

After He rose from the dead, the Lord Jesus presented Himself alive to the apostles, “*appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God*” (Acts 1:3). After 40 days, He ascended to the heavens. This year 40 days past Easter was Thursday, May 18, but we moved our celebration to today.

NARRATIVE LECTIONARY—YEAR 1—WEEK 34 CELEBRATION OF THE ASCENSION



BAPTIZED INTO THE ASCENDED CHRIST ROMANS 6:1-14

SUNDAY, MAY 21, 2023

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ALTAR FLOWERS ARE PROVIDED BY:

JIM FRANZ IN MEMORY OF HIS MOTHER



DIVINE SERVICE I

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

Explanation of the Christ Candle



The Christ Candle was lit on Good Friday, remaining lit through the dark days of crucifixion and burial of Christ, reminding us that death was not victorious. The Christ Candle continued to burn on Easter Morning—the Day of Resurrection. We’ve lit the Christ Candle on the altar each week since in celebration of the same. But the Christ Candle is removed from the altar, as a reminder that Christ ascended into heaven and was hidden from the eyes of the disciples. They awaited His promise to send His Holy Spirit.

Ascension Refrain

Hail Thee, Festival Day

LSB 489, ref-a

All

Ascension Hail thee, fes - ti - val day! Blest day to be hal - lowed for - ev - er;
 Day when our ris - en Lord Rose in the heav - ens to reign. reign.

Ascension Reading from the Gospel of Luke

Luke 24:44–53 (ESV)

⁴⁴Then [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 and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

⁵⁰Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. ⁵¹While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵²And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, ⁵³and were continually in the temple blessing God.

P: 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. O King of glory, Lord of hosts, uplifted in triumph far above all heavens, leave us not without consolation but send us the Spirit of truth whom You promised from the Father; for You live and reign with Him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Ascension Verses from 1 Timothy & Removal of the Christ Candle

P: Jesus was revealed in the flesh, 1 Timothy 3:16; liturgical verse based on Luke 24:49,53

C: **declared righteous in Spirit,**

P: seen by angels,

C: **proclaimed among the nations,**

P: believed on in the world,

C: **taken up in glory.**

P: Send us Your power from on high through Your Holy Spirit,

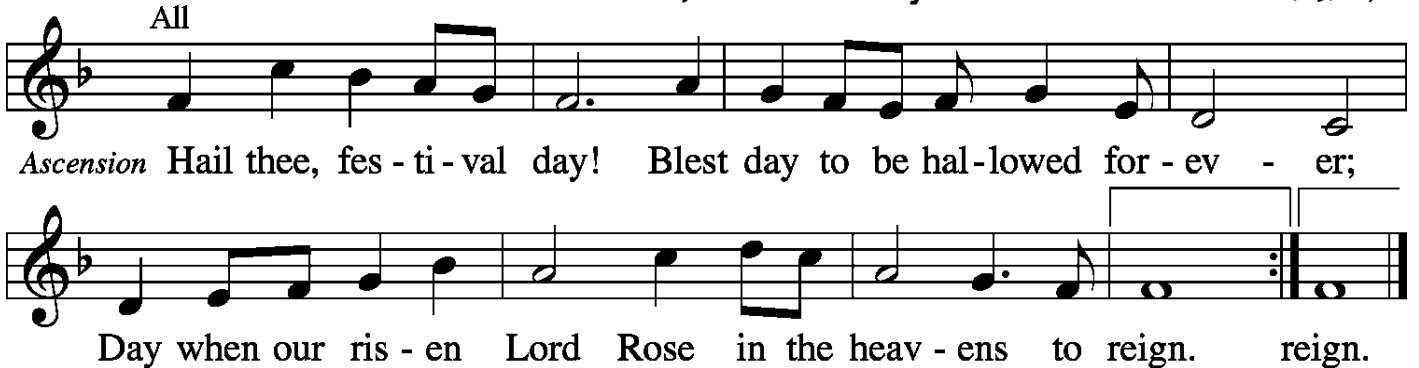
C: **So that we may go forth with joy,
proclaiming Your Name. Amen.**

Ascension Refrain

Hail Thee, Festival Day

LSB 489, ref-a

All

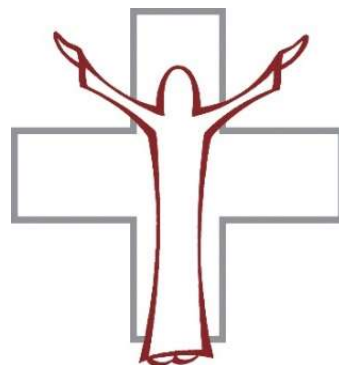


Ascension Hail thee, fes - ti - val day! Blest day to be hal - lowed for - ev - er;
Day when our ris - en Lord Rose in the heav - ens to reign. reign.

