

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

First Presbyterian Church
Tallahassee, Florida
Third Sunday of Easter
May 4, 2025, 11:00 AM



GATHERING

Ringling of the Zimbelstern

Voluntary

O Sons and Daughters

Camil Van Hulse

Call to Worship

Ethan Murphy

We glorify you, O Lord,

for you have lifted us up.

O Lord, our God, we cried out to you,

and you healed us.

Sing praises to the Lord, O faithful ones,

and praise God's holy name.

For God's anger is but for a moment,

but God's favor is for a lifetime.

Weeping may linger for the night,

but joy comes with the morning.

O God, you have turned our mourning into dancing!

Let us worship God!

Opening Prayer

Rev. Glenn Hodges

*Hymn 662

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

RATISBON

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

Generous God, in Jesus you have shown us love— love that seeks, love that suffers, love that survives all things. You call us, even command us, to show that love in our lives.

Yet we turn away from what you would have us do. We confess that the ways of love are not our ways. We deny and ignore, hurt and hate, despise and reject.

Have mercy on us. Help us to receive your love so that we can love others.

Help us to receive your love so that we can love ourselves.

*Assurance of Pardon

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God.**

*Sung Response

Christ Our Passover

Jefferey Rickard

Congregational Refrain

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ our Pass - o -
- ver has been sac - ri - ficed for us; There - fore let us
keep the feast, Al - le - lu - ia,
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

Choir: *Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil; But with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. [Refrain]*

*Asterisks indicate to please rise in body or spirit. Congregational responses are in **bold print**.

*The Peace

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

Welcome and Announcements

PROCLAIMING

Prayer for Illumination

Pam McVety

Acts of the Apostles

Acts 9:1–20

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 805

Come Sing to God
(Psalm 30)

ELLACOMBE

New Testament

Revelation 5:11–14

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Hymn 740

Lead Me, Guide Me

LEAD ME, GUIDE ME

Gospel

John 21:1–19

Rev. Glenn Hodges

This is the Word of the Lord.. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

RESPONDING

*Affirmation of Faith (The Nicene Creed)

Page 34 in the Hymnal

Prayers of the People

God of new life, **hear our prayer.**

... through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

Call to Offering

Presentation of Gifts, Tithes, and Offerings

Anthem

This is My Father's World

Nancy Ruth Durance

*This is my Father's world,
And to my listening ears
All nature sings, and round me rings
The music of the spheres.*

*This is my Father's world:
The birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white,
Declare their Maker's praise.*

*This is my Father's world:
I rest me in the thought
Of all I see,
His hand the wonders wrought.*

*This is my Father's world:
He shines in all that's fair;
In rustling grass I hear Him pass,
Speaking everywhere.*

*This is my Father's world;
Oh let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong
God is the ruler yet.*

*This is my Father's world;
Why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is King; let heavens ring.
He reigns, let Earth be glad.*

*Presentation Hymn 609

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*Prayer of Dedication

SEALING

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also 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.**

Hymn 513

This Is the Feast of Victory

FESTIVAL CANTICLE

Refrain sung by all; verses sung by the choir

... with the heavenly host who sing:

Hymn 513, v. 3

FESTIVAL CANTICLE

... so we proclaim, Great is the mystery of faith.

Hymn 513, v. 1

FESTIVAL CANTICLE

... all glory and honor are yours, holy God, now and forever.

Hymn 513, v. 4

FESTIVAL CANTICLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kindom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

For thine is the kindom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

The gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 247

Now the Green Blade Rises

NOËL NOUVELET

Hymn 240

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks

ALLELUIA NO. 1

Prayer After Communion

SENDING

*Hymn 257

The Risen Christ

WOODLANDS

*Blessing and Charge

The blessing of the eternal, triune God—Alpha and Omega,
first and last, beginning and end—be with you all. **Alleluia!**
Come, Lord Jesus! **Amen.**

Voluntary

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing

Healey Willan

IN WORSHIP TODAY

“**Kingdom**” or “**Kindom**” in the Lord’s Prayer? Kingdoms were the dominant community structure when our Scriptures were written. Some find it meaningful to think about other Biblical metaphors to convey the ethos of care and genuine kin-ships about which Jesus taught and preached. Please pray as you choose.

