



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 26, 2026

### Preparation For Worship

*Christ has risen for the people whom he died to love and save;  
Christ has risen for the women bringing flowers to his grave.  
Christ has risen for disciples huddled in an upstairs room.  
He whose word inspired creation can't be silenced by the tomb.*

– John L. Bell and Graham Maule, Hymn 231

### Voluntary

*Prelude on "Brother James' Air"  
BWV 4/3*

M. Searle Wright  
(1918-2004)

### Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

### Introit

*Glory to God*

Jacques Berthier  
(1923-1994)

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria, gloria,  
Alleluia, Alleluia!

### ✠ Opening Sentences

### ✠ Hymn 238 [\(see page 9\)](#)

*Thine Is the Glory*

JUDAS MACCABEUS

## ✠ Prayer of Confession

God of resurrection and new life,  
 we confess that we are reluctant to embrace your good news.  
 We cling to old habits and familiar ways  
 that often lead us away from the people you would have us be.  
 Self-interest consumes us and  
 we ignore the neighbors for whom you bid us to care.  
 We get so caught up in what we need to do  
 that we neglect all that you are doing,  
 and we resist your invitation to join in your redeeming work.  
 Forgive us, O God.  
 Look with mercy upon us  
 and bring us to a fresh understanding of Easter,  
 so that we might be empowered to go in the way of Jesus Christ,  
 who has risen from the dead.

*silent prayer*

Holy One, in your mercy. **Hear Our Prayer.**

## ✠ Declaration of Forgiveness

Believe the Good News. **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

## ✠ Response

Fintan O'Carroll

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the response 'Alleluia, alleluia!'. The music is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 6/8. The melody is simple and repetitive, with the lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!' written below the notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line, and the second staff continues the melody and lyrics.

MUSIC: Fintan O'Carroll, 1981 ©

## ✠ The Peace

Peace be with you. **Peace be with all.**  
*Signs of peace and reconciliation may be exchanged.*

## Conversation with Children

*Infants - Age 4 may go to the Nursery in Room 106.*

*Children's Chapel meets in Room 203.*

## Prayer for Illumination

## Gospel Reading

Luke 24:13-35

N.T. pg. 90

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God!**

**Anthem***For the Beauty of the Earth*John Rutter  
(b. 1945)

For the beauty of the earth,  
For the beauty of the skies,  
For the love which from our birth  
Over and around us lies:

Lord of all, to thee we raise  
This our joyful hymn of praise.

For the beauty of each hour  
Of the day and of the night,  
Hill and vale and tree and flower,  
Sun and moon and stars of light:

For the joy of human love,  
Brother, sister, parent, child,  
Friends on earth, and friends above,  
For all gentle thoughts and mild:

For each perfect gift of thine  
To our race so freely given,  
Graces human and divine,  
Flowers of earth and buds of heaven.

F. S. Pierpoint (1835–1917)

**Sermon****Which Way?**

John W. Wurster

*silence and stillness*✠ **Hymn 231** ([see page 10](#))*Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers*

SUO-GAN

✠ **The Sacrament of Baptism**

Eliam Gonzalez Lamy

**Presentation****Questions****The Apostles' Creed**

Do you believe in God?

**Creo en Dios Padre Todopoderoso,  
Creador del cielo y de la tierra.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**Creo en Jesucristo,  
su único Hijo, Señor nuestro;  
quien fue concebido por el Espíritu Santo,  
nació de la virgen María,  
padebió bajo el poder de Poncio Pilato,  
fue crucificado, muerto y sepultado;  
descendió a los infiernos;  
al tercer día resucitó de entre los muertos;  
ascendió al cielo  
y está sentado a la diestra,  
de Dios Padre Todopoderoso,  
de donde vendrá a juzgar  
a los vivos y a los muertos.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**Creo en el Espíritu Santo,  
la santa iglesia universal,  
la comunión de los santos,  
el perdón de los pecados,  
la resurrección del cuerpo,  
y la vida perdurable. Amén.**

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

**I believe 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 to the dead;  
on the third day he rose from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand  
of God the Father Almighty,  
from there he will come to judge  
the living and the dead.**

