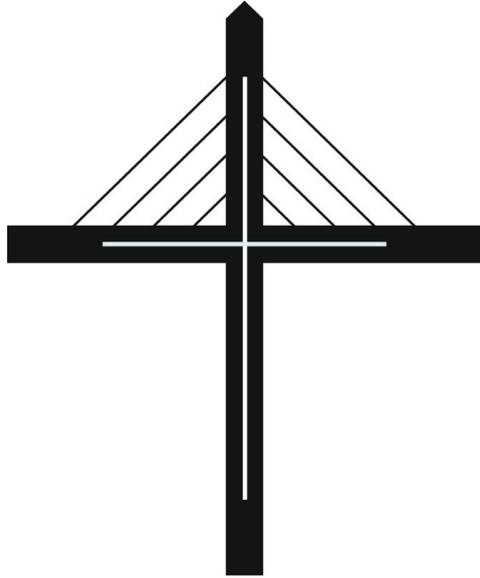


**You Are Always Welcome Here
Just As You Are!**



MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
3215 DOUGLAS ROAD TOLEDO, OHIO 43606
419 - 472-2161
www.memorial-lutheran.org

EDUCATION: Youth and Adult, 9:00am
WORSHIP: 10:00 a.m.

Rev. A. N. Mary Adelsberger pastor@memorial-lutheran.org
Cindy Cabanski, Administrative Assistant office@memorial-lutheran.org
Kelly Zaborski, Christian Life Coordinator Bookkeeper, Pam Schlegel
Carol Topolski, Director of Music Custodian, Ron Jensen
Christi Brindley, Mia Schlegel - Nursery Attendants

PRAYER CONCERNS: Peggy Scholl, Bob Rank, Kathy Schoembs, Sam Schlegel, Claudia Sauer, Marilynn Ganucci, Keira Hall Sheila MacKay Davidson, Terry Bean, Marcene Jackson, Phyllis Ballas, Kathryn Robert, Jacob Gulch, Don Gurwell, David Poulson, Joanne Hummel, Diane Swartz, Owen Anthony, Lisa Eicher, Amy Hoffman's cousins

Members of our military to keep in your prayers: Ryan Woods, Reid Leslie, Henry Kozak, Dustin Pawloski

Special prayer concerns for Jim, Leslie and Brad Rhegness and family following the death of Chuck Rhegness on April 16. Please keep this family in your thoughts and prayers.

April 26, 2020

Holy Communion at Home

You can prepare for worship by having the physical elements of communion available. For most people that will mean preparing bread and wine. However, if you do not have one or both available, please do not make a special trip to the store. Jesus used the most common and basic foodstuffs so that Holy Communion would be accessible to all. So, use your discretion and your resources to participate in this sacred meal, that is made so because of what God has done through Jesus, not because of what we eat or drink. You may wish to bake communion bread as a family, and a recipe follows this article for you to use if you desire.

During our online worship service I will speak the familiar words, “In the night in which He was betrayed...” The bread and wine you have at home, just like the bread and wine I will have on the altar, will be tangible signs of God's promise to be present in, with, and under the elements of Holy Communion. We receive this meal and the forgiveness, grace and love it brings as an act of faith. We trust that God will be where God has promised to meet us, transcending physical boundaries during the pandemic.

You then will break your bread and share the cup with all those present in your household. As you serve Holy Communion to your family members say the words, “The Body of Christ given for you,” and “The Blood of Christ shed for you.” I will say these words as well so that anyone who is alone at home can hear them and receive Holy Communion with the whole church.

Of course, this is no substitute for gathering in person, which we will resume as soon as it is safe to do so. But until that time comes, do not doubt that our God is gracious and merciful. Be confident that Jesus is truly present in the bread and wine we share on Sundays, and that the Holy Spirit remains with us and sustains us.

We remember that Jesus came to the disciples through their locked doors in the days following his resurrection. The Holy Spirit, in the same way, descended on the disciples at Pentecost. God will surely meet us in our own individual homes now. Grace and peace be with you all.

(If you are not online and wish to receive the sacrament, please call me to arrange a “phone communion”.)