Invocation

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

C: **Amen.**

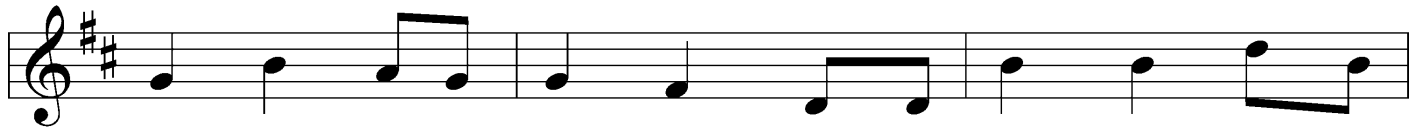


Invocation Hymn**See This Wonder in the Making**

LSB 593



1 See this won - der : I am bap - tized; God Him -
 2 Mir - a - cle each time it hap - pens As the
 3 Far more ten - der than a moth - er, Far more
 4 Here we came a child of na - ture; Home we



self this child has tak - en As a lamb safe in His
 door to heav - en o - pens And the Fa - ther beams, "Be -
 car - ing than a fa - ther, God, in - to Your arms You
 go a new-born crea - ture, Now God's pre - cious son or



keep - ing, His to be, a - wake or sleep - ing.
 lov - ed, Heir of gifts a king would cov - et!"
 take us With Your love and peace em - brace us.
 daugh - ter, Born a - gain by Word and wa - ter.

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008 Text: © 1984 Concordia Publishing House. Text adapted: The Rev. Dr. Benjamin C. Squires, 2023.

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.**

Kyrie (Lord, Have Mercy)

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise

let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.

C A - men.

This Is the Feast

Refrain

C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

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

1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

Final Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

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

Today's Narrative Lectionary Reading

Romans 6:1-14 (ESV)

¹What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

¹²Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. ¹³Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. ¹⁴For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

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 al - so with you.

P: Gracious Lord, we give thanks that in Holy Baptism we receive forgiveness of sins, deliverance from death and the devil, and eternal salvation. On this day of remembering our baptisms, bless us continually by Your Word and Spirit that we may faithfully keep the covenant into which we have been called, boldly confess our Savior, and finally share with all Your saints the joys of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.



C A - men.

Anthem**As a Little Child****Adult Choir**

- 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.

O you must become as a little child, as a little child and come unto Him.
Yes, you must become as a little child to share in the kingdom of God.

Come unto Jesus, run into His arms.
Come unto Jesus and you can share the kingdom of God.

O you must become as a little child, as a little child and come unto Him.
Yes, you must become as a little child to share in the kingdom of God.

Come unto Jesus, run into His arms.
Come unto Jesus and you can share the kingdom of God.

Jesus loves me! This I know,
For the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to Him belong,
They are weak but He is strong.

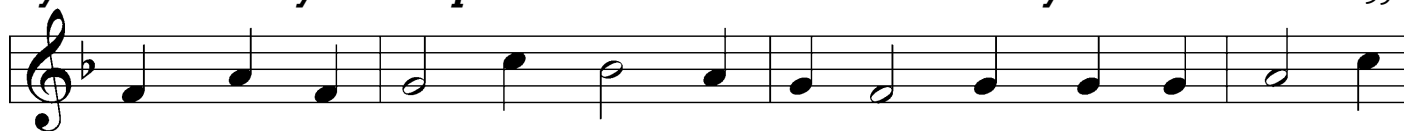
Come unto Jesus, run into His arms.
All people come unto Jesus and you can share the kingdom of God.
O you can share the kingdom of God. Yes, Jesus loves me.

Confession of Faith**Nicene Creed**

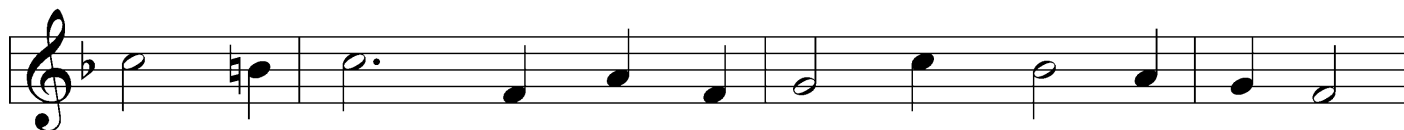
I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.—And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten not made, being of one substance 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.

