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**Emmanuel Lutheran**  
CHURCH & SCHOOL  
ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

Sunday April 28, 2024  
Fifth Sunday in Easter

8:30am Traditional Worship  
11:00am Blended Worship

www.emmanuelutheran.info

**Our Vision:**  
Fully Engaged, Biblically Passionate,  
Driven to Serve

Weekly Calendar

**Monday, April 29**  
10:00am VRQ Lunch

**Tuesday, April 30**  
2:00pm Hardesty Small Group (East Asheville)  
6:30pm Praise Band Rehearsals

**Wednesday, May 1**  
8:10am & 10am K-8 & ECE Chapels (Sanctuary)  
12:00pm Midweek Church Service  
1:30pm Women's Bible Study Group (Rm# 111)  
6:45pm Choir Practice

**Thursday, May 2**  
6:30pm Parish Admin Meeting

**Friday, May 3**  
**Pastor Skopak is out of office until 5/13**  
6:00pm Pickleball

**Saturday, May 4**  
7:30 am Men's Fellowship Breakfast  
(Another Broken Egg Café)

**Sunday, May 5 — Pastor Kelm (at the helm!)**  
> **8:30am Traditional Worship Service**  
9:45am Adult Bible Study Classes (Rm# 111 & Fell. Hall)  
9:45am Sunday School, PK—5th grade (room# 017)  
> **11:00am Blended Worship Service**  
Post-service Praying Ministry support (Altar/Lectern)  
The Food Pantry is **closed**  
5-7pm High School Youth Group

**Senior Pastor:** Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Skopak  
**Director of Christian Education:** Alexi Lundquist  
**Church Office Administrator:** Leigh Horsley  
**Hospitality Ministry Coordinator:** Shirley Parker  
**Traditional Music—Choir & Handbell Director:** A.L. Brown  
**Praise & Worship Music/Band Director:** Heather Meulenberg  
**Organist:** Lula Meulenberg  
**School Principal:** Mark Edmiston  
**School Admin. Assistant:** Shari Reaves  
**Early Childhood Education Director:** Christine Smith

Today's Servers

	8:30am	11:00am
<b>Acolytes:</b>	Elia Yoder	Naomi Hines
<b>Lectors:</b>	Carole Williams	Joel Helms*
<b>Ushers:</b>	Dirk & Kathryn Wilmoth	Justin Hodges & Bradley Hines
<b>Communion:</b>	Rich Bair & Scott Hausman	David Meyer & Dale Pioch
<b>Elders:</b>	TBA	Joel Helms*

**Prayer Team:** Joel and Jeanine Helms

**Tech /Sound Crew**  
8:30am: Heather Meulenberg and Peter Linton  
11:00am: Justin Pruitt and Lorenzo Lopez

**Altar Guild**  
8:30am: Deb Reiling  
11:00am: Elaine Tonne

**Offering Counters:** Mike & Rojealous Rush



Upcoming Member Celebrations!

**Birthdays:** 4/28 Wayne Samuel;  
4/29 Theodora Hastings; 4/30 Kathy Gillespie;  
5/1 George Banjak; 5/1 Ed DeBerry;  
5/4 Lexie Charlson; 5/4 McKenzie Koon  
> **90+ Birthdays:** 5/1 George Banjak (turning 92!)

**Anniversaries:** 5/1 Adam & Emily Nieting  
5/4 Joel & Jeanine Helms; 5/4 Bryan & Kimberly Noel

Last Week's Services Attendance & Stats

**On-Campus Attendance**

- Sunday: 8:30am — 46; 11am — 75
- Wednesday: 12pm — 14

**Website & Facebook Hits:**  
Website— 29 attenders; Facebook— 152 views

Last Week's Food Pantry (Grad N Go, VRQ, & Costello)

Sun 4/14 served: 394 homes & 774 individuals  
Total March/April: 891 homes & 1,851 people

Last Week's Offerings

Last week General Offering received: \$ 9,703.90  
Building Funds Received: \$ 500.00  
\*General Weekly Offering needed: (\$ 12,817.31)



*Sunday April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024*

**Sunday School / Bible Study Class Schedule:**

**In between services at 9:45am:**

- Adult Bible Study Classes (Fellowship Hall & Room# 111)
- Pre-K thru 5th Grade (room #17, Kay Thorp)

**Prayer Ministry Support**, after the 11am service (Altar)

1-3pm— The Food Pantry is **OPEN** today.

