



SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 10, 2026

Preparation For Worship

The God who made this world has blessed it with good things, yes – but all of them take working at: coconuts need to be cracked, soil needs to be tilled, mountains need to be climbed, water needs to be conserved. God does not do this for us. God simply accompanies us as we go. God has given us in this unfinished world a glimpse of eternity and walks with us through here to there.

– Joan Chittister

Voluntary

Dies sind die heil'gen zehn Gebot'
BWV 678

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

Greeting

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

Introit

Alleluia

Traditional Honduran Melody

Alleluia, alleluia.

Now the Lord is risen indeed.

✦ Opening Sentences

✦ Hymn 248 [\(see page 9\)](#)

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna

HYMN TO JOY

✦ Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,
in Jesus, our risen Lord, we have seen your glory.
Yet our sinfulness often blocks out the light of Christ.
We are quick to accuse and slow to confess.
We find faults easily in others,
while ignoring our own shortcomings.
We have squandered your gifts.
We have turned from your ways.
We have ignored your Word.
Have mercy on us, compassionate God.
Pour out your Holy Spirit on our sinful lives.
Wash us with your love and cleanse us with your grace
that day by day we might move closer
to the people you would have us be.

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

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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

Scripture Reading

Acts 17:16-32

N.T. pgs. 137-138

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

Anthem

Lord of the Dance

arr. John Ferguson

I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
And I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
And I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth;
At Bethlehem I had my birth.

Dance then wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

I danced for the scribe and the pharisee,
But they wouldn't dance, and they wouldn't follow me;
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John;
They came with me and the dance went on.

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame:
The holy people said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me high,
And left me there on a cross to die.

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black,
It's hard to dance with the devil on your back;
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone,
But I am the dance and I still go on.

They cut me down and I leapt on high:
I am the life that'll never, never die;
I'll live in you if you'll live in me.
I am the Lord of the dance, said he.

Sydney Carter (1963)

✦ Hymn 749 ([see page 10](#))*Come! Live in the Light!*

WE ARE CALLED

✦ Affirmation of Faith

In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God's image
to live as one community.
But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.
Ignoring God's commandments,
we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,
accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature,
and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.
We deserve God's condemnation.
Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.
In everlasting love,
the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people
to bless all families of the earth.
Hearing their cry,
God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage.
Loving us still,
God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.
Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still. Amen.

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

Offertory

Ride the Chariot

arr. Bill Ingram

(I'm gonna) Ride the chariot in the morning, Lord,
(I'm gonna) Ride the chariot in the morning, Lord,
I'm gettin' ready for the judgment day, my Lord.
Are you ready my brother/sister? (Oh, yes)
Are you ready for the journey? (Oh, yes)
Do you want to see your Jesus? (Oh, yes)
I'm waitin' for the chariot 'cause I'm ready to go.

✦ Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

Gracious God, your creation shows forth your glory.
 We praise you for your magnificent works.
**We are grateful for the many signs of your beauty
 and for the love you have shown us all in Jesus Christ.**
 Amen.

✦ Hymn 44 [\(see page 11\)](#)

Like a Mother Who Has Borne Us

AUSTIN

✦ Charge and Blessing

Voluntary

Dies sind die heil'gen zehn Gebot'
 BWV 679

J. S. Bach

SERVING TODAY

Pastors

Keatan King | Omar Rouchon | John Wurster

Liturgist

David Castro

Musicians

Matthew Dirst, organist | Jesús Pacheco, percussion | St. Philip Choir
 Bell Canto Handbell Ensemble | Justin Langham, director of music

FLOWERS

The flowers today on the chancel are given by Jim, Penny, and Amelia Larkin in honor of Jane Larkin and all mothers everywhere.

WORSHIP NOTES

Today's Lectionary readings:

- Acts 17:22-31 – *Paul introduces the Athenians to their “unknown god”: the Lord.*
- Psalm 66:8-20 – *Bless God, who hears our prayers and keeps us among the living.*
- 1 Peter 3:13-22 – *Do not fear; testify to the hope that is in you through Christ.*
- John 14:15-21 – *Jesus says: the Father will send the Spirit, who will abide in you.*

IN OUR PRAYERS

St. Philippians and their families – Jane Malczewskyj; 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 Bain-niece 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; 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.

