Fourth Sunday of Easter May 11, 2025

Order of Worship: Holy Communion, Setting Four

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Congregational responses are printed in bold type.

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PRELUDE & BELLS We observe a moment of silence for prayer and meditation.

WELCOME

Blessed be the Kingdom...now and forever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

We stand OPENING HYMN

#367 "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"

vv1-4

★Brief Rite for Confession & Forgiveness of Sins★

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

In the name of the Father and of the

■ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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 Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence is kept for reflection and personal confession.

1John 1:8-9

Most merciful God... we confess that we are born captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Jesus Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you- who believe and repent- of all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

★HOLY COMMUNION**★**

APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**





PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us pray...O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Next Steps Weekly Memory Verse: JOHN 10:14 *Jesus says, I am the good shepherd I know my own and my own know me.*

FIRST READING: ACTS 9:36-43

³⁶ Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷ At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸ Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." ³⁹ So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰ Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹ He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴² This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³ Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

RESPONSE & MEDITATION: PSALM 23

¹ The LORD is my shepherd;

I shall not be in want.

- ² He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.
- ³ He revives my soul

and guides me along right pathways for his name's sake.

- ⁴ Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- ⁵ You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
 - ⁶ Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

SECOND READING: REVELATION 7:9-17

⁹ After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹ And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." 13 Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴ I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. ¹⁶ They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; ¹⁷ for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!



GOSPEL READING: JOHN 10:22-30

Glory to You, O Lord.

²² At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³ and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." ²⁵ Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; ²⁶ but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷ My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. ³⁰ The Father and I are one."

The Gospel of the Lord Praise to You, O Christ!

HYMN OF THE DAY #778

"The Lord's My Shepherd"

vv1-4

We sit. SERMON

Looking Up

Get Up!

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

We stand. Profession of Faith

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 CHURCH

Let us pray to our risen Savior on behalf of the Church, the world, and one another.

A brief silence

Lord Jesus, you alone are worthy! You are worthy of blessing and honor, glory, and praise. Give us grace to praise your greatness, to bless your name, and to live lives worthy of you, our Shepherd and Savior.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

St. Paul exhorted the elders of the churches to protect your flock from the wolves that threaten them. Bless your Church with pastors and theologians who rightly proclaim your Word, defend against heresy and schism, and lead your people into lives of holiness, faithfulness, and love.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Your martyrs stand before your throne, praying for all who are persecuted for your Name's sake. Join our prayers to theirs. Give courage and endurance to those who suffer on account of you. By their example, cause their enemies to repent, so their lives may be transformed, and their minds renewed.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Bless and direct this congregation. Call us by name and lead us in love. We pray for our mission to develop fully devoted followers of Jesus; to support Solid Rock our mission in action; and that you send us adults for baptism. Guide us in paths of discipleship and service. Let all be done to your glory, and for the good of our family, community, and world.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Bless our littlest lambs: our infants and toddlers, and all newborns in the faith. Lead them safely through the dangers of this world. Crown their innocence with holiness. Teach them to know your voice and to gladly follow wherever you would have them go.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Thank you for mothers, foster mothers, and for all who care and love with a mother's heart. Adorn their lives with wisdom, goodness, common sense, and patience. Give them endurance – and a good night's sleep – to carry out their many tasks with a light heart and ready smile. Be their strength and shield when their burdens are great and sorrowful. And bestow your dearest comfort to all who have lost a child, or who are unable to have one.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Give a shepherd's heart to the leaders of all nations, especially our own. Teach them to seek the welfare of their people above power, wealth, or re-election. By their labors, grant the simple blessings of decent food, clean water, and the chance to raise families in freedom and safety. Give wisdom and integrity to all who risk their lives on behalf of others. And to all people, especially those whose lives have been shattered by violence, grant a measure of your peace.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

O great and good Shepherd, carry on your shoulders all who are suffering in body, mind, and heart. This day we remember before you: {List}. Give a double portion of you Spirit to all who care for them, and restore them to wholeness and hope.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, we pray the Shepherd's Psalm when a member of your flock has died, confident that you bring them through death's dark vale into your Father's house. We therefore entrust to you all our dear departed. We pray especially for the families of {List}. Lead, feed, and protect us, as you have done for them. Prepare our place at your festive table, where with all whom you have redeemed, we will feast on your goodness and mercy forever.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Grant whatever is in accordance with your will, dear Jesus, and accomplish your salvation among us; for you live in majesty with your Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

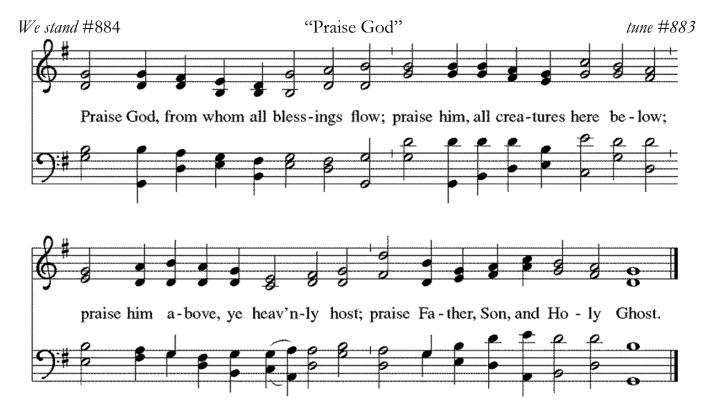
SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also, with you.** We briefly greet those in our row with the words "Peace be with you."

