



Metropolitan New York Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION
WITH THE SETTING APART OF SYNOD DEACONS

Friday in the Third Week of Easter
May 2, 2025 ✕ 7pm
Mariott Melville Long Island

GATHERING

PRELUDE

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

The assembly stands.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

In the name of ✕ the One
who was, who is, and who is to come.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection,
and called to live the baptized life,
let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God,

**we give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that make a people your own,
that restore to wholeness,
and empower us to be witnesses in your name.**

Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
**waters that strengthen believers
and give new life to beloved servants of your church;
waters that extend your boundless love
and cross barriers of our own making.**

Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
**waters that open the hearts of believers
and give a voice in the night to those in captivity;
waters that set your people on a new path,
rejoicing in the Spirit's power.**

Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One,
that our every day is shaped by these waters
that give us our very lives in you.
We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.
Amen.

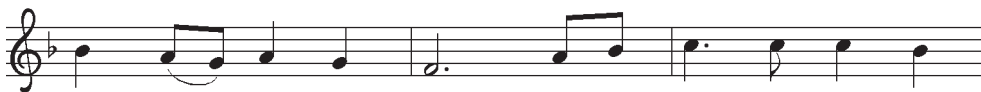
GATHERING HYMN



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in
strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an
laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
claim the faith of Je - sus:
Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
end to fear and dan - ger:
claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE



1 O God of bless - ings, all praise to you! Your love sur -
2 All praise for proph - ets, through grace in - spired to preach and
3 All praise for mu - sic, deep gift pro - found, through hands and
4 All praise for Je - sus, best gift di - vine through word and
5 A bil - lion voic - es in one great song, now soft and



rounds us our whole life through. You are the
wit - ness with hearts on fire. Your Spir - it
voic - es in ho - ly sound; the psalms of
wit - ness, in bread and wine; in - car - nate
gen - tle, now deep and strong, in ev - 'ry



free - dom of those op - pressed; you are the com - fort of all dis -
choos - es the weak and small to sing the new reign where might - y
Da - vid, and Mar - y's praise, in word - less splen - dor and lyr - ic
love song of bound - less grace, priest, teach - er, proph - et in time and
cul - ture and style and key, from hill and val - ley, with sky and



tressed. Come now, O ho - ly and wel - come guest:
fall; with them may we live your gos - pel call:
phrase, with all cre - a - tion one song we raise:
space, your stead - fast kind - ness with hu - man face:
sea, with Christ we praise you e - ter - nal - ly:



So - li De - o glo - ri - a! So - li De - o glo - ri - a!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Eternal God, in the sharing of a meal your Son established a new covenant for all people, and in the washing of feet he showed us the dignity of service. Grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these signs of our life in faith may speak again to our hearts, feed our spirits, and refresh our bodies, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

FIRST READING ✠ EXODUS 12:1-4, 11-14

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the Lord. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

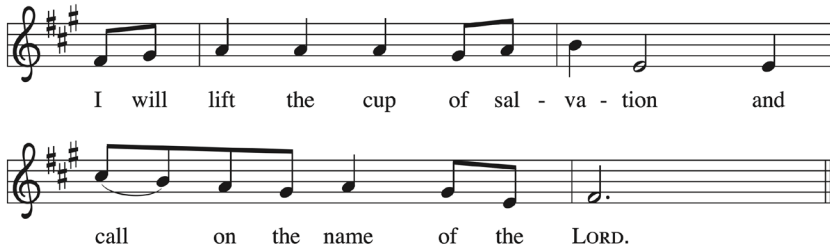
This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 116:1-2, 12-19

The assembly sings the refrain, the verses are sung by the cantors.



I love the Lord, who has heard my voice,
and listened to my supplication,
for the Lord has given ear to me
whenever I called.

How shall I repay the Lord
for all the good things God has done for me?
I will lift the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the Lord. **Refrain**

I will fulfill my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all God's people.

Precious in your sight, O Lord,
is the death of your servants.

O Lord, truly I am your servant;

I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call upon the name of the Lord.

I will fulfill my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all God's people,
in the courts of the Lord's house,
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. **Refrain**

SECOND READING ✕ 1 CORINTHIANS 11:23-26

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, “This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands.