Hymn of the Day **Baptized into Your Name Most Holy**

LSB 590



1 Bap-tized in - to Your name most ho - ly, O Fa - ther, Son, and
2 My lov - ing Fa - ther, here You take me To be hence-forth Your
3 My faith - ful God, You fail me nev - er; Your prom - ise sure - ly
4 All that I am and love most dear-ly— Re - ceive it all, O



Ho - ly Ghost, I claim a place, though weak and low - ly,
child and heir. My faith - ful Sav - ior, here You make me
will en - dure. O cast me not a - way for - ev - er
Lord, from me. Let me con - fess my faith sin - cere - ly;



A - mong Your saints, Your cho - sen host. Bur - ied with Christ and
The fruit of all Your sor - rows share. O Ho - ly Spir - it,
If words and deeds be - come im - pure. Have mer - cy when I
Help me Your faith - ful child to be! Let noth - ing that I

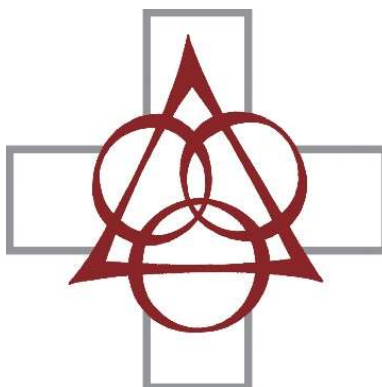


dead to sin, Your Spir - it now shall live with - in.
com - fort me When threat'ning clouds a - round I see.
come de - filed; For - give, lift up, re - store Your child.
am or own Serve an - y will but Yours a - lone.

Text: Johann Jacob Rambach, 1693–1735, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Cornelius Heinrich Dretzel, 1697–1775

Sermon

Romans 6:1-14



Song of Praise

Mighty to Save



1. Ev-'ry-one needs com-pas -sion, love that's nev - er fail -ing. _ Let
2. So take _ me as You find _ me, all my fears and fail -ures. _



mer - cy fall on _ me. _ Ev-'ry-one needs for-give -ness, _ the kind -ness of a Sav-
Fill my life a -gain. _ I give _ my life to fol -low, _ ev-'ry-thing I be-lieve.



- iour. _ The hope of na - tions. _
_ in. _ Now I sur - ren - der. _

CHORUS



Sav - iour, He can move the _ moun-tains. My God is might-y to save. _ He is



might-y to save. _ For - ev - er, Au-thor of sal - va - tion. He rose and



con-quired the grave. _ Je - sus con-quired the grave. _

After 1st time, return to 2nd verse.

After 2nd time, continue to Bridge.

After 3rd time, repeat Bridge.

BRIDGE



Shine your light, and let the whole world _ see. We're sing - ing



for the glo-ry of the ris-en _ King. _ Je-sus. Shine your light, and let the whole world.



_ see. We're singing for the glo - ry _ of the ris - en _ King. _

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After 1st time, return to Chorus.

After 2nd time, end.

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.

Offertory

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

LSB 793 sts. 1-2

(we join in singing as the offerings are brought forward to the altar)



1 Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en; To His feet your
2 Praise Him for His grace and fa - vor To His peo - ple



trib - ute bring; Ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,
in dis - tress; Praise Him still the same as ev - er,



Ev - er - more His prais - es sing: Al - le - lu - ia,
Slow to chide and swift to bless: Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! Praise the ev - er - last - ing King.
al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious in His faith - ful - ness.

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793-1847 Tune: John Goss, 1800-80

Prayers

The Lord's Supper: What We Believe

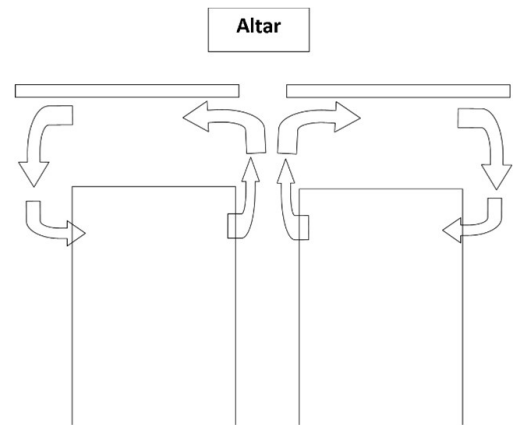
All Christians who are baptized and have been instructed are invited to receive Communion with us if you believe as we do—that the bread is the body of Christ, and the wine is the blood of Christ, truly present for us for the forgiveness of our sins.

