

ST. STEPHEN THE MARTYR LUTHERAN CHURCH

Saturday, May 16, 2026 5:00pm

Sunday, May 17, 2026 9:30am



In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.

Please note: Sunday Service is streamed, recorded and posted on YouTube beginning with the prelude and continuing through the postlude. Be aware that you may be recorded when coming up the center aisle for communion.

ELW is the cranberry red Evangelical Lutheran Book of Worship

SSM is equipped with hearing assistance devices. If you would like more information on how to gain access please see an usher for the instructions and assistance.

**PRELUDE: (5:00) “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name” -arr. A. L. Page
(9:30) “Alleluia! Sing to Jesus” -arr. James Engel**

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

P: Eternal God, you reign over all the universe.

C: Praise to you for your wondrous love!

P: Christ, you have ascended and are enthroned over all things.

C: Glory be to you, who are above all powers and authorities.

P: We praise you. Reign over us, and make us your holy people.

C: Alleluia! Come, Holy Spirit, and transform us by your grace. Alleluia!

GATHERING HYMN: ELW #393 A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!

C: Amen.

P: Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

P: Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us. Blessed are you.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

P: Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

P: Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

P: Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

C: Amen.

GREETING

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

C: And also with you.

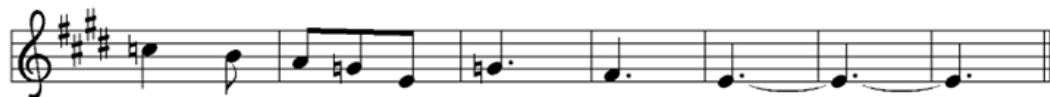
NOW THE FEAST AND CELEBRATION



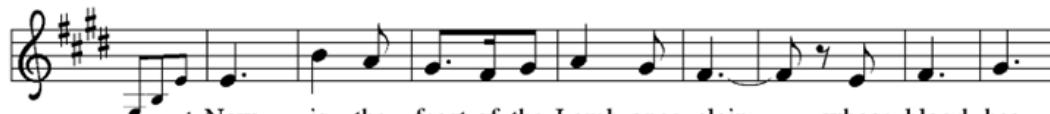
Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



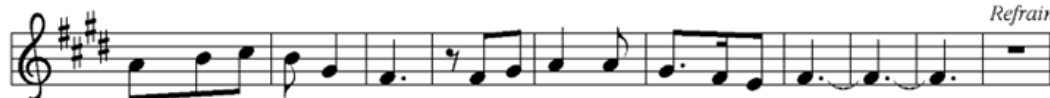
sings for joy to the God of life and love and free - dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit - ed us to be one great peo - ple of God.

Refrain



2 Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

Refrain

Refrain

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion
sings for joy to the God of life and love and free - dom;
praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo - ple of
God; to make all things new. *Refrain*

Text and music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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PRAYER OF THE DAY

C: O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (9:30) *(Please be seated)*

Pastor Brian Hooper

FIRST READING: Acts 1:6-14

Today's first reading is part of the introduction to the narrative of the outpouring of the Spirit on Pentecost. These verses tell of the risen Lord's conversation with his disciples on the eve of his ascension, in which he promises that they will receive the power of the Holy Spirit.

⁶ When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷ He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” ⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹ They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away. ¹³ When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴ All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:13-22

Our faith in Christ does not make us immune from the scorn of others. Nevertheless, we are to resist the designs of evil when we experience disparagement from others because we trust God’s grace will strengthen and guide us.

¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ’s sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

^{5:6} Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸ Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(please stand as you are able)*

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

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

Music: "Alleluia 7," Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994, and the Taizé Community
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GOSPEL: John 17:1-11

On the night before his crucifixion, Jesus prays to his heavenly Father, asking that those who continue his work in this world will live in unity.

P: The Holy Gospel according to John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples,] he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ² since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³ And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. ⁴ I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵ So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶ “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, ⁸ for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹ I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are

yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹ And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE “Heads Up!”

