

*Episcopal Churches of
Saints Nicholas & Thomas*



April 26th, 2020

Third Sunday of

EASTER

LIVE on YouTube

Our Prayer

"Let us offer prayers and blessings for all people and all nations of the Earth. Let us bless that, though intense, this will also become a time of conscious awakening and healing for everyone. We know, from the lessons of history, that great difficulties, disasters and challenging times also can strengthen and unify us by dissolving the differences that appear to divide us. Calamities often strengthen us internally, making us more deeply aware of the highest values of life. Troubling times encourages us to work together, to genuinely care for each other. Such events make us more aware of our collective strength when we work together as one united human family. May we grow in unity, love and understanding.

The Lord's Blessings be upon all people and nations affected at this time. May governments and all helpers move in an inspired, co-operative and harmonious way, so that collectively we are able to put right whatever needs to be put right within our capacity. Our prayer is that this disease comes to an end soon. We believe, trust, know this will happen.

This is a prayer for our entire world and its leaders. We pray that the greater, higher Truth which dwells inside us all raise us up in conscious awareness of our true nature and Being so that we become more kind, more open, more loving, wise, peaceful and powerful in the Truth we are. May we live fully in the joy of our real nature in accordance with the will of the Supreme God Almighty."

~ Magjibaba

Online Worship Services for Sunday, 4/26

Online services for Sunday, April 26th, will be updated as the information becomes available.
www.Delaware.church/covid-19-response

Holy Eucharist with Bishop Brown

St. Albans Center

11:00am

Facebook LIVE

downloadable service leaflet available

Sts Nicholas & Thomas

9:00am

YouTube LIVE

downloadable service leaflet available

Washington National Cathedral

11:15 am

YouTube and Facebook Live.

Let Us Pray

Please visit our website
for news and information.

Under the category "News and Sermons",
you will find resources such as:

- online resources for prayer
- Christian blogs
- Christian literary journals

<http://stthomasparish.org/let-us-pray/>

Public Health Information

The Episcopal Church encourages everyone to adhere to the Centers for Disease Control's recommendations to prevent the spread of this virus to not unintentionally harm neighbors at home, at school, at work, or others in the community. Please check in with the DE Dept of Health and Social Services for updates.

<https://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/>

God loves you. No exceptions.



The Episcopal Church Welcomes You.

Greetings! We're delighted you are here, and want for you to be comfortable so you can worship God and enjoy your visit today. We suspect you may have some questions. Everybody you see here was a newcomer at one time, and we've *all* had questions- probably some of the same you have today.

In the Episcopal Church, everybody doesn't always do things the same way. But, **when you're worshiping God, you can't get it wrong!** If you need help, ask the person next to you. We are friendly, helpful people here at St Thomas. Please bear in mind, regardless of what anybody else is doing, do what makes *you* comfortable.

Our weekly services:

Sunday 8am- Rite I (spoken Eucharist)

Sunday 10:30am- Rite II (sung Eucharist)

Wednesday 12:00pm- Intercessory Prayer with Holy Eucharist

The Christian life is a source of endless fascination. Just when we think we have seen and heard everything it has to offer, something new turns up. Committing to a life of learning and growing in the faith is an excellent way to make sure there is always enough fuel in the spiritual tank.

Ask, Seek, Knock from Matthew 7:7-8

⁷ "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ⁸For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened."

There are many opportunities for Christian growth within our parish. We welcome everyone to drop in and check out the many offerings. Our groups include:

- Children's Ministries, age 18mo-6th grade- meet weekly at 9:15am
- Youth CREW, 7th-12th grades- meet semi-weekly at 11:45am
- Youth Confirmation, grades 7 and 8- meet weekly at 9:00am
- ECM, college age students- meet weekly on Weds at 5:30pm
- The Parlor Class, adult ed- meet weekly at 9:15am
- Novel Theology, all ages- meet monthly at 9:15am
- Lectionary Bible Study, all ages- meet weekly on Weds at 10:30am

In addition to these groups, we also welcome the occasional guest speaker or activity during coffee hour, as well as special 6-week lecture series. For more information about any of our educational offerings, please ask any member of the vestry, speak with Fr Howie, or visit our website:

www.stthomasparish.org

Thank you for joining us today, and we hope to see you again soon!

Five minutes before the service begins, the bell in the Great Hall will be rung, calling us to a period of quiet and preparation.

