

PSALMS & HYMNS

For Community Groups, Family Worship, Social Gatherings, and Sundry Events

2024 EASTER-ASCENSION DAY

REFORMATION COVENANT CHURCH Oregon City, OR

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

According to His great mercy,

He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

1 Peter 1:3

Easter and Ascension

In Psalm 98, the psalmist instructs us to "sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things" (cf. Pss. 33:3; 96:1). The wonderful works of God inspire, even demand, joy, song, and acclamation from God's people. Of all God's wonderful works, the resurrection of Christ is the centerpiece of the Christian faith (1 Cor. 15:4, 13–15) and the high point of his power (cf. Rom. 1:4). Easter says that Jesus is the victor, that he has overcome sin and death, that he has secured for himself a people, and that we will share this indestructible life with him—certainly enough to evoke joy, song, and acclamation.

According to the New Testament, the Psalms foretell of Easter Sunday, so we begin there. Christ was rejected, but has become the Cornerstone (Ps. 118, "O Come with Thanks, God's Goodness Praising"); from earth he ascended and now reigns over his enemies (Ps. 110, "The Lord says to my Lord, Sit at my Right Hand"). The New Testament gives us more. We know by faith that Christ the Lord is risen today, that the strife is o'er, and the battle won. And we sing these truths as reminders and encouragements.

Easter moves to Ascension, in which Christ takes his seat at the right hand of the Father and completes the work he was sent to do. He lives and reigns in heaven. From there he mounts in triumph and bears a name at which every knee shall bow. But he has not left us alone. The Ascension looks toward Pentecost and the giving of the Spirit. Through Him, Christ's work has not ceased. He quickens dead sinners, dwells with his people, and rules by means of Word and Water.

Table of Contents

| Collects for Easter through Ascension | 4 |
|--|----|
| Psalm 22b - All Ends of Earth Rememb'ring Him | 7 |
| Psalm 47 - All Peoples Clap Your Hands for Joy | |
| Psalm 98 - O Sing a New Song to the Lord | |
| Psalm 103 - My Soul, Now Bless Thy Maker | |
| Psalm 104 - My Soul, Thy Great Creator Praise | |
| Psalm 110 - The Lord Says to My Lord | |
| Psalm 118 - O Come with Thanks | |
| Alleluia! Alleluia! | 21 |
| Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands | 22 |
| Christ the Lord is Risen Today | 23 |
| In Christ Alone | 24 |
| In the Fish for Three Days Buried | 25 |
| Light's Glittering Morn Bedecks the Sky | 26 |
| Low in the Grave He Lay | 28 |
| O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing | 29 |
| Rise, O Church, and Lift Your Voices | 30 |
| That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright | 31 |
| The Strife is O'er, the Battle Done | |
| This Joyful Eastertide | 33 |
| Worthy is the Lamb That Was Slain | 34 |
| All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name | 36 |
| At the Name of Jesus | 38 |
| Christ High-Ascended, Now in Glory Seated | 40 |
| Crown Him with Many Crowns | 41 |
| See, the Conqueror Mounts in Triumph | 42 |

COLLECTS FOR EASTER AND ASCENSION

EASTER SUNDAY

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ has overcome death and opened unto us the gate of everlasting life: we humbly beseech you, that as by your special grace you put good desires into our minds, so by your continual help we may bring these to good effect, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

Almighty Father, who has given your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification: Grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness, that we may always serve you in purity of life and truth, through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

Almighty God, who has given your only Son to be to us both a sacrifice for sin and also an example of godly life: Give us this grace that we may always thankfully receive his inestimable gift, and also daily endeavor ourselves to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

Almighty God, who shows to those who are in error the light of your truth, so that they may return to the way of righteousness: Grant unto all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may eschew those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

O Almighty God, who alone can order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men: Grant unto your people, that they may love what you command, and desire what you promise, that our hearts may be firmly fixed where true joys are to be found, among the sundry and manifold changes of the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

O Lord, from whom all good things do come: Grant to us thy humble servants, that by your holy inspiration we may think those things that are good, and by your merciful guiding may perform the same, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

ASCENSION DAY

Grant, we beseech you, almighty God, that as we believe your only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens, so we may also in heart and mind there ascend, and with him continuously dwell, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION DAY

O God, the king of glory, who has exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph unto your kingdom in heaven: We beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to comfort us, and exalt us unto the same place where our Savior Christ is gone before, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