MUSIC NOTES

Today's **opening** and **closing voluntaries** are distinct organ settings of the same German chorale: *Dies sind die heil'gen zehn Gebot* ("These are The Holy Ten Commands"), which narrates how Moses received the commandments on Sinai's hill. The hymn, from Martin Luther himself, was evidently a favorite of Bach's; he made multiple arrangements of it, some for organ and at least one in a fully scored church cantata movement. The longer of the two chorale preludes (BWV 678) features Luther's melody in a two-part canon, around which three voices weave independently. The shorter of the two (BWV 679) is a fughetto with precisely ten entries of its chorale-tune subject — surely a numerical allusion to the total number of commandments.


We begin the sixth Sunday of Easter with the expected declaration of "alleluia" set in a traditional Honduran melody. Known for its simple and catchy melody, today's **introit** presents each line of text in a repeated rhythmic pattern that ascends in sequence before settling at the final phrase.

Based on the beloved American Shaker melody "Simple Gifts," the widely-performed hymn "**Lord of the Dance**" follows the idea of the English carol "Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day," which tells the gospel story through the first-person voice of Jesus and portrays his life as a dance from birth to death and resurrection. The text's author, English songwriter Sydney Carter, was inspired by two figures: Jesus Christ, whom Carter viewed as the piper calling his followers, and the Hindu deity Shiva, whose dancing pose could be found as a statue on Carter's desk.

Bill Ingram is a prolific composer—over 650 in print since the 1970s—who serves as editor for Ring Out!, a publishing house specializing in music for handbells. Our offertory combines the African American spiritual "Ride the Chariot" with another familiar spiritual, "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" in an energetic and rhythmically engaging arrangement that employs the full complement of handbells plus added percussion.


Notes by Matthew Dirst & Justin Langham

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 FAITH-ROOTED PRACTICES
FOR LIVING IN TODAY'S WORLD OF CHAOS
FELLOWSHIP, COMMUNION, & LUNCH
RSVP encouraged but not required.




[SACRED DISRUPTION]



SUNDAY, MAY 17 | 9:30 - 10:45 AM | RM 201

SACRED DISRUPTION FAITH-ROOTED PRACTICES
FOR JUSTICE-ORIENTED CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
in person or virtually through Zoom



[CHURCH & SOCIETY ZOOM]



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.

The following tools are 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.

The Affirmation of Faith is from "A Brief Statement of Faith," Book of Confessions, Presbyterian Church (USA).

Music reprints and online streaming by permission under OneLicense.net account A-720890.

A CALL FOR NOMINATIONS & A CALL TO PRAY

The congregation is being asked to submit recommendations for persons to serve as Ruling Elders (Session), Trustees, and on the Central Mission Endowment Council.

We ask that the congregation wrap this process in prayer. Take some time to pray over the names in the church directory. Who do you believe exhibits spiritual leadership to take St. Philip to the next step? Who has a contagious passion for God? Who might enlarge our vision, empower our members, and embrace a bit of risk? How about you?

Thank you for your help! Your 2026 Nominating Committee:

*Selena Brinegar (chair), Orlean Anderson, Mary Grace Carter,
Jim Crain, Omi Ford, and Sara Jean Jackson.*

Please use the online form by scanning the QR code, emailing to Selena, or depositing form in offering plate. **Self-nominations are welcome.** In making recommendations, please elaborate on personal qualities, involvement in our church, and why you consider this person a good candidate for church leadership. If you are recommending a Ruling Elder, please indicate the ministry area(s) you think they would best serve: Education; Finance; Mission; Peacemaking & Social Justice; Personnel; Property; Stewardship; Welcome & Membership; or Worship & Music.



LEADER NOMINATION 2026

RULING ELDER

In addition to possessing the necessary gifts and abilities for leading the congregation, those who undertake the ministry of Ruling Elder should be persons of strong faith, dedicated discipleship, and love of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Their manner of life should be a demonstration of the Christian gospel in the church and in the world. As members of the Session, they are responsible for the spiritual oversight of the congregation and for oversight of all the programs and ministries of St. Philip.