Rev. Brian Hooper

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW #513 Listen, God is Calling

APOSTLE’S CREED: *(please stand as you are able)*

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day, he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Each petition will end with the words, “Merciful God.” After each petition the congregation will respond, “**receive our prayer.**”*

SHARING OF THE PEACE *(please be seated after sharing the peace)*

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

CHOIR ANTHEM: (9:30) “Coming Home” -Martin

OFFERINGS

Offerings can also be made electronically using the Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app. More information can be found on our website ssmelca.org or use the QR codes listed here:



for Google



for iPhone

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus,

C: Amen

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *(Please stand as able)*

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

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

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



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.

Continued on next page



Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: *Now the Feast and Celebration*, Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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WORDS OF INSTITUTION: “In the night...”

CELTIC LORD'S PRAYER

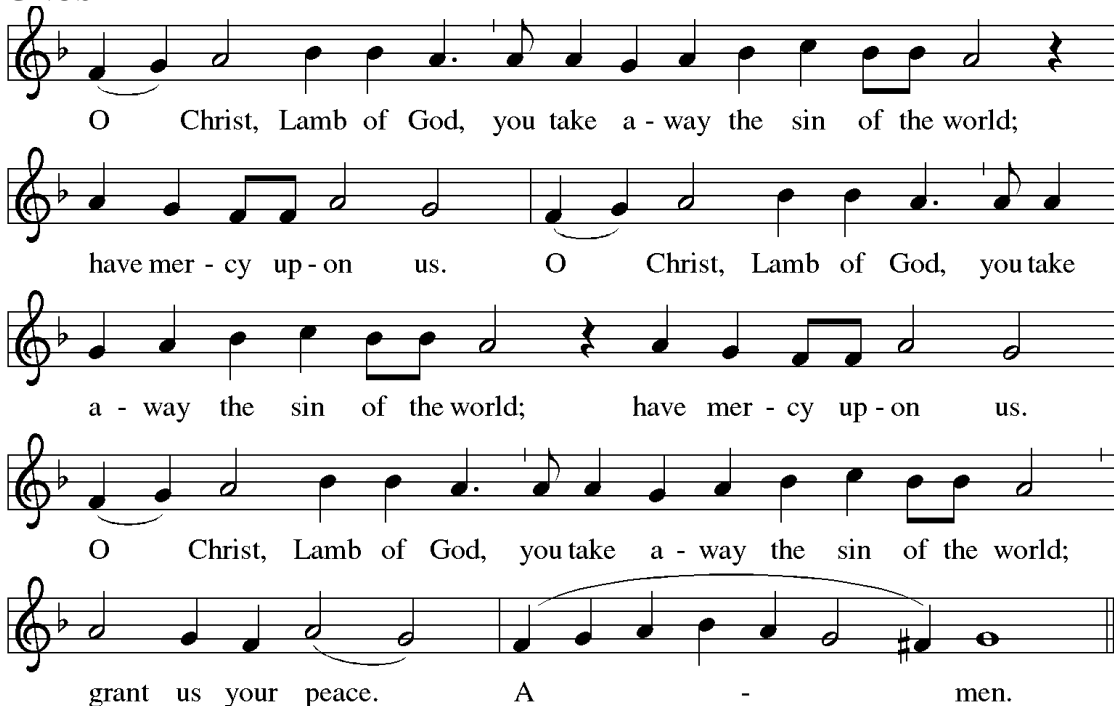
Holy One beyond all names, Eternal Wellspring

May love rise again in us today with food for every table, shelter for every family
and reverence for every life.

Forgive us our failings in love and free us from all falseness that the light of our
souls may shine and the strength of our spirits endure

For Earth and all its people this day, tonight, and forever. Amen.

AGNUS DEI



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take
a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy up - on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - men.

Music: J. Bugenhagen, *Christliche Ordnung*, 1528

COMMUNION HYMN ELW #392 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus,

C: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (*Please be sure to read the printed announcements.*)

BLESSING

P: God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, † bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN: ELW #432 The Head That Once Was Crowned

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE: (5:00) “The Lord Reigns, Alleluia!” -arr. G. Peterson
(9:30) “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” -arr. Paul Manz

From sundaysandseasons.com

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Flowers are provided by Mary Luedtke in memory of her son Jim