PSALMS FOR THE SEASON OF EASTER AND ASCENSION

All Ends of Earth, Rememb'ring Him

Psalm 22:27-31



All Peoples, Clap Your Hands for Joy

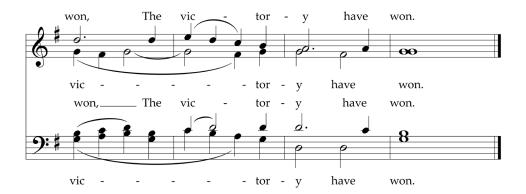


GOD HAS GONE UP WITH A SHOUT, THE LORD WITH THE SOUND OF TRUMPET. SING PRAISES TO GOD, SING PRAISES! SING PRAISES TO OUR KING, SING PRAISES! FOR GOD IS THE KING OF ALL THE EARTH; SING PRAISES WITH A PSALM!

PSALM 47:5-7

O Sing a New Song to the LORD



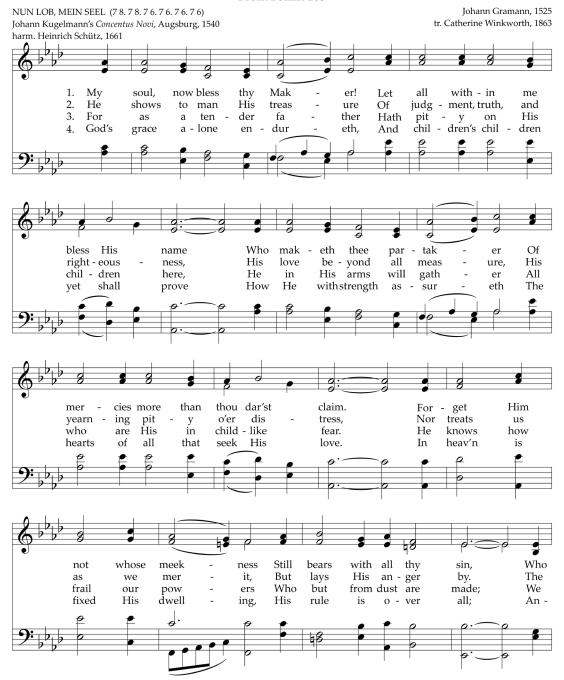


- The great salvation wrought by Him Jehovah has made known.
 His justice in the nations' sight He openly has shown.
- He mindful of His grace and truth
 To Isr'el's house has been.
 The great salvation of our God
 All ends of earth have seen.
- 4. O all the earth, sing to the LORD And make a joyful sound. Lift up your voice aloud to him; Sing psalms! Let joy resound!

- 5. sWith harp make music to the LORD; With harp a psalm O sing!
 bWith horn and trumpet raise a shout Before the LORD, the King.
- 6. Let seas in all their vastness roar,
 The world, its living horde.
 Let rivers clap, let mountains sing
 Their joy before the LORD!
- Because He comes, He surely comes,
 The judge of earth to be!
 With justice He will judge the world,
 All men with equity.

My Soul, Now Bless Thy Maker

From Psalm 103





My Soul, Thy Great Creator Praise

Selections from Psalm 104



- The heav'ns are for his curtains spread,
 The unfathomed deep he makes his bed.
 Clouds are his chariot when he flies
 On wingèd storms across the skies.
- Angels, whom his own breath inspires,
 His ministers, are flaming fires;
 And swift as thought their armies move
 To bear his vengeance or his love.
- 4. Vast are thy works, Almighty Lord; All nature rests upon thy word, And the whole race of creatures stands Waiting their portion from thy hands.

- But when thy face is hid, they mourn, And, dying, to their dust return;
 Both man and beast their souls resign;
 Life, breath, and spirit, all is thine.
- 6. Yet thou canst breathe on dust again, And fill the world with beasts and men; A word of thy creating breath Repairs the wastes of time and death.
- 7. In thee my hopes and wishes meet, And make my meditations sweet; Thy praises shall my breath employ, Till it expire in endless joy.

 While haughty sinners die accursed, Their glory buried with their dust, I to my God, my heav'nly King, Immortal hallelujahs sing. "Death has become like a tyrant who has been completely conquered by the legitimate monarch; Bound hand and foot as he now is, the passers-by jeer at him, hitting him and abusing him, no longer afraid of his cruelty and rage, because of the king who conquered him. So has death been conquered and branded for what it is by the Savior on the cross. It is bound hand and foot, all who are in Christ trample it as they pass and as witness to Him deride it, scoffing and saying, 'O Death, where is thy victory? O Grave, where is thy sting?"