Prelude

Procession

We Know That Christ is Raised

Hymnal #296



1. We know that Christ is raised and dies no more. _____
 2. We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death. _____
 3. The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life. _____
 4. A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows _____



Em - braced by death he broke its fear - ful hold; _____
 Re - born we share with him an Eas - ter life _____
 The Spir - rit's pow - er shakes the Church of God. _____
 as Christ's new bo - dy takes on flesh and blood. _____



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.
 as liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ.
 Bap - tized we live with God the Three in One.
 The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing:



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

THE WORD OF GOD

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Gloria

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on
earth. Lord God, heav'n - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we
wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us; you are
seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.
For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly - Spi - rit,
in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - - - men.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Most mighty and merciful God, in this time of great sickness, we flee to you for comfort. Deliver us, we pray, from our peril; give strength and skill to all who minister to the sick; prosper our efforts to protect and heal; and grant that, being aware of the frailty and uncertainty of our life, we may apply our hearts to that heavenly wisdom that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Lesson

Acts 2:14a,36-41

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, "Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" Peter 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. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 116:1-3, 10-17

Dilexi, quoniam

1 I love the Lord, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, *
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.

2 The cords of death entangled me;
the grip of the grave took hold of me; *
I came to grief and sorrow.

3 Then I called upon the Name of the Lord: *
"O Lord, I pray you, save my life."

10 How shall I repay the Lord *
for all the good things he has done for me?

11 I will lift up the cup of salvation *
and call upon the Name of the Lord.

12 I will fulfill my vows to the Lord *
in the presence of all his people.

13 Precious in the sight of the Lord *
is the death of his servants.

14 O Lord, I am your servant; *
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds.

15 I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and call upon the Name of the Lord.

16 I will fulfill my vows to the Lord *
in the presence of all his people,

17 In the courts of the Lord'S house, *
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.
Hallelujah!

Epistle Lesson

1 Peter 1:17-23

If 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. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through 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.

Now 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. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

instrumental

All stand

The Gospel

Luke 24:13-35

Deacon The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Now on that same day two of Jesus' disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then 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?" He 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, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But 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. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and 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. Some 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." Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But 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. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They 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?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

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

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
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.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

With joy and gladness, let us pray to the Lord.

For the Church throughout the world, that it may be a sign of new life to the weary and the lost, we pray to the Lord. **Lord, show us your light.**

For all the leaders of the Church, that they may lead us in paths of peace and renewal, we pray to the Lord. **Lord, show us your light.**

For the nations of the world and those who lead them, that they may strive for justice and a new birth of freedom, we pray to the Lord. **Lord, show us your light.**

For the peace of the world, that those who use violence and those who condone it may have a change of heart, mind, and soul, we pray to the Lord. **Lord, show us your light.**

For all whose labor eases our lives, especially those who work in health care, long-term care, and hospice, that they may know themselves to be the hands of God, and may see God's holy angels at work among them, we pray to the Lord. **Lord, show us your light.**

For the sick, the disabled, and all who suffer, especially those we name now, aloud or in our hearts, that they may see new growth from branches long barren, we pray to the Lord. **Lord, show us your light.**

For St. Martin's-In-The-Field Church, Selbyville, and for the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East, that they may know and share the joy of the empty cross and empty tomb, we pray to the Lord. **Lord, show us your light.**

For all who serve in the armed forces and all who go in harm's way to protect others, especially those we name now, aloud or in our hearts, we pray to the Lord. **Lord, show us your light.**

For those who have died, especially those we name now, aloud or in our hearts, that they may have light and peace, and rest with all the saints, we pray to the Lord. **Lord, show us your light.**

With saint and angels, we proclaim:

[All say together]

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death with death, and bringing life to those who dwell in tombs. Amen.

Confession of Sin

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All Most merciful God,
we confess that 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.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

At this point in the service the offerings of the faithful would normally be taken up. In this strange time, the church is aware that some of its members are struggling to make ends meet. If you are in this situation, please let the clergy know of your needs, pray for the church, and feel no guilt about your giving. But if you are able to give, options for giving include mailing a check to your church or online giving is available at stthomasparish.org.

Offertory Hymn

Baptized in Water

Levas #121

1. Bap-tized in wa-ter, sealed by the Spi-rit,___ Cleansed by the
2. Bap-tized in wa-ter, sealed by the Spi-rit,___ Dead in the
3. Bap-tized in wa-ter, sealed by the Spi-rit,___ Marked with the
blood of Christ___ our King: Heirs of sal - va - tion,___
tomb with Christ___ our King: One with his ris - ing,___
sign of Christ___ our King: Born of one fa - ther,___
trust - ing his prom-ise,___ Faith - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
freed and for - giv - en,___ Thank - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
we are his child-ren, Joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.