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

## Thanksgiving over the Water

### Baptism

### Welcome

### Baptism Response (sung twice)

Howard Hughes, SM

You have put on Christ; in Christ you have been bap-tized.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

TEXT: From the Rite of Baptism for Children, ICEL | © 1969 *International Commission on English in the Liturgy*  
 MUSIC: Howard Hughes, SM, 1977 | © 1977 *International Commission on English in the Liturgy*

BAPTIZED IN CHRIST  
 Irreguar

## Prayers of the People

### The 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
 And lead us not into temptation,  
 but deliver us from evil;  
 for Thine is the Kingdom,  
 and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

### Offering

*Gifts may be given any time at [saintphilip.net](http://saintphilip.net)*

### Offertory

*Jesus Christus, Gottes Sohn*

Johann Sebastian Bach  
 (1685-1750)

<p><i>Jesus Christus, Gottes Sohn,          An unsre Statt ist kommen          Und hat die Sünde weggetan,          Damit dem Tod genommen          All sein Recht und sein Gewalt;          Da bleibet nichts denn Tods Gestalt,          Den Stachel hat er verloren,          Alleluja!</i></p>	<p>Jesus Christ, God's son,          Has come in our stead          And did away with our sin,          Thereby taking from death          All its privilege and its power.          There remains nothing but death's shape;          [Death] has lost its sting.          Hallelujah!</p>
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## ✦ Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We give you thanks and praise, O God,  
 for the Easter promise of new life in Jesus Christ.

**By your Spirit,  
 lift us from doubt and despair,  
 and set our feet in Christ's holy way,  
 that our lives may be signs of his life,  
 and all that we do may show forth his love. Amen.**

## ✦ Hymn 247 [\(see page 11\)](#)

*Now the Green Blade Rises*

NOËL NOUVELET

## ✦ Charge and Blessing

### Voluntary

*Dialogue sur les Trompettes*  
 (Mass for the Parishes)

François Couperin  
 (1688-1733)

## SERVING TODAY

### Pastors

Keatan King | Omar Rouchon | John Wurster

### Liturgist

Stephen Paine

### Musicians

Matthew Dirst, organist | St. Philip Choir | Maria Lin, violin | Thomas O'Neill, tenor  
 Justin Langham, director of music

## FLOWERS

The flowers today on the chancel are given by the St. Philip Day School Board of Directors to the glory of God, in recognition of the first anniversary of Founding Director Candice Harris, and in honor of the baptism of Eliam Gonzalez Lamy, student of the St. Philip Day School.

## WORSHIP NOTES

We celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism today with Eliam Gonzalez Lamy, son of new St. Philip members, Christian Gonzalez and Isabella Lamy Neira.

### Today's Lectionary readings:

- Acts 2:42-47 – *The believers share all things, worshiping and eating together.*
- Psalm 23 – *The Lord is my shepherd, leading, protecting, and feeding me.*
- 1 Peter 2:19-25 – *Like sheep, we go astray; but Christ is the shepherd of our souls.*
- John 10:1-10 – *Jesus says: I am the gate for the sheep; enter by me and be saved.*



### Reflecting the Image of God Through Inclusion

"We Choose Welcome" is a core belief at St. Philip. To further this mission, the Inclusion Team and Education Committee are introducing new resources for our neurodivergent neighbors and anyone needing sensory support.

Starting **Sunday, April 26**, the following tools will be available in the narthex:

- **Noise-Dampening Headphones:** To soften sounds for those with sensory sensitivities.
- **Fidget Tools:** To provide tactile grounding and focus during worship.

The Body of Christ is only complete when it includes the *whole* body. See how we are working toward that in the narthex.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Cover art by Diana Weiss.

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## MUSIC NOTES

This morning's service begins with an organ setting of "**Brother James' Air**," a tune to which the words of Psalm 23 are often sung. The composer of this opening voluntary, Searle Wright, directed chapel music for two decades at St Paul's Chapel at Columbia University and also taught for many years at SUNY Binghamton.

20th-century composer Jacques Berthier spent most of his life in Paris, first as a student at the Cesar Franck college of music and then as organist at St. Ignace. His published works include numerous works for organ, voice, and instruments, but he is best known for contributions to the Taizé community near Cluny in his native Burgundy. Today's **introit** is a familiar and singable canon on the traditional text "Glory to God in the highest" and continues the Easter exclamations of "alleluia."

