486 If Christ Had Not Been Raised from Death If Christ had not been raised from death Our faith would be in vain, If Christ still lay with - in the tomb Then death would be the end, 3 If Christ had not been tru - ly raised His Church would live a Our preach - ing but a waste of breath, Our sin and guilt re-main. we should face our fi - nal doom With nei - ther guide nor friend. His name should nev-er-more be praised, His words de-serve to the Lord is ris'n in - deed; He rules in earth and heav'n:

But now our great Re-deem - er lives; Through Him we are re - stored;

His Gos - pel meets a world of need— In Christ we are for - giv'n. God in hope— In Christ the saints a - rise! We mourn, yet look to His Word en-dures, His Church re - vives In Christ, our ris - en Lord.

So

when

a Chris-tian dies

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Tune: Phillip Magness, 1938
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But now the Sav-ior is raised up,

Confession and Absolution

Please stand as you are able. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

Invocation

- \mathbf{P} In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- \mathbf{C} Amen.

Exhortation

- Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- $\overline{\mathbf{P}}$ Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C who made heaven and earth.
- I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

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

Confession of Sins

- O almighty God, merciful Father, P
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Absolution

- Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Sharing the Peace

- The peace of the Lord be with you.
- And also with you. C

Service of the Word

Kyrie

sung by soloist - LSB 942, LSB 943 (stanza 2), LSB 942 (public domain)

816 From All That Dwell Below the Skies



Salutation and Collect of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- **P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

Verse of the Month

- P Our service continues as we speak our Verse of the Month from First Corinthians, chapter fifteen, verse twenty-six.
- The last enemy to be destroyed is death." (1 Corinthians 15:26)

First Reading Acts 5:12-32

¹²Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. ¹³None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. ¹⁴And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, ¹⁵so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. ¹⁶The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

¹⁷But the high priest rose up, and all who were with him (that is, the party of the Sadducees), and filled with jealousy ¹⁸they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. ¹⁹But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, ²⁰"Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life." ²¹And when they heard this, they entered the temple at daybreak and began to teach.

Now when the high priest came, and those who were with him, they called together the council and all the senate of Israel and sent to the prison to have them brought. ²²But when the officers came, they did not find them in the prison, so they returned and reported, ²³"We found the prison securely locked and the guards standing at the doors, but when we opened them we found no one inside." ²⁴Now when the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these words, they were greatly perplexed about them, wondering what this would come to. ²⁵And someone came and told them, "Look! The men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people." ²⁶Then the captain with the officers went and brought them, but not by force, for they were afraid of being stoned by the people.

²⁷And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest questioned them, ²⁸saying, "We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man's blood upon us." ²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. ³⁰The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Psalmody Psalm 148:1-14

- Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!
- C Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his hosts!
- Praise him, sun and moon, praise him, all you shining stars!
- **C** Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!
- **P** Let them praise the name of the LORD! For he commanded and they were created.
- And he established them forever and ever; he gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.
- Praise the LORD from the earth, you great sea creatures and all deeps,
- **C** fire and hail, snow and mist, stormy wind fulfilling his word!
- P Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!
- **©** Beasts and all livestock, creeping things and flying birds!
- P Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth! Young men and maidens together, old men and children!
- Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his majesty is above earth and heaven.
- P He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his saints, for the people of Israel who are near to him. Praise the LORD!
- Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Second Reading Revelation 1:4-18

⁴John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

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

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood ⁶and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ⁷Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so, Amen.

⁸"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

⁹I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. ¹⁰I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet ¹¹saying, "Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea."

¹²Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, ¹³and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. ¹⁴The hairs of his head were white like wool, as white as snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, ¹⁵his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. ¹⁶In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

¹⁷When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, ¹⁸ and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

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

Holy Gospel John 20:19–31

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁹On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld."

²⁴Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe."

²⁶Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.

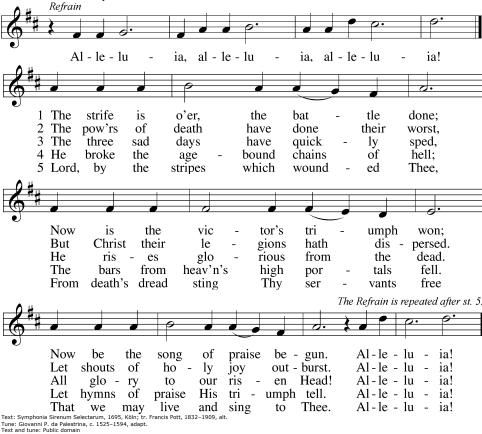
The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.

Please be seated.

Sermon

464 The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done



The Rite of the Reception of New Members

- P Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles: "Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven." Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.
- P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?
- R Yes, I do.
- **P** Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?
- R Yes, I renounce them.
- P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord, and in the Holy Spirit?
- **R** Yes, I believe in God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God and the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from them and confessed in the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?
- \mathbf{R} I do
- **P** Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?
- **R** *I do, by the grace of God.*
- P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?
- **R** *I do, by the grace of God.*
- P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?
- \mathbf{R} I do, by the grace of God.
- **P** Do you desire to become a member of this congregation?
- R I do.
- Will you support the work our gracious Lord has given this congregation with your prayers and the gifts God has given you?