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.



Preparation for the Lord's Supper

P The Lord be with you.

LSB 160

C And al - so 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 Him thanks and praise.

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, who after His resurrection appeared openly to all His disciples and in their sight was taken up into heaven that He might make us partakers of His divine life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy)

LSB 161

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

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.")

Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)

C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the
 world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the
 sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution Song

Let Us Break Bread Together

1. Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees, _____
 (2. Let us) drink wine to - geth - er on our knees, _____
 (3. Let us) praise God to - geth - er on our knees, _____

— let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees. _____ When I
 — let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees. _____ When I
 — let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees. _____ When I

fall on my knees with my face to the ris - ing sun, O _____
 fall on my knees with my face to the ris - ing sun, O _____
 fall on my knees with my face to the ris - ing sun, O _____

Lord, have mer - cy on me. _____ 1. 2. Let us me. _____
 Lord, have mer - cy on me. _____ 3. Let us
 Lord, have mer - cy on

Distribution Hymn

The Gifts Christ Freely Gives

LSB 602 sts. 1-2, 4-5



1 The gifts Christ free - ly gives He gives to you and me
 2 The gifts flow from the font Where He calls us His own;
 4 The gifts are there each day The ho - ly Word is read;
 5 The gifts are in the feast, Gifts far more than we see;



To be His Church, His bride, His cho - sen, saved and free!
 New life He gives that makes Us His and His a - lone.
 God's chil - dren lis - ten, hear, Re - ceive, and they are fed.
 Be - neath the bread and wine Is food from Cal - va - ry.



Saints blest with these rich gifts Are chil - dren who pro - claim
 Here He for - gives our sins With wa - ter and His Word;
 Christ fills them with Him - self, Blest words that give them life,
 The bod - y and the blood Re - move our ev - 'ry sin;



That they were won by Christ And cling to His strong name.
 The tri - une God Him - self Gives pow'r to call Him Lord.
 Re - stor - ing and re - fresh - ing Them for this world's strife.
 We leave His pres - ence in His peace, re - newed a - gain.

Text: Richard C. Resch, 1947, Tune: Charles J. Dale, 1842-1912, alt.

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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.

Choral Benediction

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.

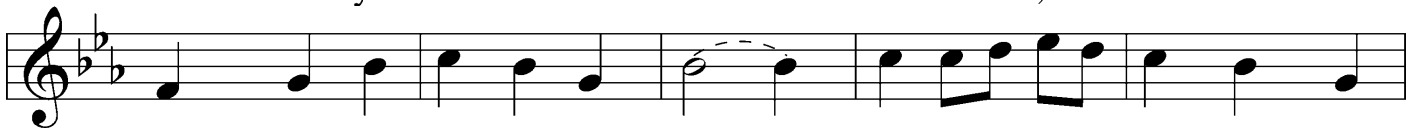
Closing Hymn

Christ Be My Leader

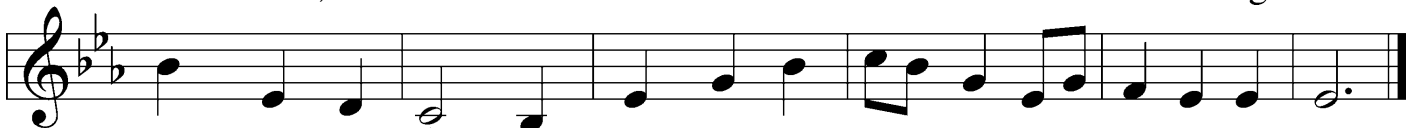
LSB 861



1 Christ be my Lead - er by night as by day; Safe through the
2 Christ be my Teach - er in age as in youth, Drift - ing or
3 Christ be my Sav - ior in calm as in strife; Death can - not



dark - ness, for He is the way. Glad - ly I fol - low, my
doubt - ing, for He is the truth. Grant me to trust Him; though
hold me, for He is the life. Nor dark - ness nor doubt - ing nor



fu - ture His care, Dark - ness is day - light when Je - sus is there.
shift - ing as sand, Doubt can - not daunt me; in Je - sus I stand.
sin and its stain Can touch my sal - va - tion: with Je - sus I reign.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926 , Tune: Irish

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Announcements

Acknowledgments

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Cover photo: "Life as a Baptized Water-Bird of God", Ouzel Falls, Rocky Mountain National Park, Allenspark, CO.

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