

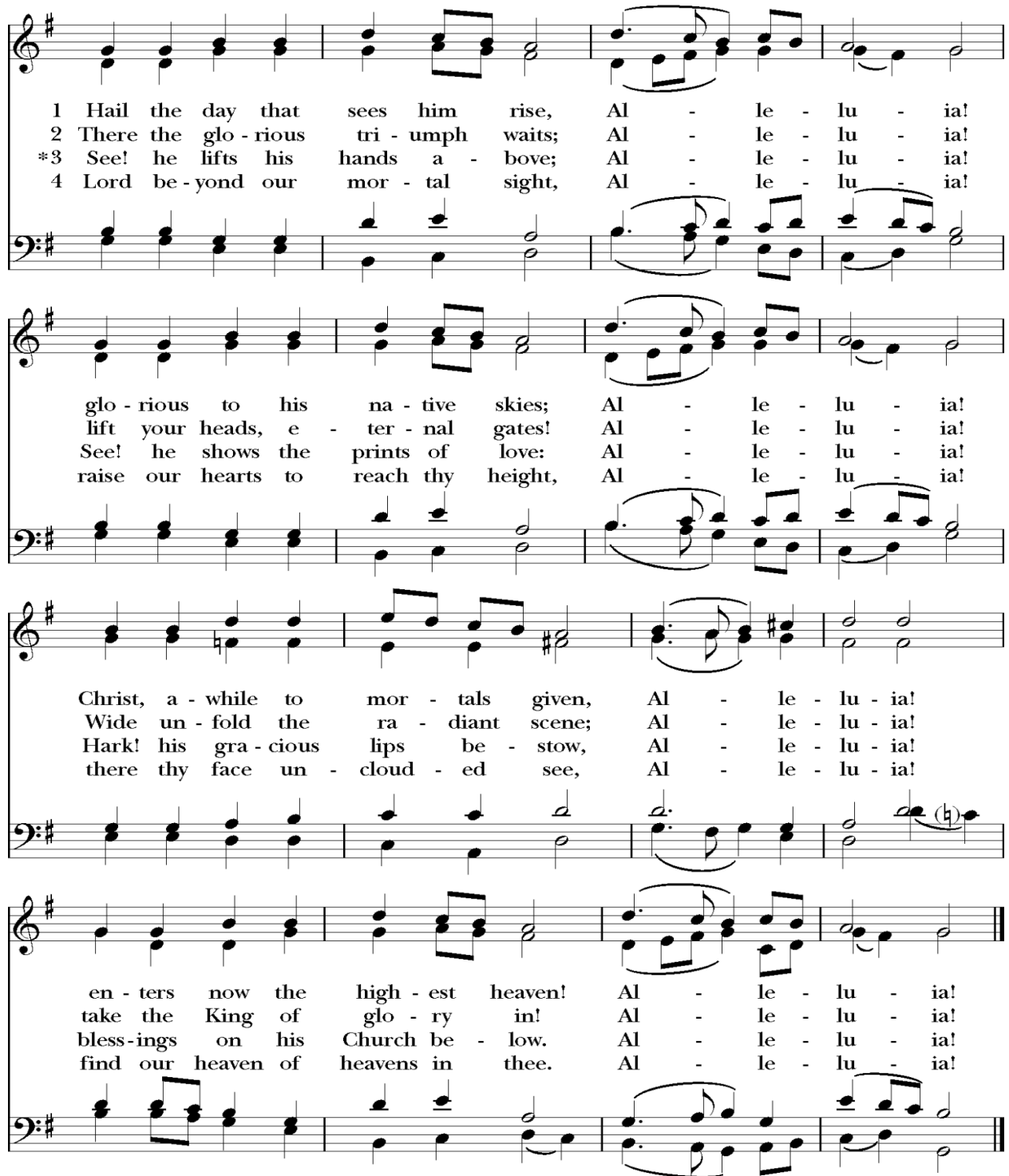
St. Martin's Episcopal Church
Bridgewater, New Jersey



