

Gathering Hymn

Christ Is Alive!



1. Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing.
2. Christ is a - live! No long - er bound
3. In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war,
4. Wom - en and men, in age and youth,
5. Christ is a - live, and comes to bring

The cross stands emp - ty to the sky.
To dis - tant years in Pal - es - tine,
Where col - or, scorn, or wealth di - vide,
Can feel the Spir - it, hear the call,
Good news to this and ev - 'ry age,

Let streets and homes with prais - es ring.
But sav - ing, heal - ing here and now,
Christ suf - fers still, yet loves the more,
And find the way, the life, the truth,
Till earth and sky and o - cean ring

Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
And touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.
And lives, where e - ven hope has died.
Re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
With joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Text: Romans 6:5-11; Brian Wren, b.1936, © 1975, 1995, Hope Publishing Company
Tune: TRURO, LM; Williams' *Psalmodia Evangelica*, 1789

Greeting

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

Penitential Act Form A (Confiteor)

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. Amen.

Collect

Gladden us with holy joys, almighty God, and make us rejoice with devout thanksgiving, for the Ascension of Christ your Son is our exaltation, and, where the Head has gone before in glory, the Body is called to follow in hope. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Reading 1 ACTS 1:1-11

In the first book, Theophilus, I dealt with all that Jesus did and taught until the day he was taken up, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. He presented himself alive to them by many proofs after he had suffered, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While meeting with them, he enjoined them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for “the promise of the Father about which you have heard me speak; for John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.” When they had gathered together they asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?” He answered them, “It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” When he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight. While they were looking intently at the sky as he was going, suddenly two men dressed in white garments stood beside them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky? This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven.”

Responsorial Psalm PS 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9

R. God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

All you peoples, clap your hands, shout to God with cries of gladness, for the LORD, the Most High, the awesome, is the great king over all the earth.

R. God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

God mounts his throne amid shouts of joy; the LORD, amid trumpet blasts. Sing praise to God, sing praise; sing praise to our king, sing praise.

R. God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

For king of all the earth is God; sing hymns of praise. God reigns over the nations, God sits upon his holy throne.

R. God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Reading 2 **EPH 4:1-13**

Brothers and sisters, I, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to live in a manner worthy of the call you have received, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another through love, striving to preserve the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace: one body and one Spirit, as you were also called to the one hope of your call; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore, it says: He ascended on high and took prisoners captive; he gave gifts to men. What does "he ascended" mean except that he also descended into the lower regions of the earth? The one who descended is also the one who ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things. And he gave some as apostles, others as prophets, others as evangelists, others as pastors and teachers, to equip the holy ones for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of faith and knowledge of the Son of God, to mature to manhood, to the extent of the full stature of Christ.

Alleluia **MT 28:19A, 20B**

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Go and teach all nations, says the Lord; I am with you always, until the end of the world.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel **MK 16:15-20**

Jesus said to his disciples: "Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved; whoever does not believe will be condemned. These signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will drive out demons, they will speak new languages. They will pick up serpents with their hands, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not harm them. They will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover." So then the Lord Jesus, after he spoke to them, was taken up into heaven and took his seat at the right hand of God. But they went forth and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the word through accompanying signs.

P. The Gospel of the Lord

R. Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

Profession of Faith

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins, and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Universal Prayer

P. Jesus prayed to the Father that all may be one. We lift our voices as one to ask God to fulfill our needs and the needs of this one world.

LECTOR: For the Church, as we seek the unity that Jesus desired, we pray to the Lord.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

L. For our leaders, that they may be blessed with wisdom, resolve, and perseverance as they pursue justice and fairness for all, especially for those who have been victimized by injustice and discrimination, we pray to the Lord.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

L. For all who hear God's call to serve the Church, at any age and in any capacity, that they may respond with an open mind and a generous heart, we pray to the Lord.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

L. For our community, that in our love of God and love of neighbor we may recognize that we remain in God and God in us, we pray to the Lord.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

L. For all who have served in our armed forces or who continue to serve, and for their families and loved ones, we pray to the Lord.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

L. For the silent prayers we hold in our hearts and for the intentions in the book of prayers: that they will be joined to those of our Blessed Virgin Mary, our patron St. Matthew, and all the saints, we pray to the Lord.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

P. Loving God, you are the source of love and mercy. Help us to express that love and mercy in our thoughts, words, and actions so that the world may see your goodness. Hear the prayers we make today and grant them according to your will through our risen and ascended Lord.