Composed in 1978, John Rutter's setting of the hymn "**For the Beauty of the Earth**" is one of his most popular and enduring anthems. The majority of the piece is written in a relaxed cut-time meter with constant passages of eighth-notes outlining the harmonic structure. The piece is appropriately marked to be sung "Happily," a spirit that continues through flowing mel-

odies and groovy syncopation across several key changes.

Our **offertory** continues the series that began on Easter Sunday, highlighting movements from Bach's Easter cantata *Christ lag in Todesbanden*, BWV 4 ("Christ lay in death's bonds"). Each movement is based on Martin Luther's hymn of the same name, and contains musical depictions of the text. The third movement—corresponding with the third hymn stanza—features a tenor soloist singing the unaltered chorale melody accompanied by a virtuosic violin obbligato meant to depict Christ's battle with death.

Today's closing voluntary comes from the *Mass for the Parishes* by François Couperin, longtime organist at St Gervais in Paris and harpsichordist to Louis XIV. The tradition of the "organ mass" began about a century before Couperin's day, as organists began to play polyphonic versets on Gregorian chant melodies in alternation with sung chant. For the end of the "Gloria in excelsis," Couperin provides a joyous **Dialogue on the reed stops** (*trompettes*) of the organ.

Notes by Matthew Dirst & Justin Langham

## IN OUR PRAYERS

*Melissa Aldrich and family upon the death of her mother Mary Faye Barnes on April 23.*

*St. Philippians and their families*—Nancy E. Johnson; Molly Boren; Charlotte Kibler; Laney Miller; Laurie Sims; Jan Meyer; Emily Estill; Joy Maguire; Bonnie Moore; David Winship; Bob Ardell; Diane Clarke; Mary Herlitz; Dick Nunn; Eleanor Grant; Judy Nunn; Don Padgett; Arlette Keene; Mezgebe Gebray; Tom Swan—father of Charles Swan; Bill Davis—brother of Meg Scott-Johnson; Lara Bainnie of Jo Helland; Jonathan Castro—brother of David Castro; Susan Everhart—niece and Lisa Marcelletti—cousin of Nancy E. Johnson; Kathy Bailey and family—sister of Peg Palisin; Jo Hadley Smith—cousin of William Rowe; Katie Forbes—daughter of Marise Robbins-Forbes; Ann Perenyi—mother of Lad Perenyi; and Ann Perkins Cloud—cousin of Stephen Paine.

*Homebound*—Elizabeth Arp; Beverly Baker; Carolyn Keeble; John Bobbitt; Joan Boelens; Joe Harwood; Kathryn Harwood; Jan Ostendorf; Joyce Randolph; Lorraine Scott; Sondra Sullivan; and Mary Sinderson.

*Friends of St. Philippians*—Christiane Richter—friend of Roderick James; Ann Swanson—friend of Deborah Unruh; Kitty Manson and family; Tanya Voinche, Sidney Roach, and Joyce Freudenberg—friends of Stephen Paine; Mary Ann Thomas; Erin McDougal and Marianne Keeswood—friends of Kate Burkart; Elaine Ende—friend of Beth Atkinson; Carter Lindley, Tandi Porter, Audrey Eubank Harris, Jay Stokes & Anna Domonte, friends of Curt & Sharon Webb; Marianne Hash—friend of Jane Cooper; Mary Watters and Mindy Cooper-Smith—friends of Bill and Jacqueline Hamilton Taylor; Kenneth and Donna Benton—friends of William Rowe; Patty Ryan and Tom Barnett—friends of Robin and Gary Willis; and Shirley Stubblefield—friend of Barbara Runge.

If you have a pastoral care need or a prayer request you would like to share, please email: [deacons@saintphilip.net](mailto:deacons@saintphilip.net)


## REV. PAUL TIMOTHY ROBERTS SR.

PRESIDENT OF THE JUSTICE CENTER FOR SACRED THEOLOGICAL STUDIES IN ATLANTA, GEORGIA


**SATURDAY MAY 16**

9:30 - 1 PM

FELLOWSHIP HALL



[ SACRED DISRUPTION ]



SACRED DISRUPTION FAITH-ROOTED PRACTICES  
FOR LIVING IN TODAY'S WORLD OF CHAOS


**FELLOWSHIP, COMMUNION, & LUNCH**

RSVP encouraged but not required.

