

**PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

4672 N Cedar Ave. Fresno, CA 93726

Rev. Michael N. Vernava

Rev. Khai N. Lee

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024

*The Mission of Peace Lutheran Church is to honor our Lord Jesus Christ through worship and ministering to all God’s people equipping them for service to God and to each other.*

**DIVINE SERVICE – SETTING ONE**

**PRELUDE**

*Organist*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Peace Handbell Choir*

*“Jesus Christ is Risen Today” – arr. by Barbara Kinyon*

**OPENING HYMN**

*“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia” LSB 463*

- 1 Christ the Lord is ris’n today; Alleluia!  
Christians, hasten on your way; Alleluia!  
Offer praise with love replete, Alleluia!  
At the paschal victim’s feet. Alleluia!
- 2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Alleluia!  
Sinless in the sinner’s stead. Alleluia!  
Christ the Lord is ris’n on high; Alleluia!  
Now He lives, no more to die. Alleluia!
- 3 Hail, the victim undefiled, Alleluia!  
God and sinners reconciled, Alleluia!  
When contending death and life, Alleluia!  
Met in strange and awesome strife. Alleluia!
- 4 Christians, on this holy day, Alleluia!  
All your grateful homage pay; Alleluia!

AS THE  
FATHER  
HAS LOVED  
ME, SO  
HAVE I  
LOVED  
YOU. ABIDE  
IN MY



JOHN 15:9,  
ESV

Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!  
Now He lives, no more to die. Alleluia!

Text: attr. Wipo of Burgundy, d. c. 1050; tr. Jane E. Leeson, 1809-81, alt. Text: Public domain

## Confession and Absolution

*Stand*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

*Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]*

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*

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

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.**

*[John 20:19-23]*

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.**

## Service of the Word

### PSALM

98

P Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things! His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

**C The LORD has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

P He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

**C Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!**

P Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody!

**C With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!**

P Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who dwell in it!

**C Let the rivers clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together**

P before the LORD, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

**C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

**KYRIE** *Mark 10:47*

*LSB 152*

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.



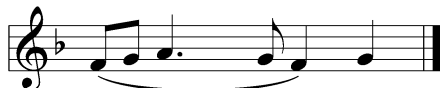
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

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, gracious Lord.



**C** A - men.

**THIS IS THE FEAST** *Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9*

*LSB 155*



**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*



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



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

**SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*LSB 156*

P The Lord be with you.

*2 Timothy 4:22*



And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



A - men.

Sit

### FIRST READING

*Acts 10:34–48*

<sup>34</sup>Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), <sup>37</sup>you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: <sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup>And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, <sup>41</sup>not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the

dead. <sup>42</sup>And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup>To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

<sup>44</sup>While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. <sup>45</sup>And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles. <sup>46</sup>For they were hearing them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter declared, <sup>47</sup>“Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” <sup>48</sup>And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

### EPISTLE

*1 John 5:1–8*

<sup>1</sup>Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him. <sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. <sup>3</sup>For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. <sup>4</sup>For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

<sup>6</sup>This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood.

And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. <sup>7</sup>For there are three that testify: <sup>8</sup>the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

**ALLELUIA** *John 6:68* *LSB 156*

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**HOLY GOSPEL** *John 15:9–17*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.

Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>9</sup>[Jesus said:] “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup>These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

<sup>12</sup>“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>Greater love has no one than this, that someone lays down his life for his friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup>No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his

master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. <sup>17</sup>These things I command you, so that you will love one another.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

*Sit*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*“Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me”* *LSB 683*

- 1 Jesus, Thy boundless love to me  
No thought can reach, no tongue declare;  
Unite my thankful heart to Thee,  
And reign without a rival there!  
Thine wholly, Thine alone I am;  
Be Thou alone my constant flame.
- 2 O grant that nothing in my soul  
May dwell, but Thy pure love alone;  
Oh, may Thy love possess me whole,  
My joy, my treasure, and my crown!  
All coldness from my heart remove;  
My ev’ry act, word, thought be love.
- 3 This love unwearied I pursue  
And dauntlessly to Thee aspire.  
Oh, may Thy love my hope renew,

Burn in my soul like heav'nly fire!  
And day and night, be all my care  
To guard this sacred treasure there.

