

Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 11, 2025



St. John's Lutheran Church of Parkville

stjohnsparkville.org

(410) 665-1234

office@stjohnsparkville.org

Text SJPARKVILLE to 22828 to join our email list.

Welcome to St. John's—we are glad you're here! Whether you have worshiped with us many times, or this is your first time, there is a place for you here. Your presence among us is a gift.

Introduction to the Day

The gift of new life, of eternal life, is the gift of the risen Christ. It is the promise of Jesus. It was true for Dorcas in Joppa. It was true for those “who have come out of the great ordeal” in the Revelation vision. It is true for us and for all the baptized: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

*(Please take a moment to silence all electronics. Thank you!)
(Hymns are taken from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, the red book in the pew rack.)*

WELCOME

PRELUDE *His Love All Over the World* Yoon-Mee Chong, violinist
(Music: Han-Sung Chae; Arr.: Yong-Jin Noh)

(Please stand as you are able.)

GATHERING

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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.

STAFF

Rev. Mathew Berger, Pastor mathew.berger@stjohnsparkville.org 913-634-7131	Rev. Amy Berger, Pastor amy.berger@stjohnsparkville.org 443-286-5511
Martha Requard, Director of Music	Carol Erpenstein, Office Administrator
Scott Becker, Sexton	

For emergencies call 443-844-9314

*****The Pastors are off on Fridays*****



Notice of live streaming:

Today’s worship service is being live streamed to YouTube with video coverage of leaders and worshippers.



St. John’s Lutheran Church Parkville



stjohnsparkville

This week's schedule		
Today	9:00 am	Handbell Choir (Music Room)
	9:00 am	Sunday School & Faith + Fellowship (Fellowship Hall)
	10:00 am	Live & Online Worship
Mon.		
Tues.	7:00 pm	Men-in-Mission Meeting (Youth Room)
	7:00 pm	Trinity Circle (Smith Building)
Wed.	9:30 am	Busy Bees (Smith Building)
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir (Music Room)
Thurs.		
Fri.	11:00 am	Bible Study (Smith Building)
Sat.	9:00 am	Men-in-Mission Breakfast (Double T Diner-Perry Hall)

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 *The Day of Resurrection!* **ELW 361**
(Text: John of Damascus, c. 696-c 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt. Music: German melody, 18th cent.; adapt. X. L. Hartig, melodien zum Mainzer Gesangbuche, 1833)

GREETING

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, 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 SERMON

WORD

FIRST READING **Acts 9:36-43**

Dorcas was a faithful and devoted woman of charity in the community of Joppa. Her kindness and her work with clothing were well-known, especially to the widows in town. When she fell ill and died, Peter raised her back to life through the power of prayer.

³⁶ Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷ At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸ Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come

Counting our Blessings			
Sun. 5/4	Attendance: 125 Offering: \$5,251 Homebound: 14	2025	
		February Offering Income	\$ 27,891
		February Other Income	\$ 4,348
		February Total Income	\$ 32,239
		February Expenses	\$ 31,597
		YTD Offering Income	\$ 69,560
		YTD Other Income	\$ 12,449
		YTD Total Income	\$ 82,009
		YTD Expenses	\$ 77,092

to us without delay.”³⁹ So Peter got up and went with them, and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them.⁴⁰ Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, “Tabitha, get up.” Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up.⁴¹ He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive.⁴² This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.⁴³ Meanwhile, he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM *(Read responsively; congregation reads bold verses)*

Psalm 23

¹ The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

² **The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

³ You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name’s sake.

⁴ **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶ **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

SECOND READING

Revelation 7:9-17

Christ is the shepherd who leads his faithful to springs of the water of life. Christ is also the lamb who vanquishes sin and suffering.

⁹ After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands.¹⁰ They cried out in a loud voice, saying, “Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!”

¹¹ And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God,¹² singing, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?”¹⁴ I said to him, “Sir, you are the one who knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.



Prayer List

Please remember the following individuals in your prayers.