Communion Bread Recipe

Ingredients Needed For Unleavened Bread

Makes about 12 pieces.

- 1 cup cold water
- 2 Tbs vegetable oil
- 8 Tbs honey
- 1 1/2 tsp salt
- 3 tbs softened butter
- 1 egg
- 5 cups flour (we used w

Recipe For Unleavened Bread:

Preheat oven to 400 degrees F. Mix all above ingredients except for the flour. Slowly add the flour. Knead until the bread is elastic. Oil your hands, then shape balls of the dough in the same way that you shape hamburger patties. Ours were also about the same size as hamburger patties. Then poke holes in them with a fork. Grease the pan, and place the bread on it. Bake at 400 degrees F for 10-12 minutes, or until golden brown around the edge.

Can be frozen and pulled out the night before using, or defrosted in microwave.

As we are “staying at home” we might find that we are overwhelmed..

In isolation we can feel overwhelmed, or when we feel that we are doing so much without a break, remember you are not alone. You are in God’s heart and He is in yours. His love surrounds all of His creation, He loves all, and He sustains all. That is the work of the Trinity. We can practice in our time and with our commitment a way of cultivating and an awakening our relationship to God and ourselves. We can rediscover our true identity in love for God and ourselves.

Here are some simple practices:

- Breathe in and Breathe out three times and with each breath in and out say, “All will be well”. Touch each finger to your thumb as you say each word
- Light a candle and watch the flame for a moment and know that Jesus is the Light of the world and is shining brightly for you
- Listen to your self-talk. Practice being tender with yourself. Here God saying, “I’m with you; I understand you; I’m helping you; I love you.”
- Ask yourself the question, “How am I letting God love me today?”
- Repeat the phrase: “Be still and know that I am God”. Each time you repeat it take out the last word, “Be still and know that I am”; “Be still and know”; “Be still”; “Be”.

Giving Option - As a member of Memorial, you now have another option for giving. You can use the Vanco GivePlus Online program to setup one-time or recurring payments. This option is ideal for those who are not currently enrolled in the Simply Giving program or that want to donate any additional payments. Let us know if you have any questions about the program. **If you don’t want to take advantage of these options, please continue to send in checks to Memorial to the extent you are able.**

Contributions Needed Per Week:	\$6,307.25
Contributions Received Last Week:	\$8,972.30
Contributions Pledged thru 3-31-2020:	\$68,656.17
Contributions Received thru 3-31-2020:	\$65,517.35

Gather

Song: “I Can Only Imagine” by Mercy Me

I can only imagine what it will be like. When I walk, by your side.

I can only imagine what my eyes will see. When you face is before me.

I can only imagine. I can only imagine.

Surrounded by Your glory. What will my heart feel? Will I dance for you Jesus Or in awe of You be still.

Will I stand in your presence? Or to my knees will I fall? Will I sing hallelujah. Will I be able to speak at all?

I can only imagine. I can only imagine.

I can only imagine when that day comes. When I find myself standing in the Son.

I can only imagine when all I would do is forever. Forever worship You.

I can only imagine. I can only imagine.

Surrounded by Your glory, What will my heart feel? Will I dance for You, Jesus? Or in awe of you be still?

Will I stand in your presence? Or to my knees will I fall? Will I sing hallelujah? Will I be able to speak at all ?

I can only imagine. I can only imagine hey ya ah.

Surrounded by Your glory. What will my heart feel? Will I dance for You, Jesus? Or in awe of you be still?

Will I stand in Your presence? Or to my knees will I fall? Will I sing hallelujah? Will I be able to speak at all?

I can only imagine. I can only imagine hey ya ah. I can only imagine yeah yeah.

I can only imagine. I can only imagine ey ey ey. I can only imagine. I can only imagine when all I will do

Is forever, forever worship You. I can only imagine.

Greeting

P. Blessed be the Lord Jesus, the Bread that gives life to the world. May his grace and peace be with you all. **C. And also with you**

Litany of Praise

A. In talking about our unity in Christ, St. Paul uses a beautiful image when he says that we are like grains of wheat that have been brought together to form one loaf. Indeed, our Communion celebrates and strengthens our unity in Christ.