**SUNDAY MAY 17**

9:30 - 10:45 AM

RM 201



[ CHURCH & SANCTUARY ZOOM ]

SACRED DISRUPTION FAITH-ROOTED PRACTICES  
FOR JUSTICE-ORIENTED CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

in person or virtually through Zoom

## SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

### SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES START AT 9:45 AM UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

**GODLY PLAY** – Ages 3 – Kindergarten – ROOM 103

**CHILDREN:** Grades 1-4 – Room 206

**YOUTH** – Grades 5-12 – DINING ROOM – Watch email and website for schedule. **TODAY**

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY** – ROOM 204 – We are studying Isaiah in Volume 2, *Prophets*, in Dr. Robert Alter's *The Hebrew Bible: A Translation with Commentary* (2019). Join us as we seek to deepen our understanding of God's faithfulness to all God's people. All are welcome.

**CHURCH & SOCIETY** – ROOM 201 – Join us from **9:30 – 10:40 AM** with presentations in person and by Zoom. **May 3** – Roger Ingersol of Citizens Climate Lobby will provide an overview of Pope Francis's landmark encyclical *Laudato Si'*, which convinced him to become more involved in climate and creation care. If you would like the Zoom link for the classes, email: [jshartman01@gmail.com](mailto:jshartman01@gmail.com).

**CHILDREN'S CHAPEL** – In the Children's Chapel, our young disciples learn the whos, whats, wheres, whens and whys of worship in the chapel, while also praying, seeing and hearing God's word at an age-appropriate level. Children return to join the congregation in the first few pews on the lectern side of the church for the last hymn. The Children's Chapel is held every 2nd and 4th Sunday when we have Sunday School classes. Children are able to participate in this during the worship service.

### ST. PHILIP DURING THE WEEK

**LAMBETH STUDY** – Keatan King leads young adults in study every other Monday of the month evening at 7:00 PM via Zoom. (**May 4, May 18, June 1, June 15 & June 29**) It is a time of study, reflection, and prayer. If you would like more details, email Keatan at:

[keatan@saintphilip.net](mailto:keatan@saintphilip.net).

**SOCIAL JUSTICE STUDY GROUP** – This group meets for an hour once a month on Zoom to read and discuss social justice issues of concern in today's world. Our current topic is Christian Nationalism, one definition of which is "that America is God's chosen nation and should be defended and governed as such." Attitudes already influencing our legislators include opposition to gay rights, opposition to gun safety efforts, promotion of Christian religion in schools and libraries, book bans, etc. Our current study book is Brian Kaylor's *Baptizing America; how mainline Protestants helped build Christian Nationalism*. Interested persons can contact Sara Jean Jackson [sjj10223@gmail.com](mailto:sjj10223@gmail.com).

**WOMEN'S MONTHLY BOOK CLUB** – This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. The next meeting is **May 14** at 7:00 PM. *The Marriage Portrait* by Ashley Elston. If you

have any questions or concerns, please contact Nina Lambright at: [nnl@lambrightlaw.com](mailto:nnl@lambrightlaw.com).

**PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP** – Men of all ages are welcome to participate in this self-led group. The Men's Weekly Fellowship meets each Friday in person in the office Conference Room and via Zoom at 11:45 AM. We are learning from *Too Busy Not to Pray* by Bill Hybels. If you would like to join them please contact Gary Gardner at: [ggardne148@aol.com](mailto:ggardne148@aol.com).

**MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY** – Wednesday Bible study with John Wurster meets weekly at 9:30 AM, and is a hybrid format with an in-person option in the Office Conference Room and also a Zoom option. Bible novices, Bible experts, and everyone in between is welcome! To get on the list for the Zoom links, send a note to: [john@saintphilip.net](mailto:john@saintphilip.net).

### PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

#### **Thursday Evening Circle – May 7**

meets 1st Thursday of each month at 7 PM  
in the Dining Room.