- 4 In suff'ring be Thy love my peace,  
In weakness be Thy love my pow'r;  
And when the storms of life shall cease,  
O Jesus, in that final hour,  
Be Thou my rod and staff and guide,  
And draw me safely to Thy side!

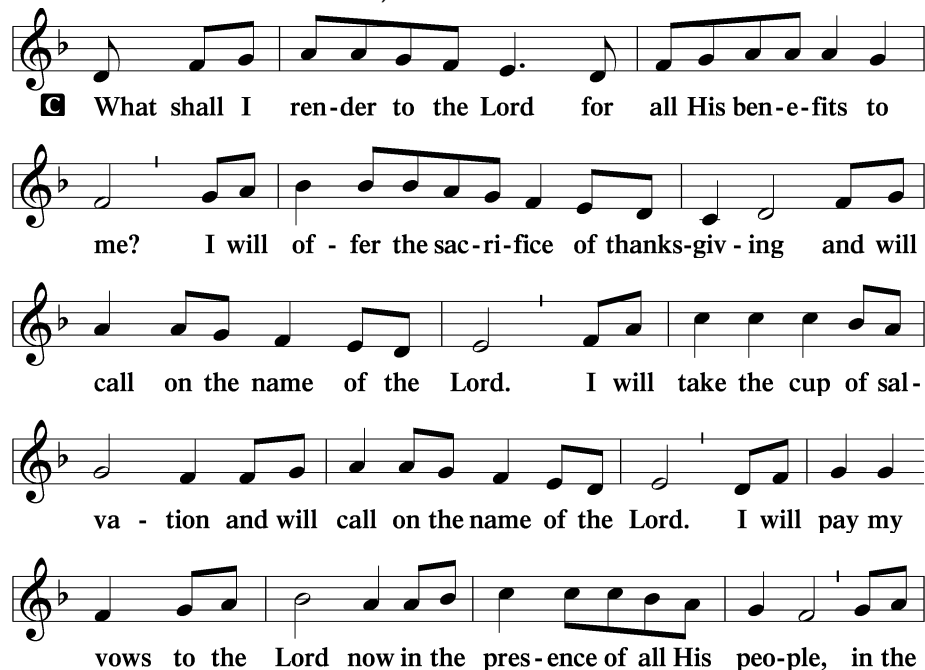
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## SERMON

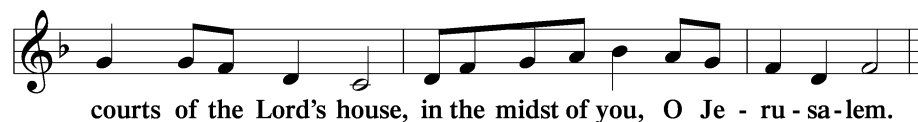
**"In Jesus' Love"**  
**St. John 15:9-17**

*Stand*

## OFFERTORY *Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19* *LSB 159*



What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to  
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will  
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the



courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

## NICENE CREED

*LSB 191*

**C 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  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

*Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3).*

Service of the Sacrament

**PREFACE**

P The Lord be with you.



☐ And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.



☐ We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

[Psalm 136]



☐ 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. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**SANCTUS** *Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*

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.

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

*LSB 162*

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

*Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24*

## PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

*LSB 162*

**P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. *1 Corinthians 11:26*

**C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.** *Revelation 22:20*

**P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

## LORD'S PRAYER

**C 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.**

*Matthew 6:9-13*

## PAX DOMINI *John 20:19*

*LSB 163*

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.





## AGNUS DEI *John 1:29*

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.

*Sit*

## DISTRIBUTION

### COMMUNION HYMNS

*"Jesus Sinners Doth Receive" LSB 609*

- 1 Jesus sinners doth receive;  
Oh, may all this saying ponder  
Who in sin's delusions live  
And from God and heaven wander!  
Here is hope for all who grieve:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 2 We deserve but grief and shame,  
Yet His words, rich grace revealing,

Pardon, peace, and life proclaim;  
Here our ills have perfect healing.  
Firmly in these words believe:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.