**Today's Altar flowers** are given to the Glory of God by:

Patti Reece: in memory of George Van Valen's Birthday on 5/2.



**8:30am Traditional Worship Outline (DS2)**

**Call to Worship:** LSB 892  
"Come, Ye Thankful People Come"

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Opening Hymn:**  
LSB 905 "Come, Thou Almighty King"

**Invocation:** page 167

**Confession and Absolution:** page 167

**Kyrie:** Page 168,169

**Hymn of Glory:** Page 171

**Salutation and Collect:** Page 172

**First Reading:** Acts 8:26-40 (*Responses pg 172*)

**Epistle:** 1 John 4:1-11 (*Responses pg 172*)

**The Holy Gospel:** John 15:1-8 (*Response pg 173*)

**Children's Message**

**The Sermon Hymn:**  
LSB 830 "Spread the Reign of God the Lord"

**The Sermon:** "Connected" (John 15:1-8)

**The Apostles' Creed:** 175

**Prayers of the Church**

**Offering**

**Offertory:** Page 176

**Preface:** Page 177

**Proper Preface**

**Sanctus:** Page 178

Words of Institution: Pg. 179 (*Left Column*)

**Proclamation of Christ:** Pg.179 (*Left Column*)

**Lord's Prayer:** Page 179 (*Left Column*)

**Pax Domini:** Page 180

**Agnus Dei:** Page 180

**Distribution**

**Distribution Hymns:**  
LSB 633 "At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"  
LSB 845 "Where Charity and Love Prevail"

**Post-Communion Canticle:** Page 182

**Post-Communion Collect:** Page 183

**Benediction:** Page 183

**Closing Hymn:**  
LSB 837 "Lift High the Cross"

**WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY**

**Meets 1st & 3rd Wednesday**  
of each month  
**1:30 PM - 2:30 PM**  
now meets in room# 111

QUESTIONS OR INTEREST?  
Please call Kay Thorp (828) 230-4225

Emmanuel Lutheran

**MEN'S BREAKFAST**

PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP AND FOOD

Meets 1st Saturday of each month 7:30am at:  
ANOTHER  
**Broken Egg Cafe**

Contact Scott Hausman for more info:  
(828) 450-9188  
scott.a.hausman@gmail.com

**IT'S BUSHWHACKERS SEASON!!**

We are Emmanuel Lutheran volunteers who attend to the yard work on church & school grounds!

**3rd Saturday of every month, 8am – 12pm**  
(4/20, 5/18, 6/15, 7/20, 8/17, 9/21, & 10/19)

**April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024 - Connected (John 15:1-8)**

**Sermon Notes (fill in the blanks) Form**

Do you fret when you \_\_\_\_\_ Sunday Worship the same way when your internet goes down in your home for a couple of hours???

I. Why Stay \_\_\_\_\_ to Jesus?

A. Because without Him we don't have \_\_\_\_\_ any more than a branch broken off from a \_\_\_\_\_

1. Satan's response: Are you \_\_\_\_\_ me?!
2. The world seems to be doing just \_\_\_\_\_ without Jesus

B. We remain connected to Jesus by staying in His \_\_\_\_\_

1. John \_\_\_\_\_
2. We attend worship so that we can \_\_\_\_\_ one another

C. \_\_\_\_\_ connection is not enough

1. \_\_\_\_\_ participation in ministry talks the talk but doesn't walk the walk
2. John \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Are you a \_\_\_\_\_ branch?
  - b. Do you take the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus to heart or do you scoff at them?