Currently serving as Elders:

Class of 2026 – *Selena Brinegar, Kate Burkart, David Castro, Ada Fuller, Kurt Grether, John Hartman., and William Howard.*

Class of 2027 – *Lee Ardell, Tina Bryan, Sherri Dees, Pam Kever, Sarah Victorian, Al Waldrop, and Denise Wilborn.*

Class of 2028 – *Junius Allen, Orlean Anderson, Linda Ewing, Sam Fisher, Amy Morriss, Carrie Pepi, and William Rowe.*

TRUSTEE

The duties of the trustees are to receive, hold, encumber, manage, and transfer property on behalf of the congregation; and to manage any permanent special funds for the furtherance of the purposes of the congregation.

Currently serving as Trustees are: *Casey Lambright, Pam Taylor, and Dick Nunn.*

CENTRAL MISSION ENDOWMENT COUNCIL

Members of the council decide the disbursements of the Central Mission Endowment Fund (CMEF). Persons serving on the council should be interested in mission outreach with available time for site visits.

Currently serving on the council are *Bob Ardell, Betsy Boston, Angelina Fonseca, Ada Fuller (Session Rep), Roderick James, John Lindsay, Mary McGuire (Mission Committee Rep), Butch Wilson, and Jennifer Wilson.*

If you prefer you can email your nomination and information to chair Selena Brinegar at Selena.brinegar@gmail.com. Nominations are due by **May 18**. You can also put the information on form below and drop in the offering plate.

Your name _____

Your email & phone _____

Person nominating _____

Leader role recommended for: _____

In making this recommendation, please elaborate on personal qualities, involvement in our church, and why you consider this person a good candidate for church leadership.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES START AT
9:45 AM UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED**
Sunday School Classes will conclude on May
24 and begin in the fall

GODLY PLAY – Ages 3 – Kindergarten – ROOM 103

CHILDREN: Grades 1-4 – Room 206

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 17** – Sacred disruptions faith +rooted practices for justice-oriented Christian education. Presented by Rev. Paul Timothy Roberts, Sr. If you would like the Zoom link for the classes, email: 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 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.

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 Maggie O'Farrell. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nina Lambright at: nml@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, May 22 will be the last gathering until the fall. We are beginning to study "*Short Stories by Jesus*" by Amy-Jill Levine. If you would like to join them please contact Gary Gardner at: 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.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Meghan Sankowski – meghansankowski@hotmail.com

Monday Morning Saints – May 11

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

Tricia Tolbert phtolbert@gmail.com

The Hallmark Circle – May 13

meets 2nd Wednesday of each month at 1:30 PM -
contact Sue Shirley-Howard 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

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Author Reading and Q&A – *American Teenager – How Trans Kids Are Surviving And Finding Joy in a Turbulent Era* written by Nico Lang -LGBTQ+ journalist. On Thursday, **May 14** meet Mr. Lang – for a reading/Q&A at Bering Memorial United Church of Christ at 1440 Harol St, 77006. The event should start around 6:30pm.
- You're invited to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Houston Masterworks Chorus on Sunday, **May 17** at

4:00 PM in their season-finale concert "This is Why We Sing," commemorating a remarkable 40th season of making music for the Houston community. The concert is free for everyone in the St. Philip community. Simply inform those at the door that you are a church member or MASP supporter! Contact Justin at justin@saintphilip.net with any questions.

- Music at St. Philip hosts a piano recital featuring Osip Nikiforov on Sunday, May 24th at 3:00 PM.
- Peacemaking and Social Justice (PSJ) Committee - 5th Sunday Speaker Series - **May 31st International Children's Day** Right after Worship Room 201 No need to RSVP, just show up! Denise Wilborn, moderator, dwilborn55@gmail.com
- Pride Festival and Parade, **June 6th**. Volunteers invited to staff a Presbytery of New Covenant booth during the day; and carpool or meet for the evening parade. Contact Denise Wilborn (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.

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 and our social media. To join our e-mail list for regular news updates, send a note to 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. 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 or 713-622-4807.