Prayer Concerns and Celebrations — **We offer prayers for healing** for Harriet Chase, Barbara Kronholz, Cole (grandson of Rich Peyton), Alan Williams, Martha Kutter, Sandy Burkholder, Wayne Friedemann, Morris Springer, Patricia Yeilding, Cindy Harden, Joyce Crawford, Bev Breedlove, Tara Reynolds, Sandra Sherrard, and Martha Snowden. **We offer prayers for strength and mercy** for Evanna (Wayne Friedemann’s sister), Patricia McCoy Delancey, Thaddeus Gillon, and Aidan (grandson of Sue Safford). We pray for the staff and volunteers of Second Harvest of the Big Bend and all our mission partners, and for victims of gun violence in our community and our country. We pray for the Presbyterian Reformed Church in Cuba, Pastor Izett Samá Hernández, and Pastor Alison Infante. We pray for peace in Israel, Gaza, Ukraine, and around the world. **We also pray for those in military service**, including Brian Guisao, Ross Yeilding, David DelRossi, and Owen Elzie.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today is the last day of children and Sunday school class; those groups will resume in the fall. Adult Sunday school classes will continue to meet next week.

Children are welcome in this service as full members of God’s family. Parents and children are invited to use whatever is useful in the basket by the back door. Child care for children under the age of kindergarten is in the Education Building. Please note that during worship the Education Building is locked. Please enter through the breezeway door.

Restrooms are located in this building through the door at the end of each aisle of the sanctuary.

An induction loop system is available in the sanctuary. To use the system, switch your compatible hearing aid to the T–telephone mode or request a wireless headset from an usher.

Large print versions of the *Glory to God* hymnal and worship bulletin are available from ushers.

Visitors: We are glad you are here this morning! If you have questions about our congregation or about church membership, please let us know by using the friendship registers or speaking to one of the greeters so we can connect you with the right people. We welcome new members after worship on the second Sunday of each month.

Check-in



Let us know
you came to
Worship Today!



QR Codes



Give Online!



Online Offerings
& Donations

MEMBERS OF SESSION 2025–27

Class of 2025

Donna Barber
Carolyn Bradley
Debbie Gibson
Patrick Kennedy
Sue Safford

Class of 2026

Jane Atkinson
Daniel Bruno
Eleanor Cleveland
Janet Fixel
Greg Riccardi, Clerk

Class of 2027

Kay Crowell
Jon Dodrill
Caitlin James
Mary Kutter
Deb Whisnant

Designated Pastor	Rev. Glenn Hodges
Parish Associate.....	Rev. Dr. Greta Reed
Organist	Elizabeth Lajeunesse
Choir Director.....	Ethan Murphy
Financial Administrator.....	Fran Owens
Custodian and Sunday Host.....	Becky Brown

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Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies 662



1 Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies; Christ, the true, the on - ly light;
 2 Dark and cheer-less is the morn un - ac - com - panied by thee;
 3 Vis - it then this soul of mine; pierce the gloom of sin and grief;



Sun of Righ-teous-ness, a - rise; tri-umph o'er the shades of night;
 joy-less is the day's re-turn till thy mer-cy's beams I see;
 fill me, ra - dian - cy di-vine; scat-ter all my un - be - lief;



Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap - pear.
 till they in - ward light im - part, cheer my eyes and warm my heart.
 more and more thy - self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.



This well-crafted morning hymn opens by celebrating daylight as an image of Christ, the true Light, then ponders life without light, and culminates in a prayer for inward light. The tune's name honors its German roots: Ratisbon is the former English name for Regensburg.