An Abbreviated Celebration of the Holy Eucharist
with Spiritual Communion
Rite 2

Mass for the Sunday after the Ascension
May 16, 2021 + 10:30 am

Opening Hymn (*Please stand as the Cross and priest process and the cantor begins to sing, and prayerfully read the text as the cantor sings alone. During the singing of the hymn, the people are asperged with holy water in remembrance of their baptisms*)



1 Hail the day that sees him rise, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 There the glo - rious tri - umph waits; Al - le - lu - ia!
 *3 See! he lifts his hands a - bove; Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Lord be - yond our mor - tal sight, Al - le - lu - ia!

glo - rious to his na - tive skies; Al - le - lu - ia!
 lift your heads, e - ter - nal gates! Al - le - lu - ia!
 See! he shows the prints of love: Al - le - lu - ia!
 raise our hearts to reach thy height, Al - le - lu - ia!

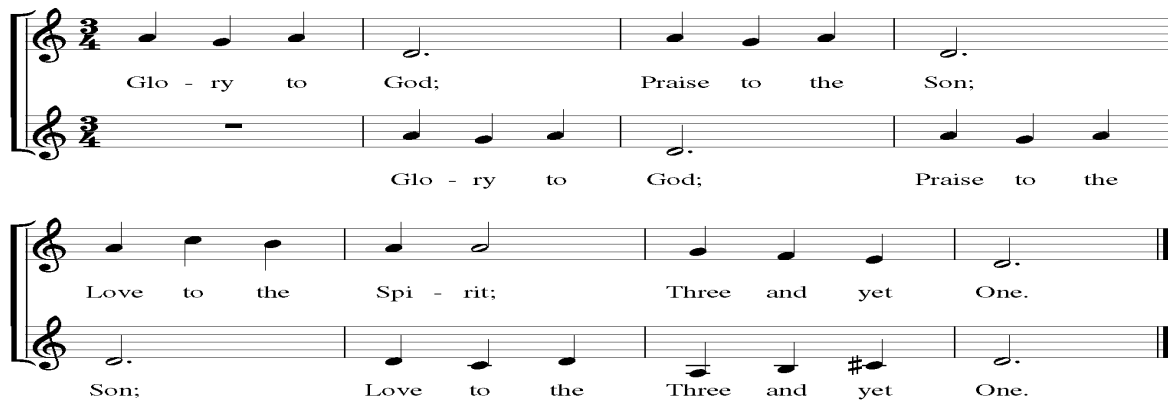
Christ, a - while to mor - tals given, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Wide un - fold the ra - diant scene; Al - le - lu - ia!
 Hark! his gra - cious lips be - stow, Al - le - lu - ia!
 there thy face un - cloud - ed see, Al - le - lu - ia!

en - ters now the high - est heaven! Al - le - lu - ia!
 take the King of glo - ry in! Al - le - lu - ia!
 bless - ings on his Church be - low. Al - le - lu - ia!
 find our heaven of heavens in thee. Al - le - lu - ia!

Priest: + Alleluia, Christ is Risen!

All: *The Lord is Risen, Alleluia!*

Hymn of Praise: Gloria in excelsis *(sung by cantor)*



Collect of the Day

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

The Lesson (Acts 1:1-11) *Please be seated*

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times

or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. 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." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. 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."

The Word of the Lord/ *Thanks be to God*

Psalm 47 *Omnes gentes, plaudite*

1 Clap your hands, all you peoples; *
shout to God with a cry of joy.

5 God has gone up with a shout, *
the Lord with the sound of the ram's-horn.

6 Sing praises to God, sing praises; *
sing praises to our God, sing praises.

7 For God is Sovereign over of all the earth; *
sing praises with all your skill.

8 God reigns over the nations; *
God sits upon a holy throne.

9 The nobles of the peoples have gathered together *
with the people of the God of Abraham.

10 The rulers of the earth belong to God, *
and God is highly exalted.

Gospel Acclamation *(Please stand)*

Cantor: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Go and teach all nations says the Lord; I am with you always until the end of the world. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel

The Holy Gospel of our + Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

All: Glory to you, Lord Christ

Jesus said to his disciples, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you-- that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God. *Luke 24:44-53*

The Gospel of the Lord./ *All: Praise to you, O Christ.*

The Homily

Father Robert Laws

The Nicene Creed *(Please stand)*

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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. 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 and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.