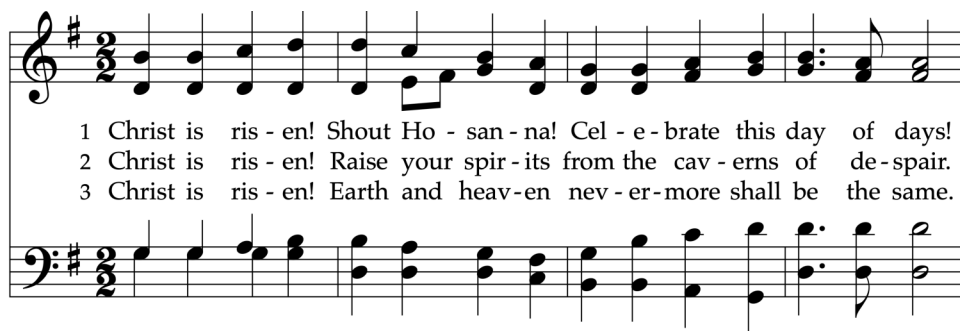
I Give Electronically—in response to parents’ hopes that their children might be able to see their ongoing commitment to St. Philip and with the intent to better represent the totality of our giving as a congregation, we have available in the pews giving cards that can be placed in the offering plate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



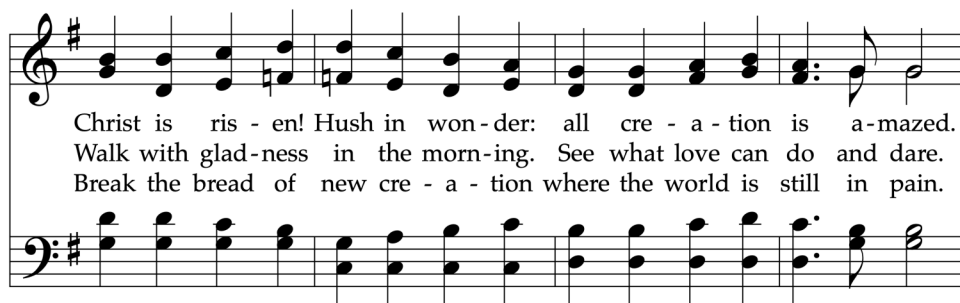
Nametags—Please wear your nametags not just in the sanctuary, but as you socialize before and after worship and at other events. To make it easier, if you don't want to bring your nametag home, there are labeled wicker BASKETS by several exit doors for you to return your nametag at the last possible 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) 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.