- 3 Sheep that from the fold did stray  
No true shepherd e'er forsaketh;  
Weary souls that lost their way  
Christ, the Shepherd, gently taketh  
In His arms that they may live:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 4 I, a sinner, come to Thee  
With a penitent confession.  
Savior, mercy show to me;  
Grant for all my sins remission.  
Let these words my soul relieve:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 5 Oh, how blest it is to know:  
Were as scarlet my transgression,  
It shall be as white as snow  
By Thy blood and bitter passion;  
For these words I now believe:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 6 Now my conscience is at peace;  
From the Law I stand acquitted.  
Christ hath purchased my release  
And my ev'ry sin remitted.  
Naught remains my soul to grieve:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 7 Jesus sinners doth receive;  
Also I have been forgiven;

And when I this earth must leave,  
I shall find an open heaven.  
Dying, still to Him I cleave:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756  
Text: Public domain

*“The Gifts Christ Freely Gives” LSB 602*

- 1 The gifts Christ freely gives  
He gives to you and me  
To be His Church, His bride,  
His chosen, saved and free!  
Saints blest with these rich gifts  
Are children who proclaim  
That they were won by Christ  
And cling to His strong name.
- 2 The gifts flow from the font  
Where He calls us His own;  
New life He gives that makes  
Us His and His alone.  
Here He forgives our sins  
With water and His Word;  
The triune God Himself  
Gives pow’r to call Him Lord.
- 3 The gifts of grace and peace  
From absolution flow;  
The pastor’s words are Christ’s  
For us to trust and know.  
Forgiveness that we need  
Is granted to us there;  
The Lord of mercy sends  
Us forth in His blest care.

4 The gifts are there each day  
The holy Word is read;  
God’s children listen, hear,  
Receive, and they are fed.  
Christ fills them with Himself,  
Blest words that give them life,  
Restoring and refreshing  
Them for this world’s strife.

5 The gifts are in the feast,  
Gifts far more than we see;  
Beneath the bread and wine  
Is food from Calvary.  
The body and the blood  
Remove our ev’ry sin;  
We leave His presence in  
His peace, renewed again.

6 All glory to the One  
Who lavishes such love;  
The triune God in love  
Assures our life above.  
His means of grace for us  
Are gifts He loves to give;  
All thanks and praise for His  
Great love by which we live!

Text: Richard C. Resch, 1947  
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*“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing” LSB 643*

1 Sent forth by God’s blessing,  
Our true faith confessing,  
The people of God from His dwelling take leave.  
The Supper is ended.

O now be extended  
 The fruits of this service in all who believe.  
 The seed of His teaching,  
 Receptive souls reaching,  
 Shall blossom in action for God and for all.  
 His grace did invite us,  
 His love shall unite us  
 To work for God's kingdom and answer His call.

2 With praise and thanksgiving  
 To God ever-living,  
 The tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face.  
 Our faith ever sharing,  
 In love ever caring,  
 Embracing His children of each tribe and race.  
 With Your feast You feed us,  
 With Your light now lead us;  
 Unite us as one in this life that we share.  
 Then may all the living  
 With praise and thanksgiving  
 Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear.

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*Stand*

**THANK THE LORD**

*LSB 164*



☐ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.

**POST-COMMUNION COLLECT**

*LSB 166*

A Let us pray.  
 O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



☐ A - men.

**BENEDICTION**

*Numbers 6:24-26*

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.



☐ A - men.

**CLOSING HYMN**

*"On What Has Now Been Sown" LSB 921*

- 1 On what has now been sown  
Thy blessing, Lord, bestow;  
The pow'r is Thine alone  
To make it sprout and grow.  
Do Thou in grace the harvest raise,  
And Thou alone shalt have the praise!
- 2 To Thee our wants are known,  
From Thee are all our pow'rs;  
Accept what is Thine own  
And pardon what is ours.  
Our praises, Lord, and prayers receive,  
And to Thy Word a blessing give.
- 3 O grant that each of us,  
Now met before Thee here,  
May meet together thus  
When Thou and Thine appear  
And follow Thee to heav'n, our home.  
E'en so, amen, Lord Jesus, come!

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt. Text: Public domain

## **CURRENT ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **POSTLUDE**

*Organist*

#### **Acknowledgments**

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