday and Sunday 10:30 am services continue on page 5.

# THE RITE OF HOLY BAPTISM (Pg. 262)

M: Christ's almighty Word gives Baptism its power to save. Jesus promises in the last chapter of Mark, "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved." The apostle Peter declares in 1 Peter 3, "Baptism now saves you." Scripture also teaches that the power and promise of Baptism are intended for young and old alike. On the day of Pentecost, the apostle testified, "The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call." By water and the Spirit, we are born again and are united with Christ and his people as members of the Church.

In obedience to the command of our Lord and trusting in his promise, you have brought *Hendrix* to be baptized. In Mark 10, it is written: *Jesus said to them, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."* It is in baptism that God grants the new life of forgiveness, joy and peace to little children. By the power of God's Word, this gracious water of life washes away sin, delivers from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe.

We see the Holy Trinity at work in baptism. Paul writes in Galatians 3, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. For it is in baptism that a child receives the benefits of the death and resurrection of Christ. It is through baptism that a child receives the gift of the Holy Spirit which, plants the seed of the faith. It is in baptism that God the Father adopts us as his children.

Holding firmly to your command and promise, we ask that you would look with favor on *Hendrix*. Through this water of Baptism, cleanse *him* from all sin and deliver *her* from death and the devil. Set *him* apart from the unbelieving world and, by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep *him* in the true Christian faith all the days of *his* life. Guide, strengthen, and protect *him* so that *he* may honor your holy name and at last receive, together with all your people, the promised inheritance of eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Hendrix John Kocourek*, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Receive the sign of the cross on the head and the heart  $\tau$  to mark you as a redeemed child of Christ.

The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has given you the new birth of water and the Spirit and has forgiven all your sins. May he strengthen you with his grace all the days of your life. Peace be with you.

#### **EXHORTATION**

#### Stand

#### M: Brothers and sisters in Christ:

Our Lord commands that we teach his precious truths to all who are baptized. Christian love therefore urges all of us, especially parents and sponsors, to assist in whatever manner possible so that *Hendrix* may remain a child of God until death. If you are willing to carry out this responsibility, then answer: Yes, as God gives me strength.

## C: Yes, as God gives me strength.

M: Let us pray: We give thanks, most merciful Father, that you have received *Hendrix* as your own child and made her a member of Christ's body, the church. Now, we pray, grant to him and to all your church on earth that, being dead to sin, we may live to righteousness and, being buried with Christ into his death, we may also share in his resurrection, so that, with all your saints, we may inherit eternal life; through Christ our Lord.

#### C: Amen.

## Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

O God, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world from the despair of death. By his resurrection to life, grant your faithful people gladness of heart and the hope of eternal joys; through your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

### THE WORD

First Lesson Acts 5:12,17–32

The apostles were not going to let opposition and persecution prevent them from fulfilling their meaningful mission of telling others about Christ's death and resurrection.

<sup>12</sup>The apostles performed many signs and wonders among the people. And all the believers used to meet together in Solomon's Colonnade.

<sup>17</sup>Then the high priest and all his associates, who were members of the party of the Sadducees, were filled with jealousy. <sup>18</sup>They arrested the apostles and put them in the public jail. <sup>19</sup>But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the jail and brought them out. <sup>20</sup>"Go, stand in the temple courts," he said, "and tell the people all about this new life."

<sup>21</sup>At daybreak they entered the temple courts, as they had been told, and began to teach the people.

When the high priest and his associates arrived, they called together the Sanhedrin—the full assembly of the elders of Israel—and sent to the jail for the apostles. <sup>22</sup>But on arriving at the jail, the officers did not find them there. So they went back and reported, <sup>23</sup>"We found the jail securely locked, with the guards standing at the doors; but when we opened them, we found no one inside." <sup>24</sup>On hearing this report, the captain of the temple guard and the chief priests were at a loss, wondering what this might lead to.

<sup>25</sup>Then someone came and said, "Look! The men you put in jail are standing in the temple courts teaching the people." <sup>26</sup>At that, the captain went with his officers and brought the apostles. They did not use force, because they feared that the people would stone them.

<sup>27</sup>The apostles were brought in and made to appear before the Sanhedrin to be questioned by the high priest. <sup>28</sup>"We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name," he said. "Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and are determined to make us guilty of this man's blood."