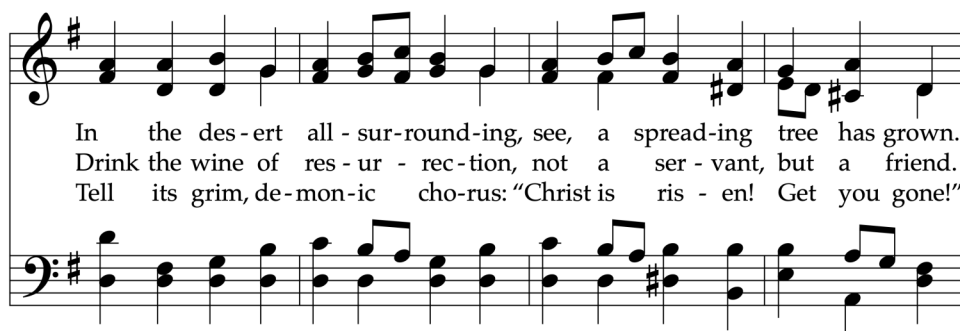
Hymn 248

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna


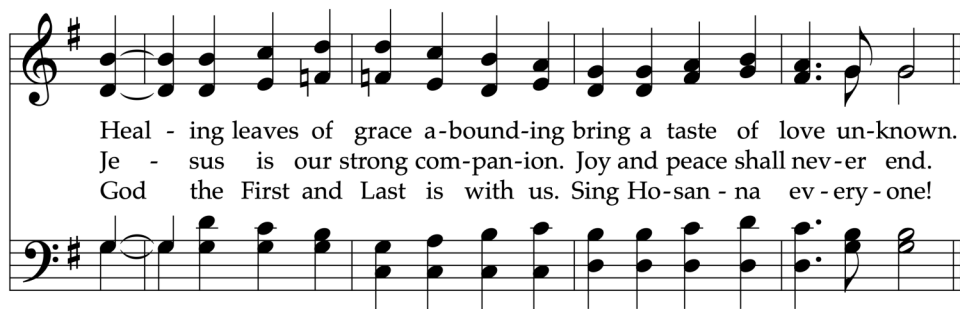
1 Christ is ris - en! Shout Ho - san - na! Cel - e - brate this day of days!
 2 Christ is ris - en! Raise your spir - its from the cav - erns of de - spair.
 3 Christ is ris - en! Earth and heav - en nev - er - more shall be the same.



Christ is ris - en! Hush in won - der: all cre - a - tion is a - mazed.
 Walk with glad - ness in the morn - ing. See what love can do and dare.
 Break the bread of new cre - a - tion where the world is still in pain.



In the des - ert all - sur - round - ing, see, a spread - ing tree has grown.
 Drink the wine of res - ur - rec - tion, not a ser - vant, but a friend.
 Tell its grim, de - mon - ic cho - rus: "Christ is ris - en! Get you gone!"



Heal - ing leaves of grace a - bound - ing bring a taste of love un - known.
 Je - sus is our strong com - pan - ion. Joy and peace shall nev - er end.
 God the First and Last is with us. Sing Ho - san - na ev - ery - one!

In commenting on this late 20th-century text, the author has stressed his intention to affirm the social implications of an Easter faith: "Christian peace and justice action finds its wellspring, not in moral zeal or guilty conscience, but in the resurrection."

TEXT: Brian Wren, 1984

MUSIC: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1842, alt.

Text © 1986 Hope Publishing Company

HYMN TO JOY

8.7.8.7.D

[Return to page 1](#)

Hymn 749

Come! Live in the Light!

1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the
 2 Come! O - pen your heart! Show your
 3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that



joy and the love of the Lord! We are called
 mer - cy to all those in fear! We are called
 great day when all will be one! God will reign,



to be light for the king - dom, to live in the
 to be hope for the hope - less so ha - tred and
 and we'll walk with each oth - er as sis - ters and



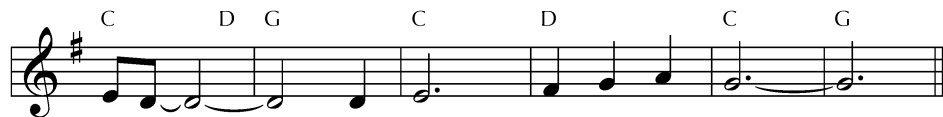
free - dom of the cit - y of God.
 vio - lence will be no more.
 broth - ers u - nit - ed in love.



We are called to act with jus - tice; we are called to



love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -



oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

The thematic and musical center of this hymn on the vocation of all believers is found in the refrain, which is based on the well-known challenge of Micah 6:8, "What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

Hymn 44

Like a Mother Who Has Borne Us

1 Like a moth - er who has borne us, held us
 2 Like a fa - ther who has taught us, grasped our
 3 Though as chil - dren we have wan - dered, placed our
 4 When we of - fer food and com - fort, grasp our



close in her de - light, fed us free - ly from her
 hand and been our guide, lift - ed us and healed our
 trust in power and might, left be - hind our broth - ers,
 neigh - bor's hand in love, tread the path of peace and



bod - y, God has called us in - to life.
 sor - rows, God has walked with us in life.
 sis - ters, God still calls us in - to life.
 jus - tice, God still walks with us in life.

This text was inspired by how the prophet Hosea describes the parental nature of God's relationship with Israel (Hosea 11:1-19). The last stanza echoes Christ's teachings about love of neighbor (Matthew 22:37-40/ Mark 12:29-31) and care for "the least of these" (Matthew 25:31-46).

TEXT: Daniel Bechtel, 1986
 MUSIC: William P. Rowan, 1992
 Text © 1986 Daniel R. Bechtel
 Music © 1993 Selah Publishing Co., Inc.

AUSTIN
 8.7.8.7

[Return to page 5](#)