The Prayers of the People Form III

The Leader and People pray responsively. Please stand or kneel

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on (insert names here) and all those who suffer from any
grief or trouble; *That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Give to (insert names here) and all of the departed eternal rest.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Martin and all your saints who
have entered into joy; *May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

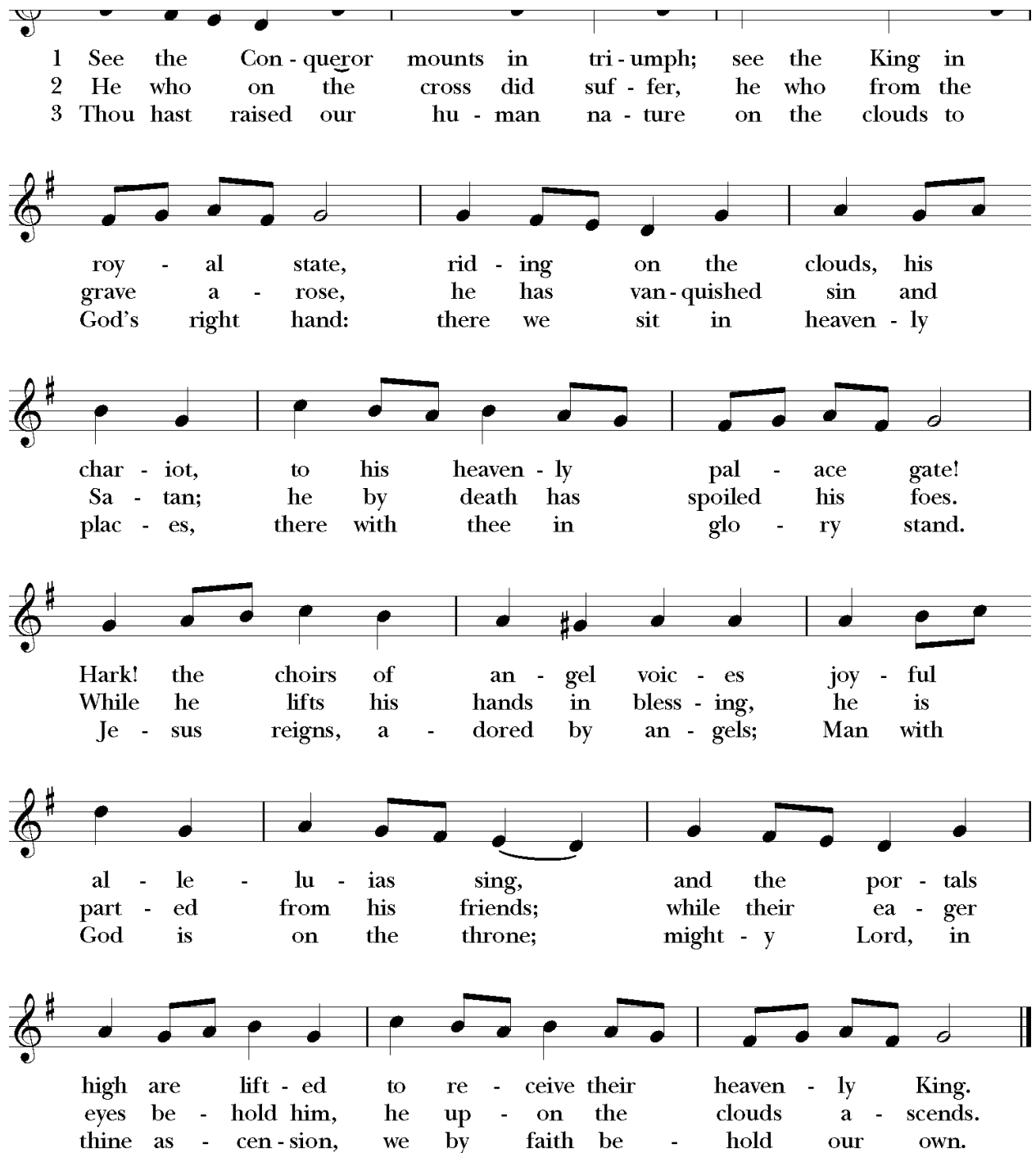
Priest: Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth:
Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your
will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Peace and The Offertory Sentence