- St. Athanasius, On the Incarnation

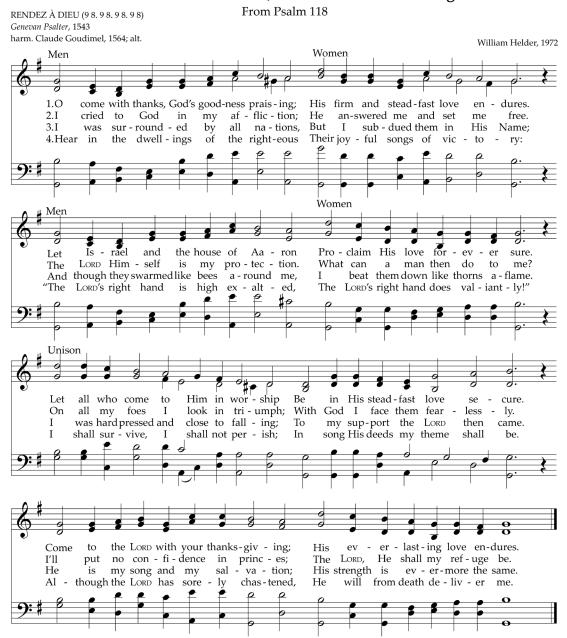
Psalm 110

A Psalm of David





O Come with Thanks, God's Goodness Praising



- 5. M: I'll thank the LORD; now let me enter
 W: Unlock the gates of righteousness
 M: The righteous shall here be admitted,
 W: For this indeed the LORD's gate is.
 I thank thee, LORD, that Thou hast heard me
 And rescued me from my distress.
 Thou hast become, LORD, my salvation;
 All those who seek Thee wilt Thou bless.
- 6. M: The stone the builders had rejected
 W: Was chosen as the cornerstone.
 M: This marvelous act, most unexpected,
 W: The doing is of God alone.
 This is the day the LORD created
 Now let us sing with joyful tones
 Grant us prosperity, we pray Thee;
 O LORD, save those who are Thy own.
- 7. M: Blest He Who in the LORD's name enters
 W: We bless you from the house of God.
 M: He is our strength and our salvation;
 W: The LORD has shed His light abroad.
 Bind festal off'rings to the altar,
 With sacrifices bring Him laud.
 Shout forth your joy within His temple:
 O praise the LORD, for He is God!
- 8. M: Thou art my God, I will extol Thee,
 W: Thou mighty LORD, hast rescued me.
 M: For Thy unfailing love and mercy
 W: I offer now my thanks to Thee
 O thank the LORD for all His goodness,
 For most comapssionate is He:
 His steadfast grace and lovingkindness
 Endure through all eternity.

HYMNS FOR EASTER



Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands



- 6. So let us keep the festival
 Whereto the Lord invites us;
 Christ is Himself the Joy of all,
 The Sun that warms and lights us.
 By His grace He doth impart
 Eternal sunshine to the heart;
 The night of sin is ended. Hallelujah!
- 7. Then let us feast this Paschal Day
 On Christ, the Bread of heaven
 The Word of Grace hath purged away
 The old and evil leaven
 Christ alone our souls will feed
 He is our meat and drink indeed;
 Faith lives upon no other. Hallelujah!

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today



In Christ Alone



In the Fish for Three Days Buried

Song of Jonah



Light's Glittering Morn Bedecks the Sky





Death, be not proud, though some have called thee
Mighty and dreadful, for thou art not so;
For those whom thou think'st thou dost overthrow
Die not, poor Death, nor yet canst thou kill me.
From rest and sleep, which but thy pictures be,
Much pleasure; then from thee much more must flow,
And soonest our best men with thee do go,
Rest of their bones, and soul's delivery.
Thou art slave to fate, chance, kings, and desperate men,
And dost with poison, war, and sickness dwell,
And poppy or charms can make us sleep as well
And better than thy stroke; why swell'st thou then?
One short sleep past, we wake eternally
And death shall be no more; Death, thou shalt die.