R. Amen

Preparation of the Gifts and Altar

Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life



1. Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: Such a
 2. Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: Such a
 3. Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: Such a



way as gives us breath; Such a truth as ends all
 light as shows a feast; Such a feast as mends in
 joy as none can move; Such a love as none can



strife; Such a life as kill - eth death.
 length; Such a strength as makes his guest.
 part; Such a heart as joys in love.

Text: George Herbert, 1593–1632
 Tune: THE CALL, 7 7 7 7; Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

P. Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the bread we offer you: fruit of the earth and work of human hands, it will become for us the bread of life.

Then he places the paten with the bread on the corporal. If, however, the Offertory Chant is not sung, the Priest may speak these words aloud; at the end, the people may acclaim:

R. Blessed be God for ever.

The Deacon, or the Priest, pours wine and a little water into the chalice, saying quietly:

P. By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share in our humanity.

The Priest then takes the chalice and holds it slightly raised above the altar with both hands, saying in a low voice:

P. Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the wine we offer you: fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become our spiritual drink.

Then he places the chalice on the corporal. If, however, the Offertory Chant is not sung, the Priest may speak these words aloud; at the end, the people may acclaim:

R. Blessed be God for ever.

Invitation to Prayer

P. With humble spirit and contrite heart may we be accepted by you, O Lord, and may our sacrifice in your sight this day be pleasing to you, Lord God.

If appropriate, he also incenses the offerings, the cross, and the altar. A Deacon or other minister then incenses the Priest and the people.

Then the Priest, standing at the side of the altar, washes his hands, saying quietly:

P. Wash me, O Lord, from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

Standing at the middle of the altar, facing the people, extending and then joining his hands, he says:

P. Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

Then the Priest, with hands extended, says the Prayer over the Offerings, at the end of which the people acclaim:

R. Amen.

Preface Dialogue

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Lift up your hearts.

R. We lift them up to the Lord.

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R. It is right and just.

Preface Acclamation

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The Mystery of Faith

P. The mystery of faith.

R. When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

The Lord's Prayer

P. At the Savior's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

Continued next page

R. 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.

Doxology

P. Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

R. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

Sign of Peace

P. Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles; Peace I leave you, my peace I give you; look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

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

R. And with your spirit.

If appropriate, the Deacon, or the Priest, adds:

P. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

Comment: If the priest says "Let us offer each other the sign of peace." The congregation should avoid any contact with each other, and instead offer some other appropriate gesture. Then he takes the host, breaks it over the paten, and places a small piece in the chalice, saying quietly:

P. May this mingling of the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ bring eternal life to us who receive it.

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

R. And with your spirit.

Lamb of God Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace. Invitation to Communion

P. Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

ALL: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Communion Hymn

Here I Am, Lord

Verses



1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my
2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my
3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the



peo - ple cry. All who dwell in dark and sin
peo - ple's pain. I have wept for love of them.
poor and lame. I will set a feast for them.



My hand will save. I, who made the
They turn a - way. I will break their
My hand will save. Fin - est bread I



stars of night, I will make their dark - ness bright.
hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love a - lone.
will pro - vide Till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call - ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Text: Isaiah 6; Dan Schutte, b.1947

Tune: HERE I AM, LORD, 77 7 4 D with refrain; Dan Schutte, b.1947; arr. by Michael Pope, SJ, and John Weissrock

© 1981, OCP

Concluding Rites

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Go forth, the Mass is ended. **OR** Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord. **OR** Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life. **OR** Go in peace.

R. Thanks be to God.

Continued next page

Closing Hymn

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name



1. Ho - ly God, we praise thy name;
2. Hark! the loud ce - les - tial hymn
3. Lo, the ap - os - tol - ic train
4. Ho - ly Fa - ther, Ho - ly Son,



Lord of all, we bow be - fore thee!
An - gel choirs a - bove are rais - ing;
Joins, the sa - cred name to hal - low;
Ho - ly Spir - it, Three we name thee;



All on earth thy scep - ter claim,
Cher - u - bim and Ser - a - phim,
Proph - ets swell the loud re - frain,
While in es - sence on - ly One,



All in heav'n a - bove a - dore thee;
In un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing,
And the white - robed mar - tyrs fol - low;
Un - di - vid - ed God we claim thee;



In - fi - nite thy vast do - main,
Fill the heav'ns with sweet ac - cord:
And from morn to set - ting sun,
And a - dor - ing bend the knee,



Ev - er - last - ing is thy reign.
"Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!"
Through the Church the song goes on.
While we own the mys - ter - y.

Repeat ad lib.

Text: *Grosser Gott, wir loben dich*; ascr. to Ignaz Franz, 1719–1790; tr. by Clarence Walworth, 1820–1900, alt.
Tune: GROSSER GOTT, 7 8 7 8 77; *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, Vienna, c.1774

All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #A727623.