P. Lord Jesus, you are the vine, we are the branches.

C. Lord, have mercy.

P. Lord Jesus, separated from you and from one another our lives become barren.

C. Christ, have mercy.

P. Lord Jesus, united with you and with one another our lives become fruitful.

C. Lord, have mercy.

A. Occasionally, we experience a hunger within us: a hunger for a word from God...a hunger for God's presence. In this service we pray that God will speak a word to us, and offer us the bread of life.

P. You are the living bread:

C. Lord, have mercy.

P. You are the bread from heaven:

C. Christ, have mercy.

P. You are the bread which gives us eternal life:

C. Lord, have mercy.

Opening Prayer

A. God ever faithful, you have made a covenant with your people in the gift of your Son, who offered his body for us and poured out his blood for the remission of sins. As we celebrate this sacrifice, build up your church and, in fidelity to your covenant, inspire us to offer our lives so that the world may believe in you. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

WORD

Readings

The Word of the Lord.

FIRST READING: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

^{14a}Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: ³⁶"Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified." ³⁷Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" ³⁸Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." ⁴⁰And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." ⁴¹So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were **added**.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 1:17-23

¹⁷If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God. ²²Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Song: "Hallelujah. We sing your praises"

[Refrain:]

Halleluya! We sing your praises,
all our hearts are filled with gladness.
Halleluya! We sing your praises,
all our hearts are filled with gladness.

I Christ the Lord to us said:
I am wine, I am bread;
I am wine, I am bread,
give to all who thirst and hunger. [Refrain]

2 Now he sends us all out,
strong in faith, free of doubt; strong in faith, free of doubt,
tell to all the joyful Gospel. [Refrain]

The Holy Gospel

GOSPEL: Luke 24:13-35

¹³Now on that same day [when Jesus had appeared to Mary Magdalene,] two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" ¹⁹He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²²Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." ²⁵Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. ²⁸As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" ³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Children's Message

Message

The road to Emmaus was a seven mile walk, a three, three and half hour walk, and Cleopas and one other unnamed disciple were journeying it together pondering all the incredible things that just happened. They would have moved slowly. Could you imagine all the thoughts and emotions that were coursing through their minds, souls, and bodies as they tried to digest the immense amount of situations that transpired in the past week in Jerusalem. The excitement of Palm Sunday, the intimacy of the last supper Passover feast, complete with the confusing but touching foot washing. The scuffle in the Garden of Gethsemane and the mounting fear and sadness of the crucifixion. Then, oh then, the glorious resurrection happened with the appearances of the risen Christ to the disciples. How can their minds have coped? How do our minds cope when faced with all the same emotions of the present-day scenario? How confused can we be as well with death, and illness filling the world? How devastated are we when we think of the impact this isolation has wrought? How frightened are we that we too could be infected, or our lives torn apart with the financial rollercoaster of the market and the threat to our employment? How hard it has been to “hide” in our upper runs under stay at home orders with people who are just as scared, annoyed and anxious? And here and now, Jesus bursts in.

The two on the road just saw him as a stranger traveling alongside. Their minds too scattered and eyes too unfocused to see that their companion was the great I AM. Just like Mary Magdalene at the tomb, they could not recognize the savior standing there with them. But then they fellowshiped together, and Christ broke bread...and the scales of their eyes fell and they saw him in the breaking of the bread. We too this morning can see him in the breaking of the bread. His real presence is with us.

I love the line, “their Hearts burned inside of them” at Jesus’ word. Luke tells us that, “beginning with Moses and all the Prophets,” Jesus “explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.” Imagine that! Three or more hours with Jesus himself explaining the meaning of the Scriptures! It made their hearts burn.

As we begin to Come out of hiding from despair...our question is: “what are our hearts burning for”? What excitement do you glean from the savior and the unfolding of his life? What excitement are you anxiously hoping for when the genesis of covid19’s death, and our departure from this shadow begins?