Thank you to Brenda Skelton for her presentation on the Meru Coffee Project

THANK YOU FOR SERVING IN WORSHIP

Ushers: (5:00) Herb Leppien, Deb Perl

(9:30) Pat & Shelley Burns, Nancy Mineau, Penny Whitmore

Reader: (5:00) Patti Nelson **(9:30)** Kelly Sachse

Communion: (5:00) Set Up Betty Kroll Server Heidi Hennessy

(9:30) Jason & Tracy Covert

Streaming Technician: (9:30) Ben Hooper

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Newcomer Orientation: Are you a newcomer to St. Stephen the Martyr? If you would like to find out more, get connected, deepen your ties, or if you are considering membership, please join us following the 9:30am worship service on Sunday, May 17 for a newcomer orientation.

Green Corners in collaboration with Common Ground will be hosting a **Community Listening Session on May 17th** at Our Lady of Lourdes, 3722 S 58th St. More information is on the bulletin board between the offices. Please RSVP in advance.

Faith Santa Fe congregation's new pastor, Rev. Germán Novelli Angrisano will be installed on Sunday May 24th at 12:00 noon at Faith Santa Fe. Please consider joining them in their celebration.

Watch for the **special June, July and August food collections** which will focus on items that children can prepare without adult supervision. When there is no school, not only do children not get school lunch, but often are home alone while parents have to work. Look for more information in your May Martyr Monthly.

Food donations for the month of May will go to the Bay View Community Center. **Food pantries are very busy the demand is high, because at this time when everything costs more people are having to make the choice between buying food and paying for other necessities. Please consider making a donation.** Please make sure that items donated are not past their “use by” dates, as these cannot be distributed at the food pantries. Monetary donations are always welcomed and allow the pantries to fill in needed items that have not come in otherwise. Items high in protein are always in need, canned tuna or chicken, beans (dry or canned) and peanut butter (and the jelly to go with it). You can mark your contribution “Food Ministry” or use the Food Ministry envelope found on the giving station board.

SSM PieceMakers FYI When you make a quilt, you are in a conversation with the fabrics texture, its weight, its color and most importantly, all the people around you. **June 15th will be the Quilting Bee, 9-3 at SSM.** Please save the date! All are welcome, no sewing required, unless that is your thing, just bring a dish to pass/dessert (sign-up sheet on bulletin board). With this date in mind No layering on May 18, cut & sew instead on both May 18 and June 4, saving all the tops for the Quilting Bee. Questions? see Betty Kroll or Marge Muroni.

<i>This Week at SSM</i>			
Monday, 5/18	1:00pm	Quilting – Cut & Sew – until 3pm	
	6:30pm	Book Club	
Wednesday, 5/20	9:30am	Men’s Bible Study	
	6:00pm	Handbell Rehearsal	
	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal	
Thursday, 5/21	6:30pm	Confirmation Class - End of Year Party	
<i>Pentecost Weekend – Volunteer Recognition</i>			
Saturday, 5/23	5:00pm	Worship	Ushers: Jim Hennessy, Patti Nelson
			Reader: Pam Maschke
			Communion Set Up: Bonnie Court
			Communion Server: Patti Nelson
Sunday, 5/24	9:30am	Worship	Ushers: Dan Resterhouse, Mason Resterhouse, Tom Zuleger
			Reader: Julie Starks
			Communion: Diane Moraza, Julie Starks
			Sunday School
	10:45am	Coffee Hour – Robyn, Lorin & Quinn Schuchardt	

KEEP THESE SSM MEMBERS IN PRAYER

Sharon Behling, Pastor Gail Brodersen-Heins, Jay Chadwick, Diana Gastrau, Sue Jarchow, Ken & Carolyn Kahl, Joy Kilimann, Sally Kowalewski, Dick Kroll, Carol Kucharski, Billie Jo Kunesh, Shirley Lieske, Carol Manning, Larry Petricek, Joan Retzlaff, Stephanie Rodenkirch, Eleanor Salb, Richard Sontvedt