- **R** *I will, with the help of God.*
- Upon this your confession of faith, I acknowledge publicly that you are <u>[a member/members]</u> of the Evangelical Lutheran Church and of this congregation. Receive the Lord's Supper and participate with us in all the blessings of salvation that our Lord has given to His Church, in the name of the Father and of the H Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank and praise You for Your great goodness in bringing these Your sons and daughters to the knowledge of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, and enabling them both with the heart to believe and with the mouth to confess His saving name. Grant that by Your Word and Spirit they may continue steadfast in the one true faith in the fellowship of this congregation as together we await the day when all who have fought the good fight of faith shall receive the crown of righteousness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The pastor may extend the right hand of fellowship, greeting each by name. The rite concludes with the following blessing:

- P The grace of our

 → Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
- C Amen.

The new members return to their places.

Please stand as you are able.

Prayer of the Church

Friends in Christ, I urge you all to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me as Christ our Lord has taught us and freely promised to hear us.

God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of Your Word and the fervent love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby Your precious name is blasphemed and profaned. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C hear our prayer.
- May Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all transgressors and those who are blinded and bound in the devil's kingdom to know Jesus Christ, Your Son, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- E Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily and sacrificed to Your good and gracious will. Into Your merciful hands we commend [name(s)] and all who are in need, praying for them at all times: Thy will be done. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- P Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us trust in You to provide for all our needs. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in a good conscience before You, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his wiles. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- P And lastly, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- **P** We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

Please be seated.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface LSB 216

- **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.
- It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. Grant us Your Spirit, gracious Father, that we may give heed to the testament of Your Son in true faith and, above all, firmly take to heart the words with which Christ gives to us His body and blood for our forgiveness. By Your grace, lead us to remember and give thanks for the boundless love which He manifested to us when, by pouring out His precious blood, He saved us from Your righteous wrath and from sin, death, and hell. Grant that we may receive the bread and wine, that is, His body and blood, as a gift, guarantee, and pledge of His salvation. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

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.

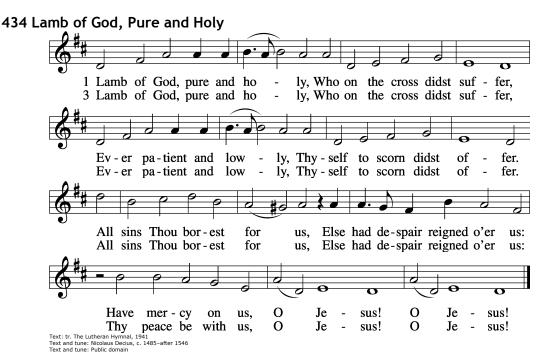
The Words of Our Lord

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

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

Pax Domini

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.



Please be seated.

Distribution

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:

Distribution 217

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

Amen.

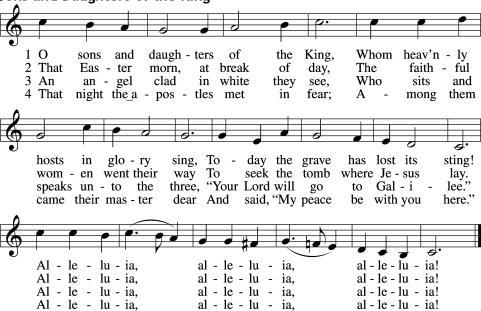
Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

Amen.

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

- The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart H in peace and joy.
- C Amen.

470 O Sons and Daughters of the King

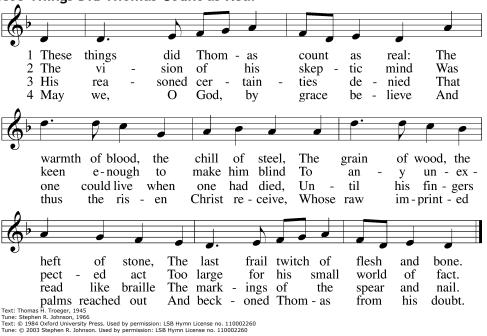


- 5 When Thomas first the tidings heard That they had seen the risen Lord, He doubted the disciples' word. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 6 "My piercèd side, O Thomas, see, And look upon My hands, My feet; Not faithless but believing be." Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- No longer Thomas then denied;
 He saw the feet, the hands, the side;
 "You are my Lord and God!" he cried.
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

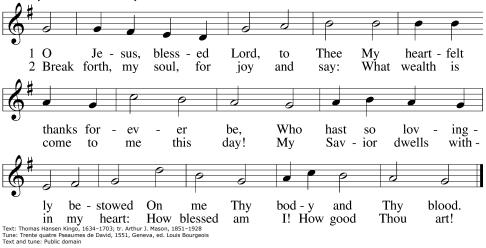
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- 8 How blest are they who have not seen And yet whose faith has constant been, For they eternal life shall win. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- On this most holy day of days
 Be laud and jubilee and praise:
 To God your hearts and voices raise.
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

472 These Things Did Thomas Count as Real



632 O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee



Post-Communion Collect

 \mathbf{A} Let us pray.

> We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus 218

Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

 \mathbf{P} The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

720 We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight



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