



## **Ascension Sunday**

May 17, 2026

8:00 AM and 10:30 AM

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Henrik Sonntag, Pastor

120 N. Easton Road

Glenside, PA

215-884-3005

**GATHERING** \_\_\_\_\_

THE PRELUDE

*Tempo Di Ballo*

Domenico Scarlatti

*Please stand as you are able.*

EASTER GREETING

Christ is risen. **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen. OR**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ.

By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

# OPENING HYMN

## No. 385 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!

*Gelobt sei Gott*

### Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!



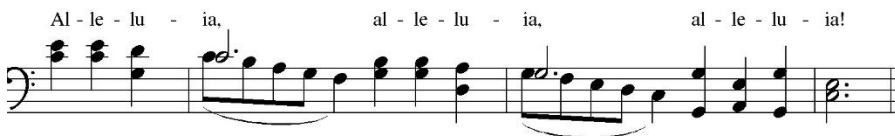
1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice and sing! Now is the tri - umph  
2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; death's might - y stone is  
3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that life which  
4 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to - day with



of our king! To all the world glad news we bring:  
rolled a - way; let all the earth re - joice and say:  
can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:  
one ac - cord, the life laid down, the life re - stored:



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



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

ext: Cyril A. Alington, 1872–1955, alt.

Music: GELOBT SEI GOTT, Melchior Vulpius, 1570–1615

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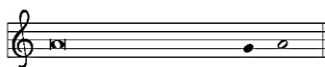
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## GREETING

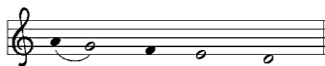
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

### KYRIE (Setting 4)

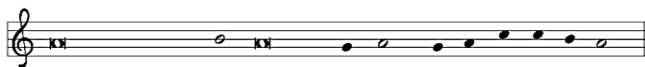
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In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



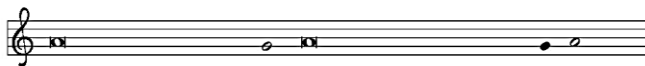
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



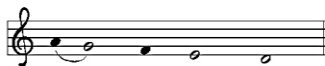
Lord, have mer - cy.



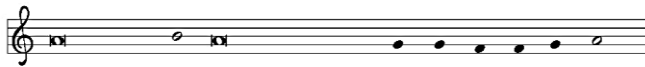
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, your blessed Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things. Mercifully give us faith to trust that, as he promised, he abides with us on earth to the end of time, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## THE WORD

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### THE FIRST READING

Acts 1:1-11

[Luke writes:] <sup>1</sup> In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and teach <sup>2</sup> until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup> After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. <sup>4</sup> While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; <sup>5</sup> for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

<sup>6</sup> So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" <sup>7</sup> He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." <sup>9</sup> When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup> While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup> They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has

been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## THE PSALM

Psalm 47

8:00 *The psalm will be read responsively with the assembly reading the verses in **bold**.*

10:30 *The antiphon is sung by all. The assembly sings the verses in **bold** print*



Psalm 47:5

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year A* © 2007 Augsburg Fortress

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- <sup>1</sup> Clap your hands, | all you peoples;  
shout to God with a | joyful sound.**
- <sup>2</sup> For the LORD Most High is | to be feared:  
a great king over | all the earth,
- <sup>3</sup> who subdues the | peoples under us,  
and the nations un- | der our feet;**
- <sup>4</sup> who chooses our inheri- | tance for us,  
the pride of Jacob, | whom God loves. R
- <sup>5</sup> God has gone up | with a shout,  
the LORD with the sound | of the ram's horn.**
- <sup>6</sup> Sing praises to | God, sing praises;  
sing praises to our | king, sing praises. R
- <sup>7</sup> For God is king of | all the earth;  
sing praises | with a song.**
- <sup>8</sup> God reigns o- | ver the nations;  
God is en- | throned on high.
- <sup>9</sup> The nobles of the peoples have gathered as the  
people of the | God of Abraham.**

**The rulers of the earth belong to God, who is high-ly exalted. R**

**THE SECOND READING**

Ephesians 1:15-23

<sup>15</sup> I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason <sup>16</sup> I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, <sup>17</sup> that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, <sup>18</sup> so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, <sup>19</sup> and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. <sup>20</sup> God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup> far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. <sup>22</sup> And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, <sup>23</sup> which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