PRAY FOR OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY

Brent, grandson of Dennis & Geri Lucchesi
Carol, sister of Heidi Hennessy
Cheryl, sister-in-law of Larry & Sue Stasiewski
Helen, mother of Jenny Koeff
Pam Baranowski, friend of Kelly and Greg Sachse
Irene Bonnert, mother of Deb Perl
Evelyn Buck, cousin of Pastor Maren
Arlene Cich, cousin of Don Manning
Corstan Court, son of Bonnie Court
Jennifer F and her family, friends of Kelly Sachse
Julie Francis, daughter-in-law of Sally Kowalewski
Marcia Gabriel, friend of Nancy Mineau & Marion Walton
Mimi Garcia, former administrative assistant at SSM
Karen Gastrau, daughter-in-law of Diana Gastrau
Liane Guthrie, daughter of Dianne Niese
Tim Ingram, grandson of Ron Ropel
Robert Koenen, friend of Don & Carol Manning

Beth Klosinski, daughter of Linda Schmidt
Jon Kowalewski, husband of Sally Kowalewski
Ted & Ellen P., family of Gail Jakus
Paul R, friend of Shelly Rosenstock
Leroy Robinson, father of Linda Schmidt
Deb Rusch, friend of Kelly & Greg Sachse
Sue Seidemann, friend of Karen Hoffman and former SWO president
Gloria Simley, sister of Dave and Rae Ann Simley
Richard Sorenson, friend of Jim & Heidi Hennessy
Barb Starks, mother of Julie Starks
Lynne Turnquist, friend of Carol Manning
David Vento, friend of Al Behling
Billy Waters, Stepdad of Lori Salas
Chrissy White, daughter of Sue Herman
Susan White, sister of Sally Kowalewski
Irene Yung - daughter-in-law of Jay and Sally Chadwick
Cohen Zettle, family of Pam Young

Rev. Brian Hooper, Pastor
Tabitha Moldenhauer, Music Director
Mark Breutzmann, Saturday Musician
Jim Hennessy, Church Maintenance

Bonnie Zimmermann, Ministry Assistant
Office phone - 414-421-3543
email - office@ssmelca.org
Website – www.ssmelca.org
Facebook - <https://m.facebook.com/SSMELCA/>

HYMN ELW #393 A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!



1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New hymns through-out the world shall
2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band up - on the Mount of Ol - ives
3 To whom the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why stand and gaze up - on the
4 "You see him now, as - cend - ing high up to the por - tals of the
5 O ris - en Christ, as - cend - ed Lord, all praise to you let earth ac -



ring: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ, by a road be - fore un -
stand, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! and with his faith - ful fol - l'wers
sky?" Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! "This is the Sav - ior!" thus they
sky." Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! "Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall
cord: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! You are, while end - less ag - es



trod, as - cends un - to the throne of God.
see their Lord as - cend in maj - es - ty.
say, "this is his glo - rious tri - umph day!" Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
see re - turn - ing in great maj - es - ty."
run, with Fa - ther and with Spir - it one.



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

Text: Bede, 673–735; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

HYMN ELW #513 Listen, God is Calling

Refrain
Leader All

Ne - no, ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la - ku - i - ta we - we,
Lis - ten, lis - ten, God is call - ing, through the Word in - vit - ing,

ne - no la wo - ko - vu, te - na je - ma. ma.
of - fer - ing for - give - ness, com - fort, and joy. joy.

Leader All

Ye - su a - li - se - ma, Mka - hu - bi - ri.
1 Je - sus gave his man - date: share the good news
2 Let none be for - got - ten through - out the world.
3 Help us to be faith - ful, stand - ing stead - fast,

Leader All *Refrain*

Ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la wo - ko - vu.
that he came to save us and set us free.
In the tri - une name of God go and bap - tize.
walk - ing in your pre - cepts, led by your Word.

Text: Tanzanian traditional; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922
Music: NENO LAKE MUNGU, Tanzanian tune; arr. Austin C. Lovelace, b. 1919
Text © 1968 Lutheran Theological College, Makumira, Tanzania, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
Arr. © 1968 Austin C. Lovelace, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

HYMN ELW #392 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we left in
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, here on earth our
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Lord om - nip - o -
 5 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,

his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the
 sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is near us; faith be -
 food, our stay; Al - le - lu - ia! here the sin - ful flee to
 tent we own; Al - le - lu - ia! born of Mar - y, earth your
 his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the