— John Donne, "Death, be not proud" (1633)

Low in the Grave He Lay



O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing



Rise, O Church, and Lift Your Voices



That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright



The Strife is O'er, the Battle Done

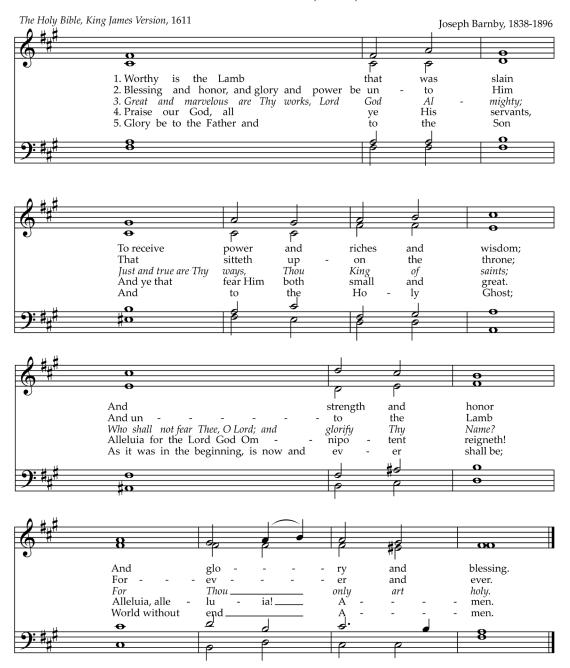




George R. Woodward, 1902 VRUECHTEN (67.67. w/ refrain) David's Psalmen, Amsterdam, 1685; harm. Alice Parker, 1966 1. This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide, A - way with sin sor row! 2. My flesh in hope shall rest, And for slum ber; 3. Death's flood hath lost his chill, Since Je - sus crossed the er: the Cru - ci - fied, Hath sprung to this mor row. trump from east to west, Shall wake the dead num ber. pass - ing of souls, from ill My soul de liv er. Had Christ, that once was slain, Ne'er burst His three-day pris - on, Our faith had been in vain; But now hath Christ a-ris-en, a-ris-en, a-ris-en, a-ris en!