For health & healing: Shirley Kreh, Mary Gude, Olusegun Fowode, Marge Jasper, John McLaughlin, Julie Hastings, Kim Townsley, Mildred Schaffer, Bill Fliegel, Ruth Albrecht, Marion McDonough, Diane Carroll, Richard Souders, Oluseye Fowode, Robert Suznick, Lisa Duerling, Joan Swank, Pat Hurley, Debbie Miller, Sandy Scott and Vickie Jasinski

For family & friends: Bob White, Wendy Kraft, Michael Elligson, Fred Smith, Anna Meyer, Patricia Dunn, Jerre Keller, Hank Truslow, Scott Hendricks, Ed, Chuck Taylor, Jane Esterby, Patsy Smith, Marianne Widderich, Peggy Lee Vanhouten, Hanna Greenberg, Charlotte Leach, Henry Davis, Bill Beck, Lynn Federline, Danielle Wilkinson, Dr. Vincent Wroblewski

For the military and their families: Christopher McCann, Mason Arnold, Kalib McCann, Leroy Keller, Seaman E-3 Carson Anthony Bowser, Corporal Justin Ferro, Staff Sgt. Brandan Hartmann, Michael Anthony Tucker, and all those in harm’s way

For those grieving family & friends of: Rev. William Swisher, Norma Jean Stewart, Patrick O’Connell, Gary Fuhrman

For St. John’s Caring Friends: Patricia Becker, Agatha Biensach-Daniels, Barbara Conrad, Margaret Eubert, June Franz, Betty Glassband, Richard Hoerner, Patricia Hurley, Audrey Lentz, Paul Nolder, Janet Roth, Doris Rye, Kim Townsley, and Emma Volz

Note regarding the Prayer List

Those on the family & friends prayer list will remain for 6 weeks and then be removed—unless otherwise specified. If at any time you would like to add or remove someone from the list, please contact the church office.



We would like to provide meals for the Pastors when the baby comes. There is a sign up sheet on the third floor bulletin board. There is an option for providing a home cooked meal and an option for providing a gift card for their favorite restaurants.

Attention all High School and College Graduates! Contact the church office with your name, school you are graduating from, school you will be attending in the fall and your major/degree. We will offer a blessing and a small gift later this summer and you will be recognized in the weekly email and our newsletter. Email this information to the church office at office@stjohnsparkville.org by the end of May.



Join us for our next Community Meal on Wednesday, June 4th beginning at 5:30 pm. Please come and invite your friends, family and neighbors! We need donations and volunteers. You can sign up on the third floor bulletin board.

Our next Wednesday Night Worship will take place this Wednesday, June 4th after the Community Meal at 6:45 pm. This is a brief communion service held in the Smith Building with blended music featuring piano and/or guitar, as well as an interactive reflection. We hope you can join us and invite your friends and neighbors!



Save the date for St. John's night at the Ironbirds game on Friday, June 20th at 7:05 pm. Tickets are \$13. See David Evans or email him at ravenfan79@yahoo.com for tickets.

Registration is open for our 2025 Vacation Bible School. VBS will take place July 14th—18th from 9:00 am– 12:30 pm. Forms are located on the 3rd floor bulletin board, in the newsletter, on our facebook page, and in the weekly email. We are in need of volunteers. If you can help, please contact Debbie Haacke at haackefamily@comcast.net or call her at 410-661-8970.



Registration is open for our 2025 Music Camps. Primary Music Campette is July 28th-30th from 9:00 am —12:00 pm for students who have completed K through grade 2. Summer Musical Camp is August 11th –15th from 9:00 am —2:00 pm for students who have completed grades 3 through 8. Registration forms are on the third floor bulletin board, in the weekly email and on our website.

We are in need of a few more people who would be willing to serve as kitchen managers for our monthly community meals and other events. This involves a free, one-day training in-person or online to receive a food license from the county. If interested, please be in touch with Robin Dibley!