What do we do as we come out of isolation? We have determined caution, intentional carefulness and too, move slowly on the journey back to a life out in the open. But can we see Jesus? What is he revealing to us? What words of wisdom has he told you, what glorious resurrections are we experiencing? I think first the realization of “this is not the end” comes glaringly to mind, the second is that we have not been alone. The third is that God’s plan cannot be killed by evil. And lastly, God loves us too much to let us struggle and die spiritually. No, quite the contrary...he wants our lives to be fulfilled, he wants us to thrive. That burns in my heart. That incredible love, and the knowledge of that incredible triumphant power that comes with a recognizing and an indwelling of God in our hearts.

One thing I learned from God very quickly in that God nor are we in the midst of crisis. No, God surrounds His entire creation. His heart encompasses everything, and that he shines His light through the shadows, the mere shadows by the way, and illuminates His creation in this

incredible resurrection light. Evil no longer has a sting. We too, as part of the risen Christ's body, encircle the crisis, nay, encircle the world, nay all of the universe. We see no borders or boundaries, no like or dislike, we see only His love shining through our hearts. Are our hearts on fire for all of his creation? Do we see love and we look at it all? Even as we look on fear, or on sluggishness, or on fighting, do we see love. Are we able to love the unlovable and seek the goodness within that love to make transformation happen?

If you have a moment some time, check out the Calvin's crest: a flaming heart in an outstretched hand, extended upward to God. Calvin chose this symbol to declare the central core of his self-understanding, and, when he set it down on paper, he prayed this prayer: "My heart I give Thee, O Lord, eagerly and sincerely." It models Luther's rose as the heart has the cross in the center of it, Jesus' work and triumph over evil in the middle of that heart with the gift of new life of the rose surrounding it.

Hearts aflame -- that's the effect of Jesus' presence in the midst of his people. That's the effect on the two on the road to Emmaus. Hopefully that is the effect on our hearts too. Hopefully we intentionally choose the words, "stay with us" Jesus.

If you study this account closely, you will see that it wasn't Jesus' words that removed the scales from the eyes of Cleopas and his partner, although later reflection indicates that the words were compelling, to say the least. It wasn't even Jesus' presence alone that sparked the fire that blazed in the hearts of these two disciples, although they knew somehow that they had rather be with him than without him. This intuitive sense caused them to prevail upon him to stay. "It is nearly evening; the day is almost over," they said. "Stay with us."

Stay with us. Stay with us. Stay with us. Invite God in...watch what happens. Are your hearts aflame? Are you longing for a deeper relationship with God, to have Him walk with you and set you flame even more? Meditate on that phrase..."Stay with us, stay with us, stay with us"—don't allow anything else to enter your consciousness, "stay with us, stay with us". As we celebrate communion, repeat it. As you savor your meals, says, "stay with us, stay with us, stay with us". As you tuck a loved one into bed, "stay with us, stay with us, stay with us". As you watch and ponder the news, "stay with us. Stay with us. Stay with us." Be one with the creator, lover, sustainer and watch how he transforms you.

Now, more than ever, we need Him to stay with us, and to set our hearts aflame, hear Him speaking and act on His behalf. Stay with us, set our hearts aflame, cause us to move and love in your name. Amen.

Song: "Soul on Fire" by Third Day

God, I'm running for Your heart. I'm running for Your heart. Till I am a soul on fire
Lord, I'm longing for Your ways. I'm waiting for the day. When I am a soul on fire.
Till I am a soul on fire.

God, I'm running for Your heart. I'm running for Your heart. Till I am a soul on fire.

Lord, I'm longing for Your ways. I'm waiting for the day. When I am a soul on fire

Till I am a soul on fire.

Lord, restore the joy I had. I have wandered, bring me back. In this darkness, lead me through

Until all I see is You.

God, I'm running for Your heart. I'm running for Your heart. Till I am a soul on fire.

Lord, I'm longing for Your ways. I'm waiting for the day. When I am a soul on fire. Till I am a soul on fire.

Lord, let me burn for You again. Let me return to You again. And Lord, let me burn for You again. And let me return to You again.

God, I'm running for Your heart. I'm running for Your heart. Till I am a soul on fire. Lord, I'm longing for Your ways.

I'm waiting for the day. When I am a soul on fire. God, I'm running for Your heart (I'm running).