**THE HOLY GOSPEL**

Luke 24:44-53

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the Twenty-fourth Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>44</sup> [Jesus said to the eleven and those with them,] “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, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.”<sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup> and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day <sup>47</sup> and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup> And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised, so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

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

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

*Sermon in Song*

**GLORIA by Antonia Vivaldi (1678-1741)**

No. 1 Gloria in excelsis Deo

*Gloria be to God on high*

No. 2 Et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.

*And on earth peace, goodwill towards men.*

No. 3 Laudamus te, benedicimus te, adoramus te, glorificamus te.

*We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee.*

(Violet Moyer, soprano 1; AnnaLisa Mariani, soprano 2)

No. 4 Gratias agimus tibi

*We give thanks to Thee*

No. 5 Propter magnam gloriam tuam.

*For Thy great glory.*

No. 6 Domine Deus, Rex caelestis, Deus Pater omnipotens

*O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty,*

(Violet Moyer, soloist)

No. 7 Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu Christe

*O Lord, only begotten Son, Jesus Christ*

No. 8 Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris, Rex caelestis,

Domine Fili unigenite, qui tollis peccata mundi, Miserere nobis.

*O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, heavenly King, only begotten Son, that taketh away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.*

(Misty Wagner, alto soloist)

No. 9 Qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe deprecationem nostrum.

*Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.*

No. 10 Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris, Miserere nobis.

*Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.*

(AnnaLisa Mariani, soloist)

No. 11 Quoniam tu solus sanctus, tu solus Dominus, tu solus altissimus, Jesu Christe.

*For Thou only art holy, Thou only art the Lord, Thou only art the most high, Jesus Christ,*

No. 12 Cum Sancto Spiritu, in Gloria Dei Patris, Amen.

*With the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father, Amen.*

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

*Please stand as you are able.*

THE APOSTLES' CREED

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**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 again; he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and 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.**

## THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Please kneel or sit for the prayers:* The response to “Lord, in your mercy” is “**hear our prayer.**”

*Pastor:* Trusting in the power of Christ’s resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

*A brief silence.*

O God, your people sing praises throughout the church. By your Holy Spirit, inspire musicians, deacons, pastors, and bishops to proclaim the gospel of Jesus. Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

Your creative power fills the universe. Bring favorable weather, nurture plants and animals, protect us from natural disasters, and guide us to care for all you have made. Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

Your justice is exercised in society by those in authority. Instill in political leaders, business leaders, school administrators, and all who care for others a desire for peace and equity. Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

Your compassion and care come through the gifts of medicine and relationships. Soothe the anxious, protect widows and orphans, comfort those living with memory loss and their families, and heal the sick especially Robin Logan and all those on our prayer list. Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

Your love radiates from communities gathered in your name. Bless those experiencing significant transitions in life such as graduation, retirement, new employment (*other transitions*

*may be named*), and accompany us in our prayers during these times. Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer**

O God, your promise of eternal life is certain and sure. Inspire us by the steadfast faith of those who have gone before us, so that we may be confident in the assurances you give. Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer**.

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

**Amen.**

*Please stand as you are able*

## THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

*All greet each other with Christ's gesture of peace saying "Peace be with you."*

*Please be seated*

## MEAL \_\_\_\_\_

### OFFERING

*Hymn Medley*

Arr. Ajibola Rivers

Irina Rostomashvili, violin; Ajibola Rivers, cello

*Please stand as you are able.*

OFFERTORY No. 692 We Are an Offering

*Offering*

We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an  
 of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voic-es, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our  
 lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,  
 all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.  
 We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:  
 we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