II. What \_\_\_\_\_ To Jesus Means

A. We don't need to wait until \_\_\_\_\_ to enjoy this freedom

1. John \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_ with Jesus and ask!
  - a. A branch is connected to the \_\_\_\_\_

b. A branch needs to ask God to do what it was \_\_\_\_\_ to do

c. Bear \_\_\_\_\_ (John 15:8)

B. So what is the \_\_\_\_\_ we are to produce?

1. \_\_\_\_\_ each other as I have \_\_\_\_\_ you (John 15:12)
2. Branches connected to a healthy vine produce good \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Parents: Connect your \_\_\_\_\_ to the True Vine
  - b. Wives: Connect your \_\_\_\_\_ to the True Vine

C. God will \_\_\_\_\_ the healthy branches to produce more!

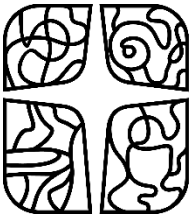
1. John \_\_\_\_\_
2. The pruning process can \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Things may be removed from our lives so we can focus more on \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. With a focus on \_\_\_\_\_, we are more open to do what God has put us on earth to do - witness in His name

What would happen if we spent less time on social media and more time in the \_\_\_\_\_?

I suspect we would produce more fruit and find out firsthand what it really means to live and to love.

That's a better \_\_\_\_\_ of time, don't you think?!





**AS WE GATHER**

When Jesus uses the image of the vine and speaks of vineyards, He is choosing something very familiar to His hearers. Viticulture is well known around the world. More than eighteen million acres worldwide is used for growing grapes—from Panama to Tajikistan to Zimbabwe! Today, the cultivation of vineyards is still an important agricultural component in both Israel and the Jordan, lands where Jesus walked and taught. Life in the vineyard is vital! As branches grafted to the Vine that is Christ, we are vitalized by His power. As we worship, God’s life-supporting power infuses us! It is time to continue growing!

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Praise His Holy Name                      K. Hampton  
Female Choir                      Savannah Bullock and Ivana Lopez, soloist

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OPENING SONG**

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today (He Is Not Dead)

(Verse 1)

Jesus Christ is risen today alleluia  
Our triumphant holy day alleluia  
Who did once upon the cross alleluia  
Suffer to redeem our loss alleluia

*(INTERLUDE)*

(Verse 2)

Hymns of praise then let us sing alleluia  
Unto Christ our heavenly King alleluia  
Who endured the cross and grave alleluia  
Sinners to redeem and save alleluia

**Chorus**

**He is not dead He is alive**  
**We have this hope in Jesus Christ**

(Verse 3)

But the pains that He endured alleluia  
Our salvation have procured alleluia  
Now above the sky He’s king alleluia  
Where the angels ever sing alleluia

**(Chorus)**

**He is not dead He is alive**  
**We have this hope in Jesus Christ**

*(INTERLUDE)*

(Verse 4)

Sing we to our God above alleluia  
Praise eternal as His love alleluia  
Praise Him all ye heavenly host alleluia  
Father Son and Holy Ghost alleluia  
Alleluia

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**INVOCATION**

**Pastor:** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** **Amen.**

## OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: Shout for joy to God, all the earth;

People: **sing the glory of His name; give to Him glorious praise!**

Pastor: Say to God, "How awesome are Your deeds!

People: **All the earth worships You and sings praises to You; they sing praises to Your name."**

Pastor: Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of His praise be heard,

People: **who has kept our soul among the living and has not let our feet slip.**

Pastor: You have multiplied, O Lord my God, Your wondrous deeds and Your thoughts toward us; none can compare with You!

People: **I will proclaim and tell of them, yet they are more than can be told.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Humble yourselves then before God, confess your sins to Him, and implore His forgiveness.