<sup>29</sup>Peter and the other apostles replied: "We must obey God rather than human beings! <sup>30</sup>The God of our ancestors raised Jesus from the dead—whom you killed by hanging him on a cross. <sup>31</sup>God exalted him to his own right hand as Prince and Savior that he might bring Israel to

repentance and forgive their sins. <sup>32</sup>We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him." (NIV)

### Psalm of the Day

### Psalm 150b CW





Praise God in his sanctuary;\*
praise him in his mighty heavens.

Praise him for his acts of <u>power</u>;\* praise him for his surpassing <u>great</u>ness.

#### Refrain

Praise him with the sounding of the <u>trumpet</u>,\* praise him with the <u>harp</u> and lyre,

praise him with tambourine and <u>dancing</u>,\*
praise him with <u>strings</u> and flute,

praise him with the clash of <u>cym</u>bals,\* praise him with resounding <u>cym</u>bals.

#### Refrain

Let everything that has breath <u>praise</u> the LORD.\* Praise the LORD.

Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son\* and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it, as it was in the be<u>gin</u>ning,\* is now, and will be forever. Amen.

#### Refrain

Tune: Walter L. Pelz
Setting: Kermit G. Moldenhauer
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Second Lesson Revelation 1:4–18

The risen Savior promises to be with his churches as they carry out the meaningful mission of sharing the light of the gospel.

<sup>4</sup>John,

To the seven churches in the province of Asia:

Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, <sup>5</sup>and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, <sup>6</sup> and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

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7"Look, he is coming with the clouds," and "every eye will see him, even those who pierced him"; and all peoples on earth "will mourn because of him."

So shall it be! Amen.
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<sup>8</sup>"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty."

<sup>9</sup>I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and kingdom and patient endurance that are ours in Jesus, was on the island of Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. <sup>10</sup>On the Lord's Day I was in the Spirit, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet, <sup>11</sup>which said: "Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea."

<sup>12</sup>I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I turned I saw seven golden lampstands, <sup>13</sup>and among the lampstands was someone like a son of man, dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest. <sup>14</sup>The hair on his head was white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire. <sup>15</sup>His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters. <sup>16</sup>In his right hand he held seven stars, and coming out of his mouth was a sharp, double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance.

<sup>17</sup>When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. <sup>18</sup>I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades. (NIV)

# Verse of the Day (Thursday and 8:00 am)

M: Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Alleluia. (John 20:29 NIV)

Junior Choir (10:30 am)

This is the day that the Lord has made. Rejoice! Rejoice and be glad! Jesus has conquered the sinner's grave. Rejoice! Rejoice and be glad!

Joyfully sing to our risen King. Rejoice! Rejoice and be glad! Vict'ry is won, our salvation's come. Rejoice! Rejoice and be glad!

We welcome glad Easter when Jesus arose And won a great victory over His foes. Then raise your glad voices, all Christians, and sing. Bring glad Easter praises to Jesus, your King. Rejoice! Rejoice and Be Glad!

This is the day that the Lord has made. Rejoice! Rejoice and be glad! Jesus has conquered the sinner's grave. Rejoice! Rejoice and be glad!

Joyfully sing to our risen King. Rejoice! Rejoice and be glad! Vict'ry is won, our salvation's come. Rejoice! Rejoice and be glad!

By Joshua Metzger 2018 Hal Leonard

Stand

Gospel John 20:19–31

Jesus lovingly deals with our doubts and provides us with peace so that we might be empowered to carry out the meaningful mission of sharing Christ's forgiveness.

<sup>19</sup>On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

<sup>21</sup>Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." <sup>22</sup>And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

<sup>24</sup>Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

<sup>26</sup>A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

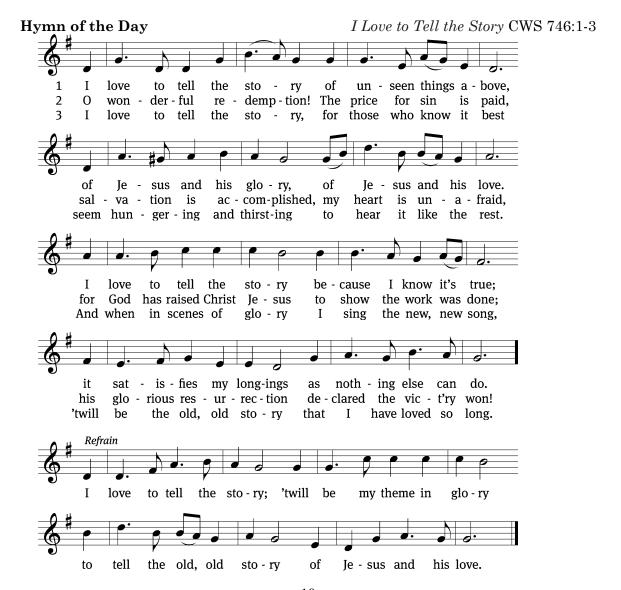
<sup>28</sup>Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

<sup>29</sup>Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

<sup>30</sup>Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. (NIV)

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!