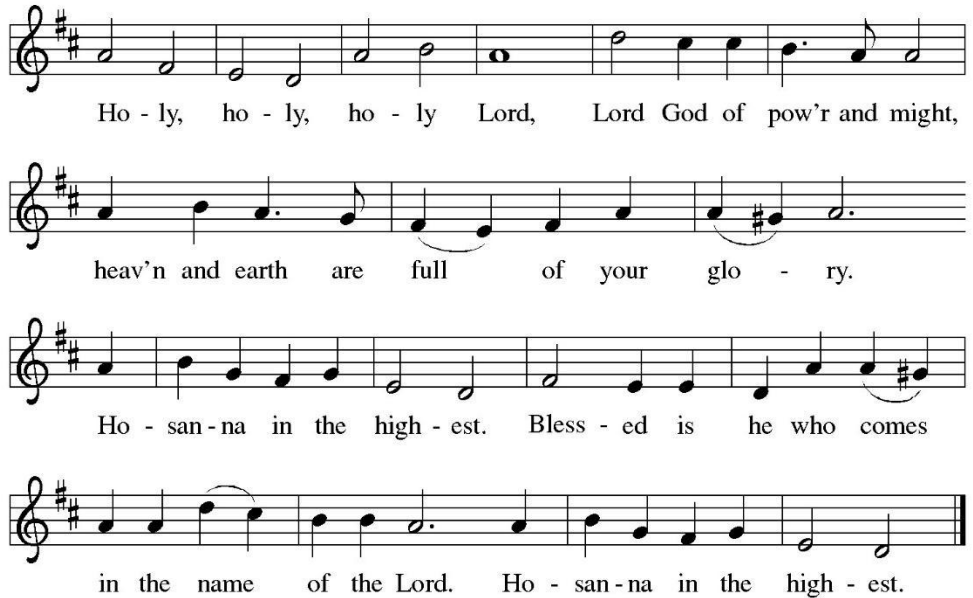
Concludes with ... **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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THE SANCTUS

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Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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*Please be seated.*

10:30 AM: We welcome Ryan MacMillan to the communion table for the first time.

THE COMMUNION

"Lamb of God"

Page 154

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, grant us peace.

No. 470 Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

*Union Seminary*

## Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

1 Draw us in the Spir-it's teth - er, for when hum - bly  
2 As dis - ci - ples used to gath - er in the name of  
3 All our meals and all our liv - ing make as sac - ra -

in your name two or three are met to - geth - er,  
Christ to sup, then with thanks to God the giv - er  
ments of you, that by car - ing, help - ing, giv - ing,

you are in the midst of them. Al - le - lu - ia!  
break the bread and bless the cup, Al - le - lu - ia!  
we may be dis - ci - ples true. Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Touch we now your gar - ment's hem.  
Al - le - lu - ia! so now bind our friend - ship up.  
Al - le - lu - ia! We will serve with faith a - new.

Text: Percy Dearmer, 1867–1936, alt.  
Music: UNION SEMINARY, Harold Friedell, 1905–1958  
Text from *Songs of Praise*, Enlarged Edition, © Oxford University Press 1931.  
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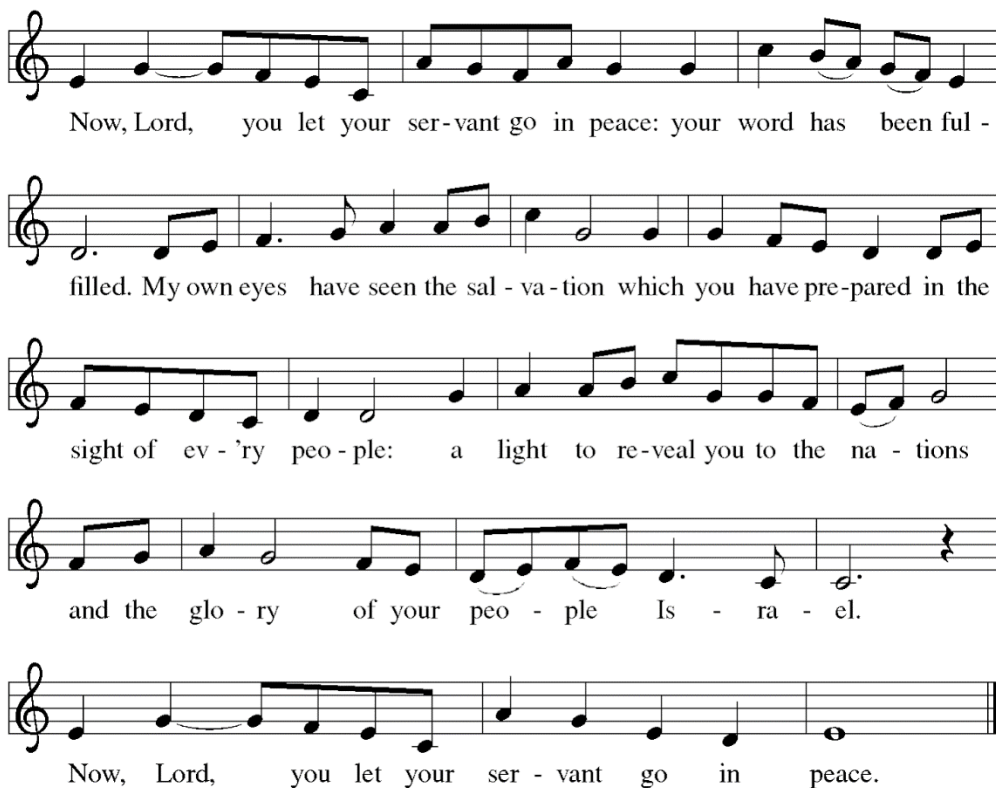
*Please stand as you are able.*