*(You may be seated during the Offertory hymn. Please remember that only the cantor is
permitted to sing, but you are encouraged to prayerfully read the lyrics.*

*Please stand as the Thurifer turns toward the Nave to cense the people. It is customary to
bow to the Thurifer as he bows to you before and after the censuring)*

The Offertory Hymn



1 See the Con - queror mounts in tri - umph; see the King in
 2 He who on the cross did suf - fer, he who from the
 3 Thou hast raised our hu - man na - ture on the clouds to

roy - al state, rid - ing on the clouds, his
 grave a - rose, he has van - quished sin and
 God's right hand: there we sit in heaven - ly

char - iot, to his heaven - ly pal - ace gate!
 Sa - tan; he by death has spoiled his foes.
 plac - es, there with thee in glo - ry stand.

Hark! the choirs of an - gel voic - es joy - ful
 While he lifts his hands in bless - ing, he is
 Je - sus reigns, a - dored by an - gels; Man with

al - le - lu - ias sing, and the por - tals
 part - ed from his friends; while their ea - ger
 God is on the throne; might - y Lord, in

high are lift - ed to re - ceive their heaven - ly King.
 eyes be - hold him, he up - on the clouds a - scends.
 thine as - cen - sion, we by faith be - hold our own.

Words: Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885), alt. Music: *In Babilone*, melody from *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenliedjes en Contradanseu*, 1710; harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944) Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

The Liturgy of the Altar

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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through your dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord. After his glorious resurrection he openly appeared to his disciples, and in their sight ascended into heaven, to prepare a place for us; that where he is, there we might also be, and reign with him in glory. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

***Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he + who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.***

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with The Ever Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Martin of Tours and all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. *Amen.*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
*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, for ever and ever. Amen.*

The Fraction

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Happy are they who are called to the Supper of the Lamb.

An Act of Spiritual Communion *(prayed silently by those who watching online)*

In union, dear Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are being offered, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, and embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Let me never be separated from you. Let me live and die in your love. Amen. Lord Jesus, come dwell in my heart.

Because of Covid restrictions, Holy Communion will be administered in one kind- the body of Christ only (although both the Body and Blood of Christ are present in the consecrated host.) Please stand at your seat with hands extended to receive Communion as the priest passes. Please do not consume the host until the priest has gone to the next pew.

Communion Hymn

1 When Christ was lift - ed from the earth, his
 2 Still east and west his love ex - tends and
 3 Where gen - er - a - tion, class, or race di -
 4 Thus free - ly loved, though ful - ly known, may

arms stretched out a - bove through ev - ery cul - ture,
 al - ways, near or far, he calls and claims us
 vide us to our shame, he sees not la - bels
 I in Christ be free to wel - come and ac -

ev - ery birth, to draw an an - swering love.
 as his friends and loves us as we are.
 but a face, a per - son, and a name.
 cept his own as Christ ac - cept - ed me.

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Post Communion Prayer *(Please kneel or stand)*

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing *(Please stand)*

May the risen Christ Who has passed into the heavens Clothe you with power from on high, and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Closing Hymn (*Please stand*)

1 Re - joice, the Lord of life a - scends
 2 No more his mor - tal form we see;
 3 He reigns, but with a love that shares
 4 He reigns in heaven un - til the hour

in tri - umph from earth's bat - tle - field:
 he reigns in vis - i - ble but near:
 when he, who once our earth - ly life;
 cru - ci - fied,

his strife with hu - man ha - tred ends,
 for in the midst of his love's two or three
 he takes come up in all his love's heart the cares,
 shall come in on all his love's glo - rious power

as sin and death their con - quests yield.
 he makes his glo - rious pres - ence clear.
 the pain, and shame of hu - man strife.
 to rule the world for which he died.

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