People: **O almighty God, most merciful Father, I, a repentant sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended You. By nature, I am a sinful creature. In thought, word, and deed I have continually transgressed Your law. For this I justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of the sufferings and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a penitent and contrite being. Forgive me all my sins and grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life and bear fruit in keeping with true repentance.**

Pastor: God be gracious to you and strengthen your faith.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: As you believe, so let it be. As a called and ordained servant 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.

People: **Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

**FIRST READING** Acts 8:26–40

<sup>26</sup> Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Rise and go toward the south<sup>[a]</sup> to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is a desert place. <sup>27</sup> And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup> and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup> And the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and join this chariot.” <sup>30</sup> So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” <sup>31</sup> And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. <sup>32</sup> Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this: “Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth. <sup>33</sup> In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.” <sup>34</sup> And the eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” <sup>35</sup> Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup> And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?” <sup>38</sup> And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. <sup>39</sup> And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. <sup>40</sup> But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE** 1 John 4:1–11

<sup>1</sup> Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. <sup>2</sup> By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, <sup>3</sup> and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. <sup>4</sup> Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. <sup>5</sup> They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. <sup>6</sup> We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error. <sup>7</sup> Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup> In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## HOLY GOSPEL

*John 15:1–8*

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

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup>Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

## CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

### SERMON SONG The Passion

#### Verse 1

The passion of our Savior  
The mercy of our God  
The cross that leaves no question  
Of the measure of His love

#### Chorus 1

Our chains are gone  
Our debt is paid  
The cross has overthrown the grave  
For Jesus' blood that sets us free  
Means death to death and life for me

#### Verse 2

The Innocent judged guilty  
While the guilty one walks free  
Death would be His portion  
And our portion liberty

#### SING CHORUS 1

##### Bridge

I give my whole life to honor this love  
By the Lamb who was slain I'm forgiven  
The sinner's Savior crown Him forever  
For the Lamb who was slain He is risen

#### SING CHORUS 1

##### Chorus 2

My chains are gone  
My debt is paid  
The cross has overthrown the grave  
For Jesus' blood that sets me free  
Means death to death and life for me  
Means death to death and life for me

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### SERMON “Connected” (John 15:1-8)

## CREED

Pastor: As we celebrate the risen Christ in this season of Easter, let us speak together the words of the Apostles’ Creed regarding our Savior, who is the Second Person of the Holy Trinity.

**People:** I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

**Pastor:** What does this mean?

**People:** I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

### LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

**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.

### OFFERING & OFFERTORY SONG *Man of Sorrows*

#### Verse 1

Man of sorrows Lamb of God  
By His own betrayed  
The sin of man and wrath of God  
Has been on Jesus laid

#### Verse 2

Silent as He stood accused  
Beaten mocked and scorned  
Bowing to the Father's will  
He took a crown of thorns

#### CHORUS

Oh that rugged cross my salvation  
Where Your love poured out over me  
Now my soul cries out hallelujah  
Praise and honor unto Thee

#### Verse 3

Sent of heaven God's own Son  
To purchase and redeem >>>>>

And reconcile the very ones  
Who nailed Him to that tree

#### (SING CHORUS)

#### Bridge

Now my debt is paid, it is paid in full  
By the precious blood that my Jesus spilled  
Now the curse of sin has no hold on me  
Whom the Son sets free oh is free indeed

#### (SING CHORUS)

#### Verse 4

See the stone has rolled away  
Behold the empty grave  
Hallelujah God be praised  
He's risen from the grave!

#### (SING CHORUS)

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## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and have showed Your gracious power to us through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. We give You thanks that in His most Holy Supper You nourish us that, firmly connected to Christ the Vine, we may grow in grace. Grant that we may receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood as we gather at His command.

## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Pastor: 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 ✠ 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 ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST *1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20*

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

## PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **Amen.**

## DISTRIBUTION

### DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

LSB 633 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1. At the Lamb's high feast we sing<br/>Praise to our victorious King,<br/>Who has washed us in the tide<br/>Flowing from His pierced side.<br/>Alleluia!</p> <p>2. Praise we Him, whose love divine<br/>Gives His sacred blood for wine,<br/>Gives His body for the feast—<br/>Christ the victim, Christ the priest.<br/>Alleluia!</p> | <p>3. Where the paschal blood is poured,<br/>Death's dread angel sheathes the<br/>sword;<br/>Israel's hosts triumphant go<br/>Through the wave that drowns the foe.<br/>Alleluia!</p> <p>4. Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed,<br/>Paschal victim, paschal bread;<br/>With sincerity and love<br/>Eat we manna from above.<br/>Alleluia!</p> |
|--|---|

>>next page >>

5. Mighty Victim from the sky,  
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;  
You have conquered in the fight,  
You have brought us life and light.  
Alleluia!

6. Now no more can death appall,  
Now no more the grave enthrall;  
You have opened paradise,  
And Your saints in You shall rise.  
Alleluia!

7. Easter triumph, Easter joy!  
This alone can sin destroy;  
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,  
Newborn souls in You to be.  
Alleluia!

△ 8. Father, who the crown shall give,  
Savior, by whose death we live,  
Spirit, guide through all our days:  
Three in One, Your name we praise.  
Alleluia!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814–68, alt. | Text: Public domain

### LSB 845 Where Charity and Love Prevail

1 Where charity and love prevail  
There God is ever found;  
Brought here together by Christ's love  
By love are we thus bound.

2 With grateful joy and holy fear  
His charity we learn;  
Let us with heart and mind and soul  
Now love Him in return.

3 Forgive we now each other's faults  
As we our faults confess,  
And let us love each other well  
In Christian holiness.

4 Let strife among us be unknown;  
Let all contention cease;  
Be God's the glory that we seek;  
Be ours His holy peace.

5 Let us recall that in our midst  
Dwells Christ, His only Son;  
As members of His body joined  
We are in Him made one.

6 For love excludes no race or clan  
That names the Savior's name;  
His family embraces all  
Whose Father is the same.

Text: Latin, c. 9th cent.; tr. Omer E. Westendorf, 1916–97, alt. | Text: © 1960 World Library Publications. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004210

### POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

People: Let us pray.

Holy Father, we ask You now, by this blessed food and drink, to deliver Your Church from every evil, to teach it to love You perfectly, and make it truly one, even as this bread was made from many grains of wheat to become the carrier of the body of our Savior, Jesus Christ, and the wine was drawn from the fruitfulness of many grapes. Grant that we ever abide as branches of the Vine, Christ Himself, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

People: **Amen.**

**BENEDICTION**     *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor:     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.

**People:     Amen.**

**CLOSING SONG**     This Is Our God

(VERSE 1)

Remember those walls that we called sin and shame  
They were like prisons that we couldn't escape  
But He came, and He died, and He rose, those walls are rubble now

Remember those giants we called death and grave  
They were like mountains that stood in our way  
But He came and He died and He rose  
Those giants are dead now

(CHORUS)

This is our God this is who He is He loves us  
This is our God this is what He does He saves us  
He bore the cross beat the grave Let heaven and earth proclaim  
This is our God King Jesus

(VERSE 2)

Remember that fear that took our breath away  
Faith so weak that we could barely pray  
But He heard every word every whisper  
Now those altars in the wilderness  
Tell the story of His faithfulness  
Never once did He fail and He never will

(SING CHORUS)

(BRIDGE)

Who pulled me out of that pit? He did He did  
Who paid for all of our sin? Nobody but Jesus

(REPEAT BRIDGE)

Who rescued me from that grave? Yahweh Yahweh  
Who gets the glory and praise? Nobody but Him!

(SING CHORUS)

(ENDING)

He bore the cross beat the grave  
Let heaven and earth proclaim

This is our God King Jesus

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