Come Sing to God

805

(Psalm 30)



1 Come sing to God, O liv - ing saints; sing prais - es to God's name.
 2 In my suc - cess I felt se - cure; how good you've been to me.
 3 What good is gained by my dis - grace, what prof - it in de - feat?
 4 You change my grief to joy-filled dance; my sor - rows you de - stroy.



God's an - ger is not per - ma - nent; God's love will nev - er wane.
 I said that this is my own work, as - crib - ing all to me.
 My grave can - not con - fess your name, nor praise for you re - peat.
 In faith - ful - ness you hear my cry and fill my life with joy.



Though tears may tar - ry for the night with sighs of deep - est pain,
 But when you turned a - side your face, my life was filled with fears.
 Now hear, O Lord, my plain - tive cry; be mer - ci - ful to me.
 And so to you my heart shall sing; my voice your good - ness raise.



yet joy comes with the morn - ing sun, a peace that is not vain.
 I begged for help; to you I cried with loud and bit - ter tears.
 Ac - cept my long - ing heart's re - quest and from death set me free.
 You are my God, for - ev - er - more. My life shall sing your praise.



In effect, the first stanza of this paraphrase of Psalm 30 states the general truth that has been learned from the personal experience described in the last three stanzas. It is set to an 18th-century German tune brought into use with English hymnody in the 19th century.

740 Lead Me, Guide Me

Capo 1: (D) Refrain (A7) (Em)

E^b B^b7 Fm

Lead me, guide me, a - long the way, for if you

(A) (D) (A7) (D)

B^b E^b B^b7 E^b

lead me, I can - not stray. Lord, let me walk each

(A7) (B7) (Em) (D) (A7) (D)

B^b7 C7 Fm E^b B^b7 E^b Fine

day with thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

(D) (B7) (Em) (A7) (Em)

E^b C7 Fm B^b7 Fm

I am weak and I need your strength and power to help me

(A) (D) (D) (D7)

B^b E^b E^b E^b7

o - ver my weak - est hour. Help me through the dark-ness your

(Em) (D) (A7) (D)

Fm E^b B^b7 E^b to Refrain

face to see. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This African American gospel hymn can well be understood as an updated adaptation of Psalm 5:8, with the "enemies" of the psalm treated as the pressures and temptations of daily life. As with the psalms, the "I" here is understood to express a shared communal experience.

609

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow. Praise God, all crea-tures

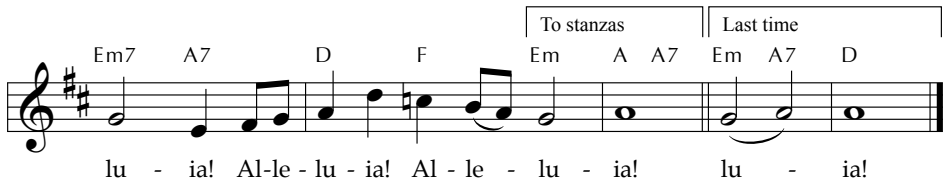
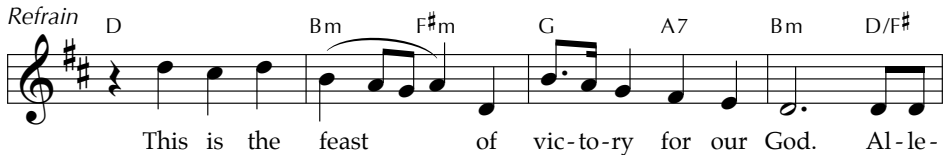
high and low. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise

God, in Je - sus ful - ly known: Cre - a - tor, Word, and Spir - it

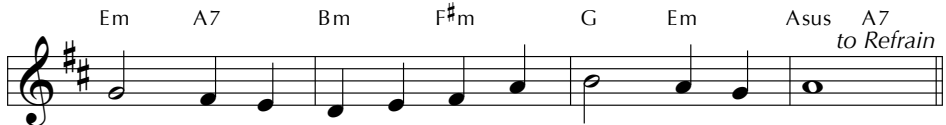
one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -

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

This Is the Feast of Victory 513



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 -



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion.
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.
 gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia!