Meghan Sankowski- [meghansankowski@hotmail.com](mailto:meghansankowski@hotmail.com)

#### **Monday Morning Saints – May 10**

meets 2nd Monday of each month at 10 AM  
in the Dining Room -

Tricia Tolbert [ptholbert@gmail.com](mailto:ptholbert@gmail.com)

#### **The Hallmark Circle – May 13**

meets 2nd Wednesday of each month at 1:30 PM -  
contact Sue Shirley-Howard [sue@fluencyhouston.com](mailto:sue@fluencyhouston.com) for  
location

#### **Sunday Circle – May 16**

meets 3rd Sunday of each month after worship  
in the Dining Room.

Jan Meyer [jsmeyer9990@gmail.com](mailto:jsmeyer9990@gmail.com)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- Peacemaking and Social Justice (PSJ) Committee - 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Speaker Series - May 31<sup>st</sup> *International Children's Day* Right after Worship Room 201 No need to RSVP, just show up! Denise Wilborn, moderator, [dwilborn55@gmail.com](mailto:dwilborn55@gmail.com)
- PSJ Committee Meeting - Sunday, May 3 Following Worship - Room 205 – No need to RSVP, just show up! Questions? Contact Denise Wilborn, moderator, [dwilborn55@gmail.com](mailto:dwilborn55@gmail.com)



Welcome to Worship at St. Philip  
Please register your attendance by  
scanning the QR code or by visiting the  
Live Stream tab at [saintphilip.net](http://saintphilip.net).

AS FOLLOWERS OF JESUS CHRIST,  
we seek to be an inclusive,  
grace-filled community,  
engaging the world with open minds,  
willing hands and generous hearts.

WE LONG  
for deeper faith,  
vibrant hope  
and boundless love  
for everyone, every day, everywhere.

**Thank you for joining us today!** We hope that you find our worship together to be joyous, meaningful, and thought-provoking. **Children of all ages** are welcome to worship with their families. Activity bags containing worship aids for children are available in the narthex on the way into the sanctuary.

**Nursery care** is available throughout the morning from 8:30 AM–12:30 PM. Infants to age 4 are invited to our Nursery which is staffed by professional childcare providers. Please find our Nursery has returned to the Education Bldg. and can be accessed from the hall off the Gathering Area on the first floor. An usher or a greeter will be happy to direct you there.

**A Hearing Loop** is installed within the sanctuary. If you have a hearing aid equipped with a telecoil, please activate your “T switch” to hear the worship service most clearly. If you need assistance with hearing the service clearly and do not have a t-coil equipped hearing aid, please ask an usher for wireless headphones.

**LARGE PRINT COPIES OF TODAY’S BULLETINS ARE IN THE NARTHEX.**

**Contributions**, pledge payments, communion gifts and other donations to support the Church can be made anytime through our website, or sent to the Church Office at 4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056.

**Connect with St. Philip** through [saintphilip.net](http://saintphilip.net) and our social media. To join our e-mail list for regular news updates, send a note to [lorrie@saintphilip.net](mailto:lorrie@saintphilip.net).

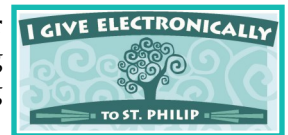


**If you are interested in joining St. Philip Presbyterian Church** by profession of faith, by reaffirming your faith, or by transferring your membership, please speak with one of the ministers today or call the church office during the week. **The Session meets the third Sunday of each month after the 11:00 worship service in Room 100 for the purpose of receiving new members.**

**Worship with us, whenever, wherever.** Our 11:00 AM Sunday service is live-streamed at [saintphilip.net](http://saintphilip.net). Services can be viewed live or later in our video archives.

**Lost & Found**—did you leave a pair of glasses, umbrella, or other item during worship? There is a canvas basket in the library where these items may be found. Jewelry, phones and more valuable items are turned into Lorrie Castle in the Church Office, [lorrie@saintphilip.net](mailto:lorrie@saintphilip.net) or 713-622-4807.

**I Give Electronically**—in response to parents’ hopes that their children might be able to see their ongoing commitment to St. Philip and with the intent to better represent the totality of our giving as a congregation, we have available in the pews giving cards that can be placed in the offering plate by our electronic givers.