Presentation of the Offerings

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

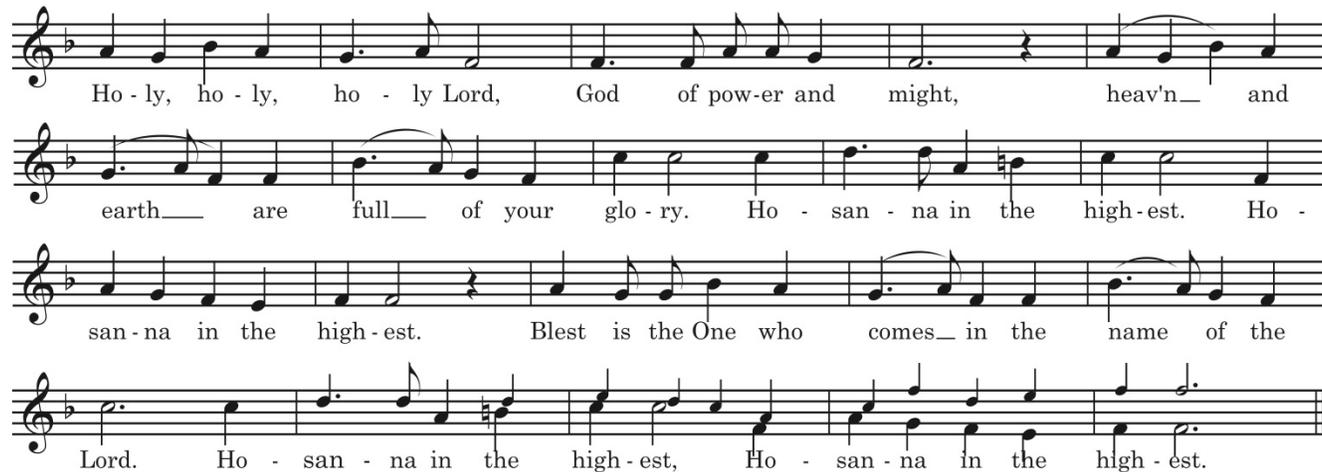
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. [*Proper Preface*] Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

S-125



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, heav'n_ and
earth_ are full_ of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Blest is the One who comes_ in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Richard Proulx

The people stand or kneel.

The Celebrant continues We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world.

In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

Acclamation B

(left)

We re-mem-ber His death; we pro-claim His re-sur-rec-tion, we a-wait His com-ing in

(right)

We re-mem-ber His death; we pro-claim His re-sur-rec-tion, we a-

L Glo-ry! We a-wait His com-ing in Glo-ry!

R wait His com-ing in Glo-ry! We a-wait His com-ing in Glo-ry!

Marc F. Cheban

The Celebrant continues And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Thomas, Blessed Nicholas and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

Celebrant And now, as our Savior
Christ has taught us,
we are bold to say,

All 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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

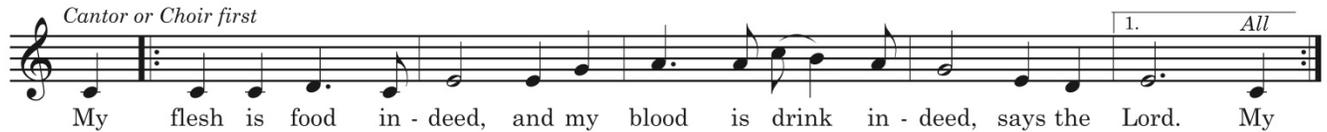
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Fraction Anthem

My Flesh is Food Indeed

S-169

Cantor or Choir first



My flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in - deed, says the Lord. My

2. Cantor or Choir

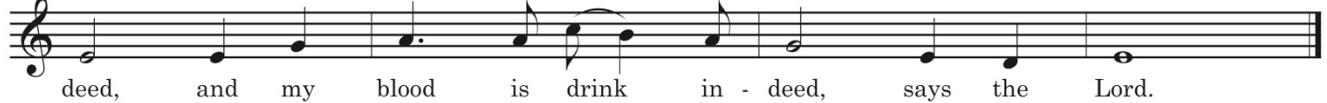


Lord. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood dwell in

All



me, and I in them. My flesh is food in -



deed, and my blood is drink in - deed, says the Lord.

Ray W. Irwin

Celebrant Behold the Lamb of God,
Behold Him who takes away the sins of the world;
Happy are they who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

*O Lord, I am not worthy that you should come under my roof,
but speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed.*

The Communion

Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Announcements

Blessing of Birthdays and Anniversaries

The Blessing

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

At the Procession

Come, thou Fount

Hymnal #686

1. Come, thou fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my heart to sing thy
2. Here I find my great - est trea - sure; hith - er, by thy help, I've
3. Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to
grace! Streams of mer - cy nev - er ceas - ing, call for
come; and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly
be! Let thy good - ness, like a fet - ter, bind my
songs of loud - est praise. Teach me some me - lo - dious
to ar - rive at home. Je - sus_ sought me when a
wan - dering heart to thee: Prone to_ wan - der, Lord, I
son - net, sung by_ flam - ing tongues a - bove. Praise the
stran - ger wan - dering from the fold of God; he, to
feel_ it, prone to_ leave the God I love; here's my
mount! Oh, fix me on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.
res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
heart, oh, take and seal it, seal it for they courts a - bove.

Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

Postlude

The leaflet picture this morning is of a bronze by the modern German artist Eginio Weinert (1920-2012) showing the meal in the Emmaus story.