- ¹⁵ For this reason they are before the throne of God and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
- ¹⁶ They will hunger no more and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat,
- ¹⁷ for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

(Please stand as you are able.)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

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

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

GOSPEL

John 10:22-30

Jesus responds to questions about his identity with the remarkable claim that he and the Father are one. Those who understand this are his sheep; they hear his voice, follow, and will never be snatched from his hand.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²² At that time the Festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³ and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.” ²⁵ Jesus answered, “I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name testify to me, ²⁶ but you do not believe because you do not belong to my

sheep. ²⁷ My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ My Father, in regard to what he has given me, is greater than all, and no one can snatch them out of the Father's hand. ³⁰ The Father and I are one."

The gospel of the Lord.

(The assembly is seated.)

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

(Please stand as you are able.)

HYMN OF THE DAY

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

ELW 789

(Text: attr. Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1779-1847; Music: William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868)

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.**

Announcements & Upcoming Events

Next Week— Sunday, May 18th—Fifth Sunday of Easter

- † 9 am—**Handbell Choir**
 - † 9 am—**Sunday School and Faith + Fellowship**
 - † 10 am—**Worship in-person and livestreamed on our YouTube Channel**
 - † 11:30 am—**Exec. Meeting**
 - † 11:30 am—**Altar Guild Meeting**
 - † 11:30 am—**Youth Group**
- Visit stjohnsparkville.org



The beautiful flowers gracing our worship service today are given in honor of Joan Swank's 90th birthday.

Additional flowers are given in honor of Joshua Hills' graduation from Susquehanna University with love from his family.

Additional flowers are given in memory of Mildred F. Insley, by her daughter, Betty Ehm.

We are taking altar flower dedications for 2025. The cost is \$50. Contact Rachel Hills at rm_hills@yahoo.com if you would like to sponsor the flowers. Dates available are June 22nd and 29th, August 31st, September 7th and 28th, October 12th and 19th, November 30th, December 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th.

Nursery Care for infants through age 2 is available during the Sunday School hour while parents are attending Faith and Fellowship. During worship, care is available for infants through kindergarten.



St. John's Youth Group will meet on Sunday, May 18th, from about 11:15 am—12:30 pm. This group is for middle and high school students. Join us as we have fun, get to know one another and grow in faith.



Faith and Fellowship meets in the Fellowship Hall on the first floor from 9 am—9:45 am each Sunday. This is an opportunity for adults to gather for light refreshments and to grow in faith.



BIBLE Study Join us for our Friday morning Bible Study at 11:00 am in the Smith Building. We are studying the Gospel of John. All are welcome!



The Food for Thought Program is packing 40 weekend bags each week for 20 students experiencing food insecurity at Carney Elementary. **At this time we are in need of: tuna & chicken salad kits.** Offering money helps support this effort too!



Commemorations

When we are baptized, we are baptized into the body of Christ. We understand this body to be the communion of saints, a diverse witness of people across time and space.

Throughout its history, the church has sought to lift up Christians who have been unique, exemplary people of faith. It is not that these people are perfect, as we are all both saint and sinner. Our faith in God working in them can be a reminder of God's grace working in all of our lives. "The saints are to be remembered so that we may strengthen our faith when we see how they experienced grace and how they were helped by faith."

(Augsburg Confession)

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Matthias, Apostle

Wednesday, May 14, 2025

Matthias was the apostle added to the Twelve after Jesus' resurrection, as a replacement for the dead Judas Iscariot. He had traveled among the followers of Jesus throughout the Lord's ministry. Formerly commemorated on February 24, Matthias's celebration is moved to May 14 in agreement with most Western calendars.

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
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.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

After each petition

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

(We offer each other a sign of God's peace. Afterwards, the assembly is seated.)

MEAL

OFFERTORY MUSIC

He Will Carry Me

Adult Choir

(Words: Cheryl Reid; Music: Shelton Ridge Love; © 2019 Lorenz Publishing Company)

Thank you for your generous support of St. John's. During this time an offering is gathered for the mission and ministry of the Church as together we experience and share God's abundant grace and love.