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

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

HOLY GOSPEL ✕ JOHN 13:1-17, 31-35B

The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to

wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them."

"Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

The assembly is seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.



- 1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser - vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
- 2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;
- 3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re - veal-ing light
- 4 Called by wor-ship to your ser - vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, worked your mer-cy's per - fect deed:
still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up - on our quick-ened sight,
to the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show;



we, your ser - vants, bring the wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart;
As you, Lord, in deep com-pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
mak - ing known the needs and bur - dens your com-pas - sion bids us bear,
hope and health, good-will and com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give,



con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part.
by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole.
stir - ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun - dant life to share.
that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

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 truly 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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

SETTING APART

PRESENTATION

The candidates for the diaconate are each presented to the bishop and the assembly.

I present for setting apart to the office of synod deacon, **Belynda Barton**, who has been prepared and approved by the Metropolitan New York Synod and called by St. John's Lutheran Church, Middletown.

I present for setting apart to the office of synod deacon, **Evelyn Buhner**, who has been prepared and approved by the Metropolitan New York Synod and called by Trinity Lutheran Church, Rocky Point.

I present for setting apart to the office of synod deacon, **Charles Testa**, who has been prepared and approved by the Metropolitan New York Synod and called by Trinity Lutheran Church, Rocky Point.

I present for setting apart to the office of synod deacon, **Kerrienne Wilmer**, who has been prepared and approved by the Metropolitan New York Synod and called by St. John's Lutheran Church, Lindenhurst.

Thanks be to God.

ADDRESS

The assembly is seated.

All baptized Christians are called to share in Christ's ministry of love and service in the world, to the glory of God and for the sake of the human family and the whole creation.

The church calls deacons to speak God's Word, the gospel and the apostolic faith, to God's world. It also calls them to speak for the needs of God's world to the Church. This call is a call to public witness and service that exemplifies Christ-like self-giving and leads the Church and all its baptized members to witness to Christ in the world.

Diaconal ministry reflects the historic call of deacons to serve those most in need on behalf of the Church. You have been called to the diaconate to give leadership in the Church's mission to proclaim the gospel through word and deed. Therefore serve the needy, care for the sick, comfort the distressed, and through words and actions, witness to God's love for all people.

In the exercise of diaconal ministry cross every barrier that stands between the Church and its ministry in the broader world. Seek out those places where the gospel of Jesus Christ meets human need. Serve Christ with pastors and bishops, and other deacons. Empower, equip, and support all the baptized in the ministry of Jesus Christ. Lead us all in proclaiming the gospel in witness and service.

As Saint Paul teaches: "There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them. There are different ways of serving, but the same Lord is served. There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives to everyone ability for particular service. The Spirit's presence is shown in some way in each person, for the good of all." (*1 Corinthians 12:4-7*)

QUESTIONS TO THE CANDIDATES

The bishop questions the candidates.

Before almighty God, to whom you must give account, and in the presence of this assembly, I ask: Will you accept this ministry, and as a servant of God perform the work of a deacon in the Church?

The candidates respond:

I will, and I ask God to help me.

The Church in which you will serve confesses that the Holy Scriptures are the Word of God and are the norm of its faith and life. We accept, teach, and confess the Apostles', the Nicene, and the Athanasian Creeds. We also acknowledge the Lutheran Confessions as true witnesses and faithful expositions of the Holy Scriptures. Will you serve in accordance with the Holy Scriptures and these creeds and confessions?

The candidates respond:

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you be diligent in your study of the Holy Scriptures and faithful in your use of the means of grace and in prayer?

The candidates respond:

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you witness in word and deed, and by your own example encourage God's people in faithful service and holy living?

The candidates respond:

I will, and I ask God to help me.

The assembly stands.

The bishop and candidates turn to face the assembly.

QUESTION TO THE ASSEMBLY

People of God, will you support these siblings in Christ, set apart to the office of synod deacon to serve God's people? Will you pray for them, help and honor them for their work's sake, and in all things strive to live together in peace and unity of Christ?

We will, and we ask God to help us.