This exuberant unrhymed paraphrase is especially well suited for use at celebrations of the Lord's Supper in Easter Season. The stanzas are derived from several passages in Revelation (5:9–10, 12–14; 7:10b, 12), while the refrain possibly refers to 1 Corinthians 15:54b–56.

TEXT: John W. Arthur, 1970

MUSIC: Richard Hillert, 1975, alt.

Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship (*admin. Augsburg Fortress*)

Music © 1975, 1988 Richard Hillert (Published by OCP)

FESTIVAL CANTICLE

Irregular

247 Now the Green Blade Rises

1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
 2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
 3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
 4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,

wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
 think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
 he that for three days in the grave had lain;
 your touch can call us back to life a - gain;

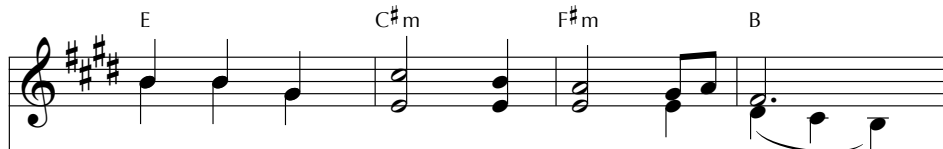
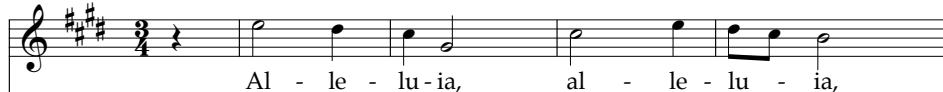
love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
 laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
 raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
 fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:

love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Although there were some traditional Easter carols, this hybrid one has been created by grafting a 20th-century English text onto a late 15th-century French tune. The allegory of the dying and rising grain as a parallel for Christ's Resurrection is probably based on John 12:24.

240 Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks

Descant



- 2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
 3 We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ.
 4 Come let us praise the liv - ing God,



Now we shall live for - ev - er.
 joy - ful - ly sing to our Sav - ior.



This text and tune were created together in the context of an ecumenical, charismatic, missionary Christian community in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Their energy and emphasis center in the opening and closing refrain's "Alleluia"—the essential Easter word of proclamation.

The Risen Christ

257



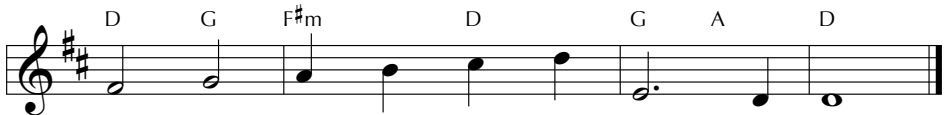
1 The ris - en Christ, who walks on wound - ed
 2 The ris - en Christ, who stands with wound - ed
 3 The ris - en Christ, who breaks with wound - ed
 4 May we, Christ's bod - y, walk and serve and



feet from gar - den tomb through dark - ened cit - y
 side, breathes out his Spir - it on them to a -
 hand the bread for those who fail to un - der -
 stand with the op - pressed in this and ev - ery



street, un - locks the door of grief, de - spair, and fear, and
 bide whose faith still wa - vers, who dare not be - lieve; new
 stand, re - veals him - self, de - spite their lin - gering tears, en -
 land, till all are blessed and can a bless - ing be, re -



speaks a word of peace to all who hear.
 grace, new strength, new pur - pose they re - ceive.
 flames their hearts, then quick - ly dis - ap - pears.
 stored in Christ to true hu - man - i - ty.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This perceptive hymn centers on Christ's post-Resurrection appearances described in John 20:19–29 and Luke 24:13–48. The first three stanzas are shaped by the wounded body parts: feet, side, hand; the fourth prays for such woundedness in the witness of Christ's body, the Church.