I'm running for Your heart (I wanna be, I wanna be). Till I am a soul on fire.

I wanna be. Till I am a soul on fire. Till I am a soul on fire.

RESPONSE

Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only begotten 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. On the third day he rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there he shall come again 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.

Prayers of the People

P We know that the Father loves us because he has lavished abundant gifts upon us. Confident that he hears our prayers we present our petitions before him.

We Pray: **Nourish your people, Lord.**

For the Church: that all Christians may live a truly eucharistic life, a life of intimate union with Christ and of humble loving service to one another: we pray:

For the lonely who hunger for the bread of companionship; and the sick who hunger for the bread of good health: the underfed who hunger for the bread that nourishes and sustains; for all who hunger for the Bread of Life, we pray:

For the millions of refugees throughout the world. For the many ill. May they receive the bread that they need; May they also live in hope that one day they can return in safety to their homeland: we pray:

For peace between peoples and nations; that all will stop their hostilities; that warring factions will respect each other's right to exist; we pray:

P. Father, may the food we eat at this banquet satisfy all our hungers and make us a strong and united community in Christ. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. **AMEN.**

MEAL

Sign of Peace

P. Let us now express the unity we have in Christ with those beside us. Peace Be with you. **C. And also with you.**

Holy Communion

P. The Lord Be with you. **C. And also with you.**

P. Lift up your hearts. **C. We lift them to the Lord.**

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C. It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

P. Blessed are you, Creator God. You give us this BREAD, the bread shaped by our hands, the bread of toil and pain, the bread for sharing. We bring it before you: let it become the BREAD of our feast, food for our journey, and the bread of life.

C. Blessed be God forever.

P. Blessed are you, Creator God. You give us this WINE, fruit of the work of many hands, the wine of joy and song. We bring it before you: let it become the WINE of our celebration, the wine of the everlasting Kingdom.

C. Blessed be God forever.

P. On the night in which He was betrayed, He gathered in the upper room with His disciples to celebrate the Passover Feast. He took the bread, gave thanks, and broke it, saying this bread is my body broken for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup and after giving thanks, he gave it to his disciples to drink saying, this cup is the new testament in my blood shed for you and for many. Do this as oft as you drink it in remembrance of me.

Prayer over the Gifts

Our God and Father, as a meal brings a family together and is a sign of unity, let your Son keep us together in friendship, peace and a common concern for the poor and needy. We ask this through him who gives himself to us and stays with us, Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord for ever. AMEN.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray in the words of Jesus to God our Father that all his children may have sufficient bread for body and spirit: Our Father...Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth. As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

Prayer for Peace after communion

P. May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ give you peace. Amen. St Paul said: "*We who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.*" Lord, grant that by partaking in this sacred meal, we may grow in unity and enjoy the peace of your kingdom where you live forever and ever.

Song: One Bread, One Body

[Chorus]

One bread, one body. One Lord of all. One cup of blessing which we bless
And we, though many, Throughout the earth. We are one body in this one Lord

[Verse 1]

Gentile or Jew, Servant or free, Woman or man, no more

[Chorus]

One bread, one body. One Lord of all. One cup of blessing which we bless.
And we, though many, Throughout the earth, We are one body in this one Lord.

[Verse 2]

Many the gifts. Many the works. One in the Lord of all.

SENT

Final Blessing

P. May the Father shower you with his goodness.

C. AMEN.

P. May the Son feed you with his love.

C. AMEN.

P. May the Spirit support you with his strength.

C. AMEN.

P. And may the blessing of Father, Son, and Holy spirit be with you now and forever.

C. AMEN.

Dismissal

A. Go in peace. And may the Body and Blood of Christ be your strength and joy.

C. Thanks be to God

Song "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"

1 "Christ the Lord is risen today!" Alleluia! All creation, join to say: Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, O heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

2 Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia! Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia! Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!

3 Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia! Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!
Jesus died, our souls to save, Alleluia! Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!

4 Hail the Lord of earth and heaven! Alleluia! Praise to you by both be given, Alleluia!
Every knee to you shall bow, Alleluia! Risen Christ, triumphant now. Alleluia!