THANKSGIVING

The candidates kneel.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: We thank you for sending your son, Jesus, your Word in flesh who proclaimed your kingdom in words and deeds of service to the poor and suffering. Christ took on himself the form of a servant for the sake of all. He showed us that whoever would be great must be servant of all. We praise you for the many ministries in your Church, and for calling these your servants to this ministry of service.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

The bishop lays a hand on the head of each candidate.

Heavenly Father, pour out your Holy Spirit upon *Name*, called to be a synod deacon in your Church. Bless their service, that they may worthily exercise the ministry entrusted to them. Let their life and teaching so reflect your grace that many may come to know you and love you through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The office of synod deacon is committed to you
in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

VESTING

The new deacons are presented with diaconal crosses and stoles.

Receive this cross and stole as a sign that you are to serve as Christ served, humbling himself and taking the form of a servant.

BLESSING

The God of peace who brought again from the dead,
our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep,
by the blood of the eternal covenant,
equip you with everything good that you may do his will,
working in you that which is pleasing in his sight,
through Jesus Christ, to who be glory forever and ever.

Amen.

ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands.

The deacons stand and face the assembly.

Dear Christian friends: baptized into the priesthood of Christ, we are called by the Holy Spirit to offer ourselves to the Lord of all creation. We praise God as we join together to bear God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

**The God of all grace who has called you to glory
support you and make you strong.**

The assembly offers acclamation with applause.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each portion of the prayers concludes:

God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

After exchanging signs of peace, the assembly is seated.

MEAL

OFFERING

The offering is received for the Bishop's Discretionary Fund, which supports ministers and other rostered leaders in times of crisis or opportunity. Please write checks payable to "Metro NY Synod."

SONG AT THE OFFERING



1 I'm so glad I'm so glad
2 Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me. Sa - tan had me bound,
3 When I was in trou - ble, When I was in trou - ble,



Je - sus lift - ed me. I'm so glad Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift - ed me,
When I was in trou - ble,



sing - ing glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Je - sus lift - ed me.

OFFERING PRAYER

The assembly stands.

Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace
along with these gifts we bring.

Come among us again, breathe your life into us,
and enliven us with this meal,
that we may live as your risen body in the world.

Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

The image shows a musical score for a hymn titled 'Thanksgiving at the Table'. It consists of four staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has two measures: 'The Lord be with you.' and 'And al - so with you.' The second staff has two measures: 'Lift up your hearts.' and 'We lift them to the Lord.' The third staff has two measures: 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.' The fourth staff has two measures: 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'

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 are you, God of pow - er and
 might; heav - en and earth are filled with your
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
 Your mercy is everlasting
 and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.
 Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.
 Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.
 Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness
 to the land of milk and honey.
 Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.
 Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.
 Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
 our Lord Jesus 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 this bread and cup
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life:
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Bless this feast.
Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.
Breathe new life into us.
Send us forth,
burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
now and forever.

Amen.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit,
let us pray as Jesus taught us in the language of our choosing.

**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.**

INVITATION

Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

COMMUNION

The assembly is seated.

HYMN



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,
2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;
3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.
4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.
where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.
Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.
Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,
For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,
When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,
So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.
Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.
Christ tears down our fenc - es: all are wel - come here.
None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

HYMN



- 1 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a word of peace.
- 2 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a world re - leased
- 3 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry that the hun - ger cease,



To hun - gry hearts un - sat - is - fied the love of God is
from hun - gry folk of ev - 'ry kind, the poor in bod - y,
and know - ing, though we eat our fill, the hun - ger will stay



not de - nied. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
poor in mind. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
with us; still we come, we come to the hun - gry feast.

HYMN

Refrain



One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of
bless-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y
through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.

1 Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,
2 Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,
3 Grain for the fields, scat-tered and grown,

Refrain

wom-an or man, no more.
one in the Lord of all.
gath-ered to one for all.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The assembly stands.

Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us.
Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory,
and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come,
Sovereign, ✠ Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn,
now and always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN



- 1 Oh, for a thou - sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,
- 2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim,
- 3 The name of Je - sus charms our fears and bids our sor - rows cease,
- 4 He speaks, and lis - t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive;



the glo - ries of my God and king, the tri - umphs of his grace!
to spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of your name.
sings mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.
the mourn - ful, bro - ken hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.



5 Look unto him, your Savior own,
O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone,
be justified by grace!

6 To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heav'n.

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America