## THE COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ  
strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

## THE POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

Now Lord, You Let Your Servant Go in peace Page 113



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -

filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the

sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions

and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

## THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Concludes with **Amen.**

**SENDING** \_\_\_\_\_

THE BLESSING

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THE SENDING HYMN  
No. 826 Thine the Amen

*Thine*

# Thine the Amen



1 Thine the a - men thine the praise al - le - lu - ias an - gels raise  
2 Thine the life e - ter - nal - ly thine the prom - ise let there be  
3 Thine the tru - ly thine the yes thine the ta - ble we the guest  
4 Thine the king - dom thine the prize thine the won - der full sur - prise  
5 Thine the glo - ry in the night no more dy - ing on - ly light



thine the ev - er - last - ing head thine the break - ing of the bread  
thine the vi - sion thine the tree all the earth on bend - ed knee  
thine the mer - cy all from thee thine the glo - ry yet to be  
thine the ban - quet then the praise then the jus - tice of thy ways  
thine the riv - er thine the tree then the Lamb e - ter - nal - ly



thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry thine the har - vest then the cup  
gone the nail - ing gone the rail - ing gone the plead - ing gone the cry  
then the ring - ing and the sing - ing then the end of all the war  
thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry then the wel - come to the least  
then the ho - ly ho - ly ho - ly cel - e - bra - tion ju - bi - lee



thine the vine - yard then the cup is lift - ed up lift - ed up.  
gone the sigh - ing gone the dy - ing what was loss lift - ed high.  
thine the liv - ing thine the lov - ing ev - er - more ev - er - more.  
then the won - der all in - creas - ing at thy feast at thy feast.  
thine the splen - dor thine the bright - ness on - ly thee on - ly thee.

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926

Music: THINE, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929

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*Please be seated for the announcements.*

PARISH NOTICES AND JOYS

Sending: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE POSTLUDE

*Sonata in D minor – Allegro*

Domenico Scarlatti

THE CHANCEL CHOIR

Sopranos

Betsy Berglund

Susan Duffy

AnnaLisa Mariani

Pam McDowell

Violet Moyer

Julie Sullivan

Basses

Mike Edelman

Peter Gkonos

John McKay\*

Matthew Murmylo\*

Will Ritter

Eric Schiffer

Harry VanPelt

Altos

Cyndee Folk

Pat Lackman

Celia O'Leary

Laurie Pellicore

Nancy Raabe

Starr Schiffer

Misty Wagner

INSTRUMENTALISTS:

Irina Rostomashvili, violin 1

Alberta Douglas, violin 2

Kyran Littlejohn, Jr., viola

Ajibola Rivers, cello

Evan Ocheret, oboe

Eric Schweingruber,  
trumpet

Edward Landin Senn,  
piano

Tenors

Tom Adrian

Justin Hamilton\*

Michael Harrington

Larry Hoenig\*

Bruce Todd