**Nametags**—Please wear your nametags not just in the sanctuary, but as you socialize before and after worship and at other events. To make it easier, if you don't want to bring your nametag home, there are labeled wicker BASKETS by several exit doors for you to return your nametag at the last possible moment! Those returned tags will be replaced on the boards in the narthex before the following Sunday morning. Visitor nametags are available in the pews and from an usher.

**St. Philip Day School** is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to providing high-quality childcare at no cost to low-income families. ([www.stphilipdayschool.org](http://www.stphilipdayschool.org)) To support the school, **please make all contributions payable directly to St. Philip Day School** or visit their website for online donations. You are welcome to leave in the church offering plate or mail to St. Philip Day School, 4807 San Felipe, Houston, 77056. If you have any questions, please email: [Director@stphilipdayschool.org](mailto:Director@stphilipdayschool.org).

## Hymn 238

## Thine Is the Glory

1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-quer- ing Son; end - less is  
 2 Lo! Je - sus meets us, ris - en from the tomb; lov - ing - ly  
 3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life! Life is naught

the vic - tory thou o'er death hast won. An - gels in bright rai - ment  
 he greets us, scat - ters fear and gloom. Let the church with glad - ness  
 with - out thee; aid us in our strife. Make us more than con-querors

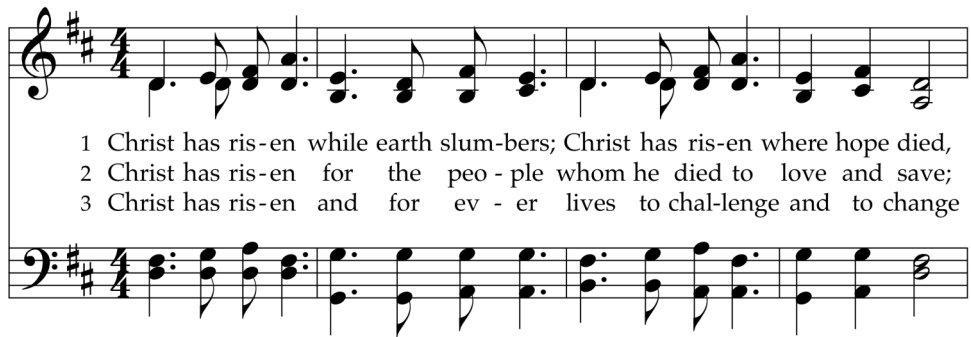
rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes  
 hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;  
 through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

where thy bod - y lay.  
 death hath lost its sting. Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-quer- ing  
 to thy home a - bove.

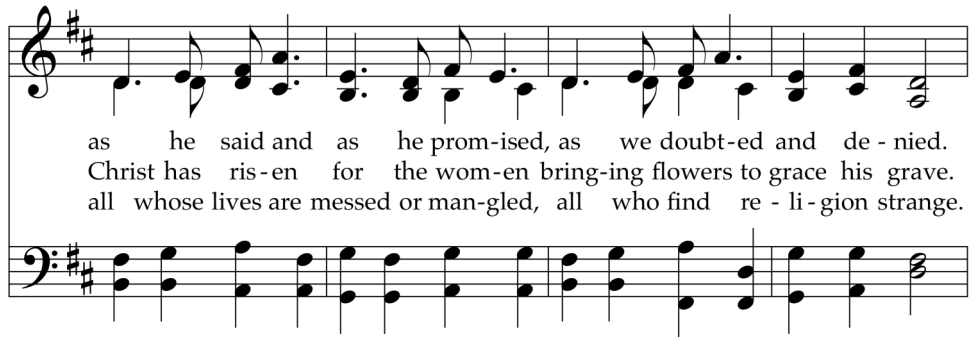
Son; end - less is the vic - tory thou o'er death hast won.

This Easter text, first in French and later in English, was written to fit the music, a chorus created for Handel's oratorio *Joshua* and moved to *Judas Maccabeus* in 1751. It grew widely popular following its use at the First Assembly of the World Council of Churches in 1948.