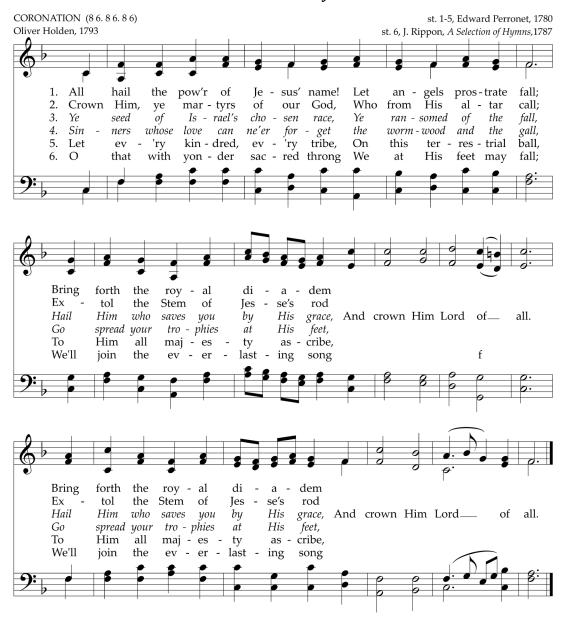
Worthy is the Lamb That Was Slain

from Revelation 5:12-13, 15:3-4, 19:5-6



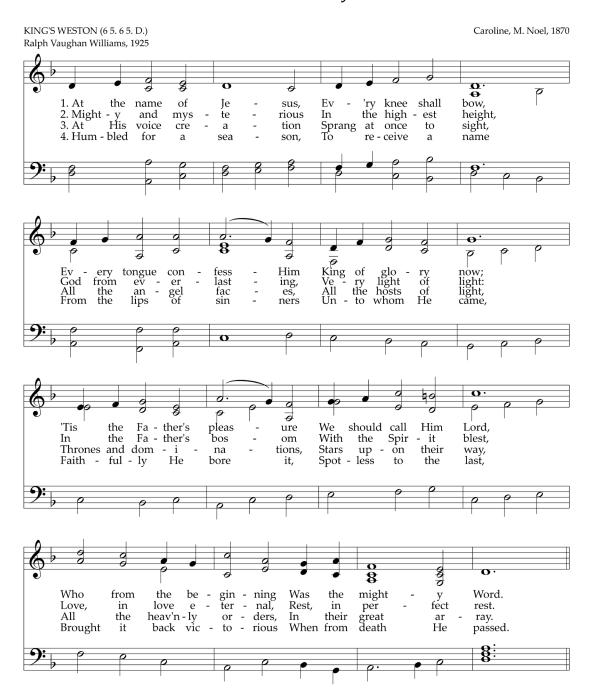
HYMNS FOR ASCENSION

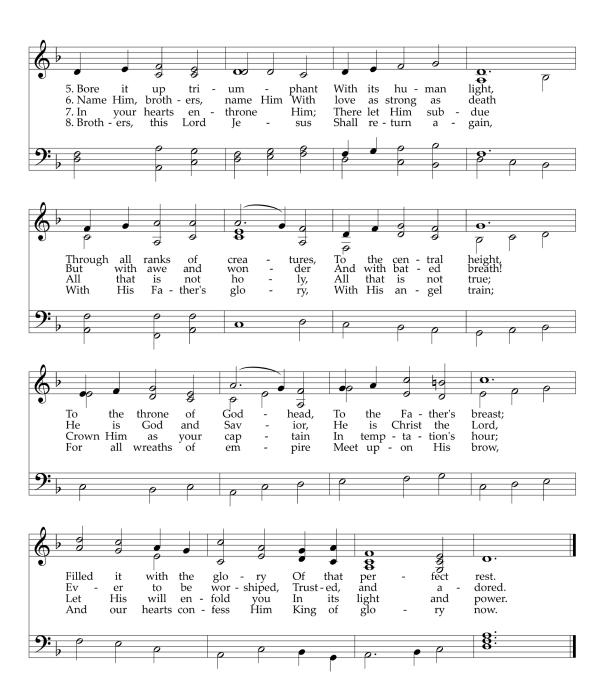
All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!



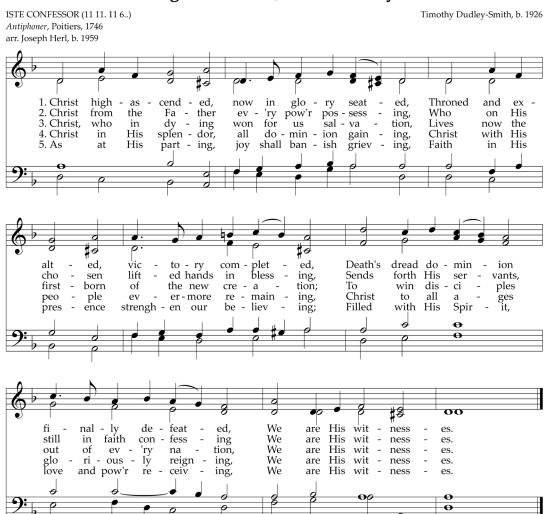
THE LORD SAYS TO MY LORD: "SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND, UNTIL I MAKE YOUR ENEMIES YOUR FOOTSTOOL." PSALM 110:1

At the Name of Jesus





Christ High-Ascended, Now in Glory Seated



Crown Him with Many Crowns



See, the Conqueror Mounts in Triumph



Make no mistake: if he rose at all
It was as His body;
If the cell's dissolution did not reverse, the molecule reknit,
The amino acids rekindle,
The Church will fall.

It was not as the flowers,
Each soft spring recurrent;
It was not as His Spirit in the mouths and fuddled eyes of the
Eleven apostles;
It was as His flesh; ours.

The same hinged thumbs and toes
The same valved heart
That—pierced—died, withered, paused, and then regathered
Out of enduring Might
New strength to enclose.

Let us not mock God with metaphor,
Analogy, sidestepping, transcendence,
Making of the event a parable, a sign painted in the faded
Credulity of earlier ages:
Let us walk through the door.

The stone is rolled back, not papier-mâché-,
Not a stone in a story,
But the vast rock of materiality that in the slow grinding of
Time will eclipse for each of us
The wide light of day.

And if we have an angel at the tomb,

Make it a real angel,

Weighty with Max Planck's quanta, vivid with hair, opaque in

The dawn light, robed in real linen

Spun on a definite loom.

Let us not seek to make it less monstrous,
For our own convenience, our own sense of beauty,
Lest, awakened in one unthinkable hour, we are embarrassed
By the miracle,
And crushed by remonstrance.

—John Updike, "Seven Stanzas at Easter" (1960)



REFORMATION COVENANT CHURCH