Many in our congregation give online. You can set up one-time or recurring donations on our website stjohnsparkville.org. Checks and cash may be placed in the offering plate. You may also donate via venmo @stjohnsparkville

(Please stand as you are able.)



In honor of Mother's Day a donation has been made to the Victor's Vittles Food Pantry.



Gracious God,

This Mother's Day, bless mothers, grandmothers, and all who offer mothering care. Come close to those whose relationships with their families are difficult, and console all who grieve the loss of mother figures or the loss of children. We pray this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

OFFERING HYMN

Come to the Table

ELW 481



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

Text: Claire Cloninger, b. 1942
 Music: COME TO THE TABLE, Martin J. Nystrom, b. 1956
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OFFERING PRAYER

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.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

You Are Holy

Du är helig



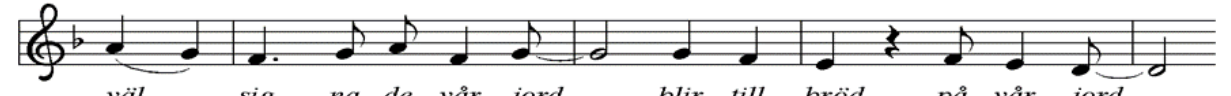
*1**
 Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck - et mer
 You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.
 than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.



Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,
 Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here



väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.
 to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.



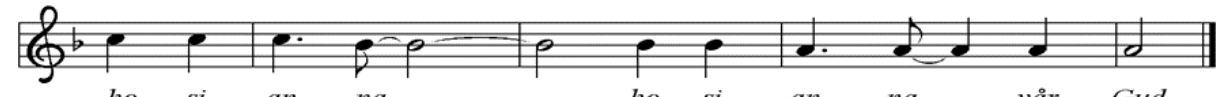
2
 Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,
 You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,



du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!
 you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!



Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,
 Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!



ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.
 Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

* May be sung in canon.

Text: Per Harling, b. 1945
 Music: DU ÄR HELIG, Per Harling
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SENDING

BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
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

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

ELW 631

(Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788; Music: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-1887)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

arr. John A Behnke

(© 2001 Hope Publishing Company)

Those Serving Today	
Assisting Minister	Megan Czarski
Crucifer	Landry E.
Acolyte (s)	Jack W., Paige M.
Lector	Amanda Hartman
Communion Assistant	Amanda Hartman
Dismissal Assistant	Jack W.

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.

PREFACE

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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

You Are Holy (See page 13)

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, living, and loving God,
we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.

We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood,
for freeing your chosen people from the bonds of slavery,
and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.
We give you thanks for Jesus
who, living among us,
healed the sick,
fed the hungry,
and with a love stronger than death,
gave his life for others.

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,

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shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,
his life-giving death and glorious resurrection,
we await your promised life for all this dying world.

Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup:
carry us in your arms from death to life,
that we may live as your chosen ones,
clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Blessing, praise, and thanks
to you, holy God,
through Christ Jesus,
by your Spirit,
in your church,
without end.

Amen.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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 assembly is seated.)

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

COMMUNION

All are welcome at Christ's table. Bread is received in the hands. Gluten-free wafers are available-if you need one, please ask the pastor. To receive the wine, take an empty cup and the communion assistant will fill it with wine. The cups that are already filled contain grape juice. After drinking, place the used cup in the basket on your way back to your seat.

*If you are not communing you are welcome to come forward for a blessing,
crossing your arms over your chest.*

Be known to us, Lord

ACS pg.40



Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.



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



Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.



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

COMMUNION HYMNS *Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness* ELW 843

(Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955; Music: J. Wyeth, Repository of Sacred Music, Part II, 1813; Text © 1987 Hope Publishing Company)

The Lord's My Shepherd ELW 778

(Text: The Psalms of David in Meeter, Edinburgh, 1650; Music: James L. Macbeth Bain; arr. Gordon Jacob, 1895-1984; Arr. © Oxford University Press)

(The assembly remains seated.)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS