NARRATIVE LECTIONARY—YEAR 1—WEEK 4



"WHEN YOU PASS THROUGH THE WATERS"

PARTING OF THE RED SEA EXODUS 14

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

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CHRIS MASON AND SUE WALKER IN MEMORY OF THEIR MOTHER

DIVINE SERVICE I

This service is from Divine Service, Setting One, in Lutheran Service Book.



Invocation

- P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.

Confession and Absolution (Forgiveness)

- P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

 1 John 1:8-9
- P: We pause in silence to reflect on our personal sins that trouble us.
- P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father:
- C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.



Acknowledgments

This order of worship is from the Lutheran Service Book, Divine Service, Setting One.

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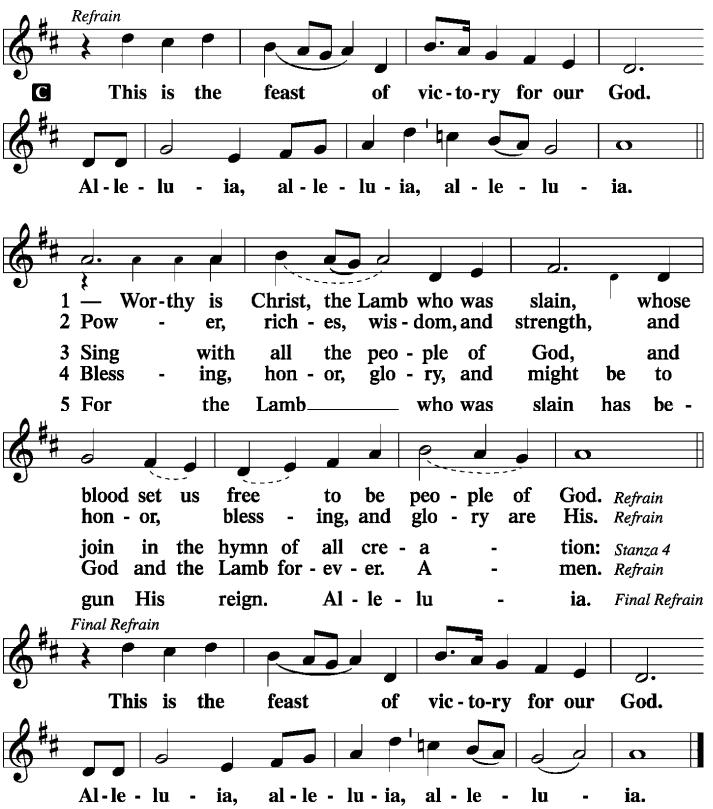
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Today's Collect by Dr. Kimberly Leetch. www.kimberlyleetch.com

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This Is the Feast LSB 155



This Week's Reading Exodus 14:5-7,10-14,21-31, 15:1-2, 20-22 (VOICE)

⁵When Egypt's king received the news that the Israelites had run away, the attitude of Pharaoh and his servants changed. They began talking among themselves.

Pharaoh's Servants:

What have we done? We have released the Israelites from serving us and lost our labor force!

⁶ Pharaoh prepared his chariot and called out his army. ⁷ He took a select group of the 600 best chariots in the land plus all the other chariots in Egypt with drivers commanding all of them.

¹⁰ Pharaoh approached the Israelites' camp, and the Israelites saw the Egyptian army closing in on them. The Israelites were trapped and feared for their lives, so they cried out to the Eternal.

Israelites: (to Moses):

¹¹ Were there not enough graves in Egypt? Is that why you brought us out here to die in the desert? Why have you done this to us? Why have you made us leave Egypt? ¹² Didn't we tell you in Egypt, "Stop pestering us so that we can *get on with our lives and* serve the Egyptians"? It would have been better for us to live as slaves to the Egyptians than to die out here in the desert.

Moses: (to the people):

¹³ Don't be afraid! Stand *your ground* and witness how the Eternal will rescue you today. Take a good look at the Egyptians, for after today you will never see them again. ¹⁴ The Eternal will fight on your behalf while you watch in silence.

²¹ Moses then took his staff and reached out over the sea. The Eternal parted the sea with a strong east wind, which blew all night and turned the floor of the sea into dry ground between the divided waters. ²² The Israelites *broke camp and* traveled on dry ground through the parted waters, and the sea stood like a *solid* wall on their right and on their left.

²³ The Egyptians were undaunted. They continued their pursuit; all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot-drivers followed the Israelites into the middle of the sea.

²⁴ Before daybreak the Eternal peered down upon the Egyptian army through the fire pillar and the cloud pillar and threw them all into confusion. ²⁵ He caused the

wheels of their chariots to break down so that it was nearly impossible for the drivers to control them. The Egyptians knew something was wrong.

Egyptians:

Let's go and get away from these Israelites. Their God, the Eternal One, is fighting for them against us.

²⁶ After all the Israelites had reached the other side of the sea, the Eternal spoke to Moses.

Eternal One / God (to Moses):

Now take your staff and reach out over the sea. The waters which I parted will crash upon the Egyptians and cover their chariots and chariot-drivers.

²⁷ So Moses raised his hand and reached out over the sea, *and the walls of water collapsed*. As dawn gave way to morning, the sea returned to normal and the Eternal swept the retreating Egyptian army into the sea. ²⁸ The waters rushed and covered all the chariots and their drivers, swallowing up all of Pharaoh's army that had pursued Israel into the sea. Not one Egyptian survived.

²⁹ But the Israelites had walked *safely* through the parted waters on dry ground, and the sea stood like a *solid* wall on their right and on their left. ³⁰ That day the Eternal rescued Israel from the *powerful* grip of the Egyptians, and Israel watched the corpses of the Egyptians *wash up* on the shore. ³¹ When Israel witnessed the incredible power that the Eternal used to defeat the Egyptians, the people were struck with fear of Him, and they trusted in Him and also in Moses, His servant.

Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the Eternal One.

Israelites and Moses:

I will sing to the Eternal, for He has won a great victory; He has thrown the chariot into the sea: horse and rider.

The Eternal is my strength and my song, and He has come to save me;
 He is my God, and I will praise Him.
 He is the God of my father, and I will exalt Him.

²⁰ The prophetess, Miriam (Aaron's sister), picked up a tambourine, and all *the rest* of the women followed her with tambourines and *joyful* dancing.

Miriam:

Sing to the Eternal One, for He has won a great victory; He has thrown the horse and its chariot into the sea.

Just as they sang songs of praise and thankfulness to God for how He had liberated them from slavery, so the people of Israel continued to sing songs and remember. Generations later, God spoke words through the prophet Isaiah which recall the ways He saved the people in the Exodus—and yet they're also a promise that God will be with us through all things.

¹But now thus says the LORD,

Isaiah 43:1–3a (ESV)

he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel:

Eternal One / God:

"Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.

²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

³For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior."

L: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Greeting and Collect (Prayer of the Day)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. God of salvation, you rescued the Israelites at the edge of the Red Sea. Rescue us from the things of this world that threaten our lives and livelihoods, so that we might forever place our trust in you. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.







They served with strength and glad - ness In tasks Your wis - dom gave. As Is - rael marched to free - dom, Her chains of bond - age gone, We of - fer glad thanks-giv - ing And fer - ventprayer we raise With saints who went be - fore us, With saints who wit - ness still,



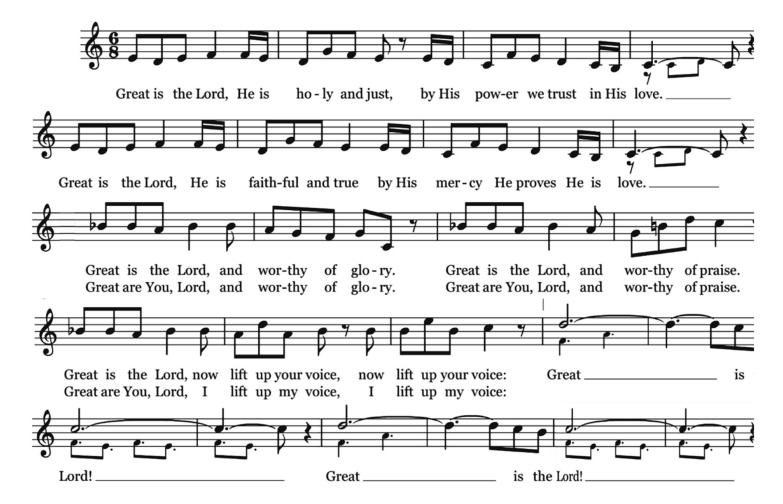
You their lives bore wit-ness, Pro-claimed Your pow'r to To save. So king-dom Your might-y may we reach the arm has won. Your ser - vice, Our lives may That, faith - ful in sing Your praise. Al - le - lu - ias And strive to We Your will. sing glad do

Sermon "When You Pass Through the Waters" Exodus 14 & 15, and Isaiah 43:1-3a



Song of Praise

Great is the Lord



Confession of Faith

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.—And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.—And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Offering & Prayer Requests

In addition to the prayer requests already received, Pastor will pause here to see if there are additional requests. Prayers can be thanksgivings, joy, requests for yourself, or requests for others.

Church Imitating Christ

Acts 2:42-47 (ESV)

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' **teaching** and the **fellowship**, to the **breaking of bread** and the **prayers**. ⁴³ And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵ And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, **as any had need**. ⁴⁶ And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with **glad and generous hearts**, ⁴⁷ praising God and having **favor with all the people**. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

P: Bethel as a congregation seeks to be a

C: Church imitating Christ.

P: In worship and teaching and devotion,

C: We devote ourselves to the Scriptures.

P: Jesus Christ is the Word of God in the flesh.

C: We devote ourselves to Him.

P: When we devote ourselves to the Scriptures, we are a

C: Church imitating Christ. Amen.



Winsomeness

Prayers

The Lord's Supper: What We Believe

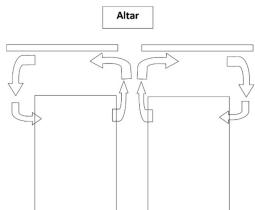
All Christians who are baptized and have been instructed are invited to receive Communion with us if you believe as we do—that the bread is the body of Christ, and the wine is the blood of Christ,

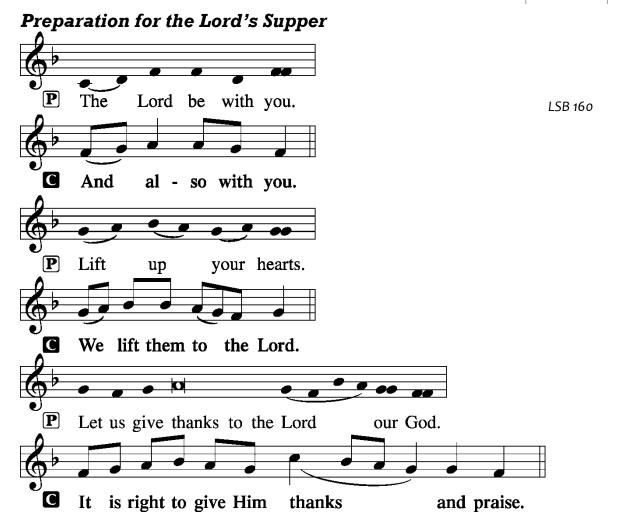
truly present for us for the forgiveness of our sins.

If this is a new teaching to you, or if this is different than you believe, we ask that you wait to commune until we've had a further chance to talk. We invite those who are not communing to come to the rail, cross your arms, and receive a blessing from the Lord.

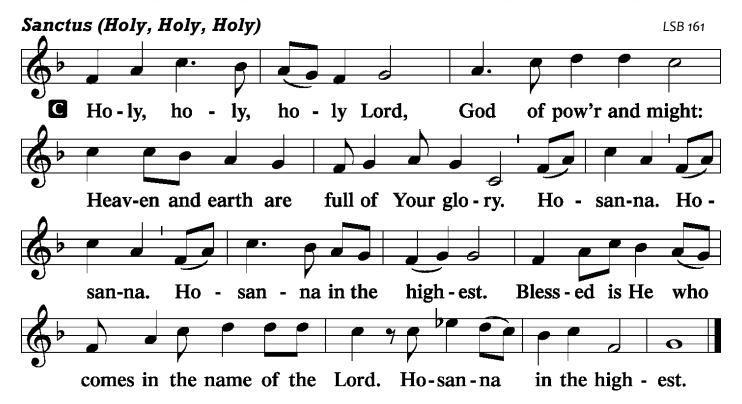
Communion Distribution

- Pastor distributes the bread, and the Elders distribute the wine—with individual cups or common cup. The individual trays also contain alcohol-removed wine in the center of each tray in the purple cups.
- Each side will be ushered from the center aisle to the communion rail, row by row, starting with the front.
- Go to the rail on your side of the sanctuary, filling in starting with the outside wall towards the center.
- Once you have received the elements, you may remain at the rail for prayer and leave at your own pace.
- Return to your seat using the outside aisle.
- Use the distribution time to prepare yourself for communion, sing the hymns as prayers to God, and maintain this as meditative time.





P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



The Lord's Prayer

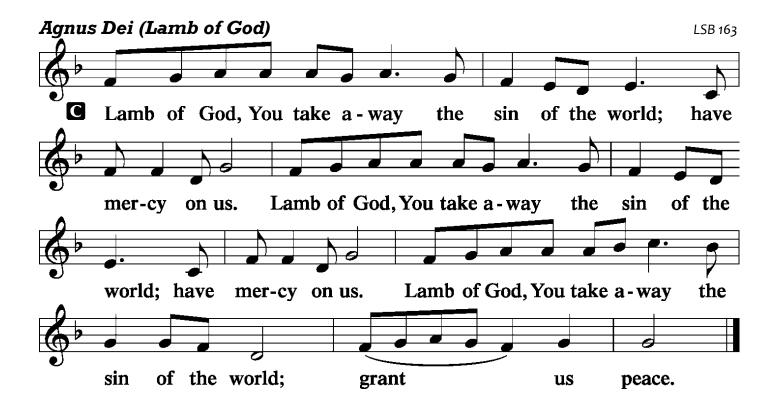
P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

All: 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.

Words of Institution

Pax Domini (The Peace of the Lord)

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C:** And also with you. (We greet one another in peace saying "God's peace" or "The Lord be with you.")



• Use the anthem's music and words to help you to meditate on God's Word and His truth for you today. Maintain this as meditative time.

Adult Choir

Communion Song

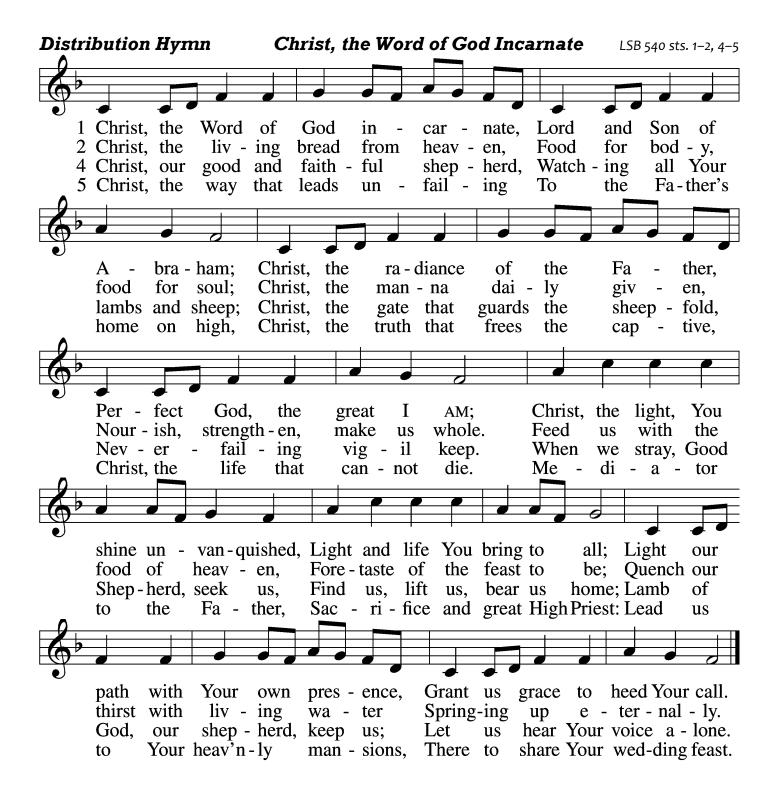
We come to the table the Lord has prepared.
With hearts ever grateful, we join now in prayer.
For times we have failed in the lives that we live,
We come to seek forgiveness that God alone can give.

Anthem

Now the bread is broken; now the cup is poured. Now the words are spoken in remembrance of our Lord. Now we know God's promise; now we feel God's grace. Now we find forgiveness in this gift of love we share today.

We come as believers who trust in the Lord. We come because we love Him and want to love Him more.

Now the bread is broken; now the cup is poured. Now the words are spoken in remembrance of our Lord. Now we know God's promise; now we feel God's grace. Now we find forgiveness in this gift of love we share today. Now we find forgiveness as we share God's love today.



Common Dismissal

P: Now may this true body and true blood of our Lord....

C: Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

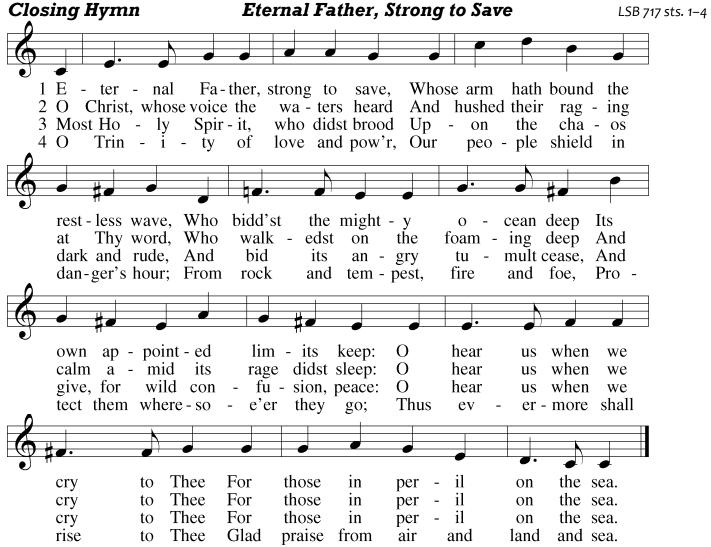
P: Let us pray. We give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore you that of your mercy you would strengthen us through the same in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and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

C: Amen.

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.



Text: William Whiting, 1825–78, alt.; (sts. 2a–3a): Robert N. Spencer, 1877–1961, alt. Tune: John B. Dykes, 1823–76

Announcements