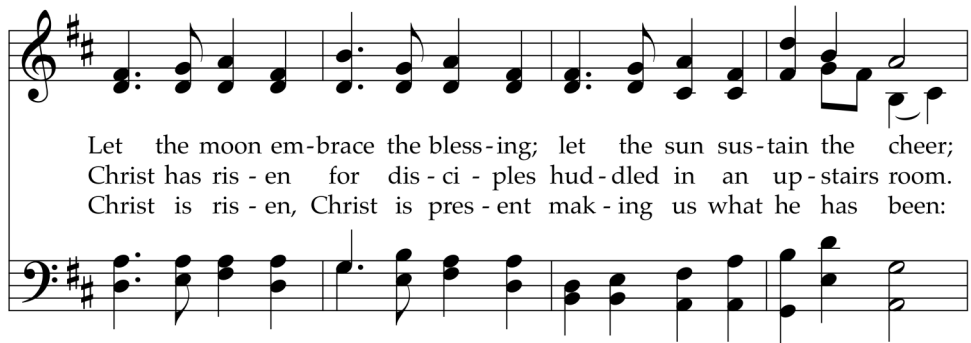
## Hymn 231

*Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers*


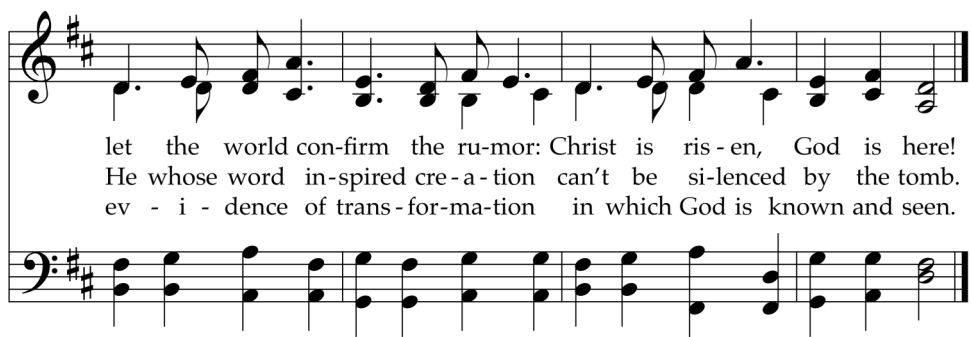
1 Christ has ris-en while earth slum-bers; Christ has ris-en where hope died,  
 2 Christ has ris-en for the peo - ple whom he died to love and save;  
 3 Christ has ris-en and for ev - er lives to chal-lenge and to change



as he said and as he prom-ised, as we doubt-ed and de - nied.  
 Christ has ris-en for the wom-en bring-ing flowers to grace his grave.  
 all whose lives are messed or man-gled, all who find re - li - gion strange.



Let the moon em-brace the bless-ing; let the sun sus-tain the cheer;  
 Christ has ris - en for dis - ci - ples hud-dled in an up - stairs room.  
 Christ is ris - en, Christ is pres - ent mak - ing us what he has been:



let the world con-firm the ru-mor: Christ is ris - en, God is here!  
 He whose word in-spired cre-a - tion can't be si-lenced by the tomb.  
 ev - i - dence of trans-for-ma-tion in which God is known and seen.

Beginning with rather conventional Easter imagery, this text moves into unexpected territory by declaring that Christ's Resurrection is for "all whose lives are messed or mangled, all who find religion strange." The name of this traditional Welsh melody simply means "lullaby."

TEXT: John L. Bell and Graham Maule, 1988  
 MUSIC: Welsh melody; arr. Alfred V. Fedak, 2011  
 Text © 1988 WGRG, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)  
 Music Arr. © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak

SUO GAN  
 8.7.8.7.D

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## Hymn 247

*Now the Green Blade Rises*

1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,  
 2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,  
 3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,  
 4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,

wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;  
 think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,  
 he that for three days in the grave had lain;  
 your touch can call us back to life a - gain;

love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;  
 laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;  
 raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;  
 fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:

love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Although there were some traditional Easter carols, this hybrid one has been created by grafting a 20th-century English text onto a late 15th-century French tune. The allegory of the dying and rising grain as a parallel for Christ's Resurrection is probably based on John 12:24.

TEXT: John M. C. Crum, 1928, alt.  
 MUSIC: French carol, 15th cent.; harm. Martin Shaw, 1928  
 Text and Music Harm. © 1928 Oxford University Press

NOËL NOUVELET  
 11.10.10.11

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