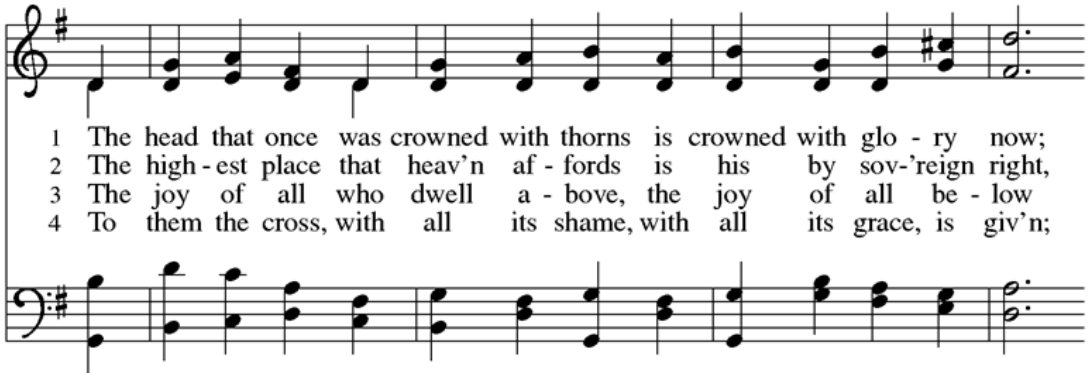
vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful
 lieves, nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re -
 you from day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, friend of
 foot - stool, heav'n your throne. As with - in the veil you
 vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful

Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus
 ceived him when the for - ty days were o'er, shall our
 sin - ners, earth's re - deem - er, hear our plea where the
 en - tered, robbed in flesh, our great high priest, here on
 Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus

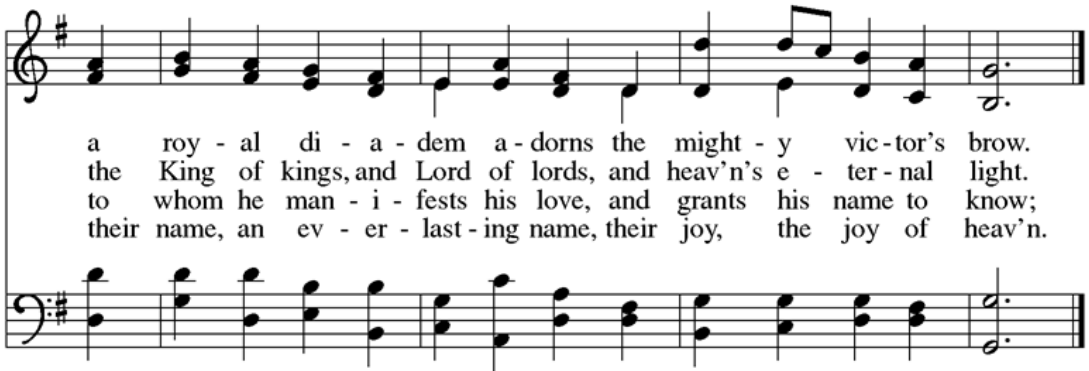
out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood!"
 hearts for - get his prom - ise; "I am with you ev - er - more?"
 songs of all the sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
 earth both priest and vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.
 out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood!"

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898, alt.
 Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-1887

HYMN ELW #432 The Head That Once Was Crowned



1 The head that once was crowned with thorns is crowned with glo - ry now;
2 The high - est place that heav'n af - fords is his by sov'-reign right,
3 The joy of all who dwell a - bove, the joy of all be - low
4 To them the cross, with all its shame, with all its grace, is giv'n;



a roy - al di - a - dem a - dorns the might - y vic - tor's brow.
the King of kings, and Lord of lords, and heav'n's e - ter - nal light.
to whom he man - i - fests his love, and grants his name to know;
their name, an ev - er - last - ing name, their joy, the joy of heav'n.

5 They suffer with their Lord below;
they reign with him above;
their profit and their joy to know
the myst'ry of his love.

6 The cross he bore is life and health,
though shame and death to him;
his people's hope, his people's wealth,
their everlasting theme!

Text: Thomas Kelly, 1769–1855
Music: ST. MAGNUS, Jeremiah Clarke, 1669–1707