Sermon Acts 5:12,17–32

Stand

#### Nicene Creed

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. 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, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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.

Be Seated

Please sign the friendship register located in your pew.

# Offering

Stand

Guests please don't feel a necessity to give an offering today. "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7).

# 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.

#### THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

- M: Lift up your hearts.
- C: We lift them up to the Lord.
- M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.
- C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

## **Proper Preface**

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms and placed all things under his feet for the benefit of the church. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

# Holy, Holy, Holy



#### **Words of Institution**

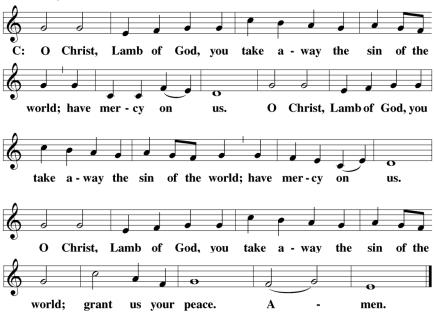
M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

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

C: Amen.

## O Christ, Lamb of God



Be Seated

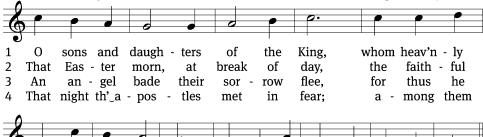
#### Communion

Please remember to register for communion using the sheets in the back of the church, elder's room or the sacristy room and in the basement. 2 individual cups of white grape juice are available in each tray for those who prefer/need to have a nonalcohol alternative to wine. Gluten free wafers are also available. Hold your hand palm down to let the server know you would like the gluten free wafer.

You can use the questions on page 295 in they hymnal or the review of Lord's Supper on page 293 of the hymnal to prepare for communion.



## O Sons and Daughters of the King CW 456





hosts in glo - ry sing, wom - en went their way spoke un - to the three, came their Lord most dear to - day the grave has lost its sting! to seek the tomb where Je - sus lay. "Your Lord will go to Gal - i - lee." and said, "My peace be with you here."



- When Thomas afterwards had heard that Jesus had fulfilled his word, he doubted that it was the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 6 "Thomas, behold my side," said he, "my hands, my feet, my body see; and doubt not, but believe in me." Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 7 No longer Thomas then denied; he saw the feet, the hands, the side; "You are my Lord and God," he cried. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

- 8 Blessèd are they that have not seen and yet whose faith has constant been; in life eternal they shall reign.
  Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- On this most holy day of days to God your hearts and voices raise in laud and jubilee and praise. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: attr. Jean Tisserand, d. 1494, abr.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt. Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615; Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

### Thank The Lord



C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.





M: Hear the prayers of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son, may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

#### C: Amen.

#### **Benediction**

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

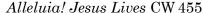
The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

#### C: Amen.

Be Seated







- 1 Al le lu ia! Je sus lives! He is now the Liv ing One;
- 2 Je sus lives! Let all re joice; praise him, ran-somed ones of earth.
- 3 Je sus lives! Why do you weep? Why that sad and fre-quent sigh?
- 4 Je sus lives! And thus, my soul, life is yours e ter nal ly;



house of death forth from the gloom-y the con-quer - or has gone, cher - u - bim of heav'n-ly birth. Praise him in no - bler song. а our broth-er He who died our broth-er here lives still on high, joined to him, your liv-ing head, where he is, you too shall be;



bright fore - run - ner to the skies of his peo - ple, yet rise. to Praise the Vic - tor - King, whose sway and death and hell sin o - bev. lives for - ev - er to be - stow bless - ings on his Church be - low. you with him at his right hand vic - tor o - ver death shall stand.

Text: Karl B. Garve, 1763–1841, abr.; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt. Tune: Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887
Text and tune: Public domain

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Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia
Text: Latin, 11th cent., attr. Wipo of Burgundy, d. c. 1050, abr.; tr. Jane E. Leeson, 1807–1882, alt.
Tune: Robert Williams, c. 1781–1821
Text and tune: Public domain

I Love to Tell the Story
Text (sts. 1–3): Katherine Hankey, 1834–1911, verses, abr., alt.; (Ref): William G. Fischer, 1835–1912, refrain
Tune: William G. Fischer, 1835-1912
Text and tune: Public domain