We sit. Offering, Offertory Song & Prayer- Giving back to God



First- and second-time guests are not expected to give a monetary offering; your Connection Card and your presence this morning are your gifts. Safe, secure & easy electronic giving is available on our website stpeterhallettsville.org/giving or by scanning this code.

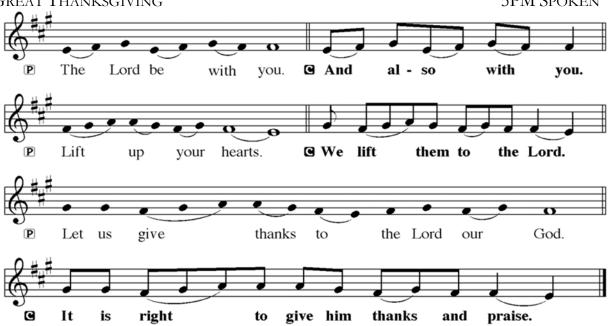


Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711 Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561

OFFERING PRAYER

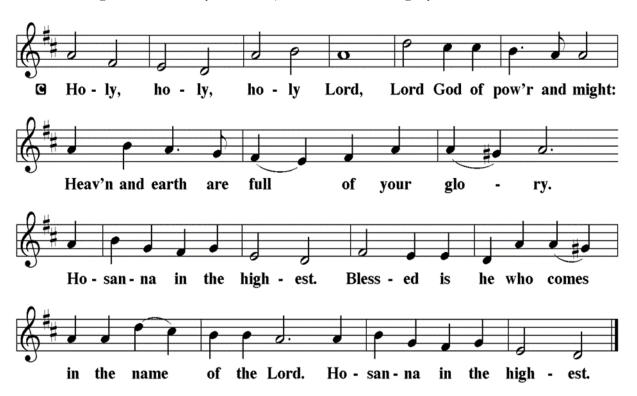
Blessed are you, O Lord, our God, king of the universe. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.





It is indeed right and salutary . . . and join their unending hymn:

5PM SPOKEN



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth... as he comes to us in his holy supper.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

In the night in which he was betrayed, ... Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

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.

We sit. Invitation To Communion

As often as we eat of this bread and drink of this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Communion is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ present and received in, with, and under the bread and wine. All who are baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit and who believe the Lord's words "This is my body given for you" and "This is my blood poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins" may receive Communion. Young children, not yet receiving Communion, may receive a blessing.

(Matt 26:26ff, Mark 14:22ff, Luke 22:19ff, 1 Cor. 11:24ff)

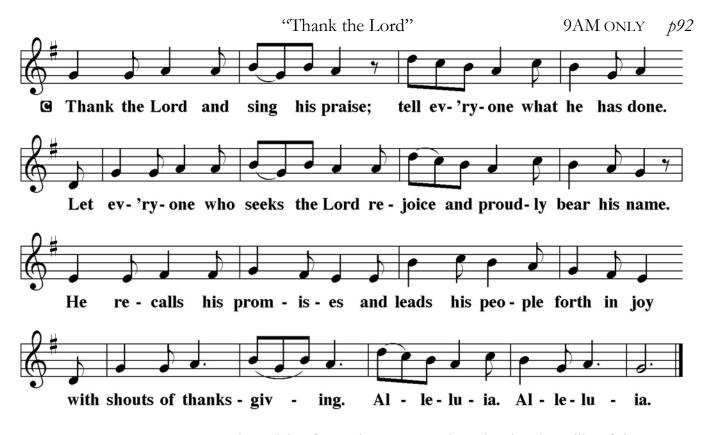
Communion administration occurs in a continuous fashion at the Communion rail. The ushers will guide you to the rail. To receive the elements, extend your hand, palm up, to the ministers. White grape juice is available in the center of the trays. For those unable to consume either bread or wine, the Church affirms the Lord's full presence in each element alone. Once you have received the elements, return to your seat by the side aisles. If you do not desire to receive Holy Communion, you may remain seated.





10

We stand POST-COMMUNION BLESSING, SONG, & PRAYER May the true body and blood...keep you in his grace. **Amen.**



Let us pray. Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** *Silence is kept for reflection.*

BENEDICTION

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. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN #389

"Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing"

vv1-4

ST. PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH

100 North Promenade, Hallettsville, Texas 77964 (361) 798-2808 www.stpeterhallettsville.org

Our mission is Christ's mission – "I will build my church" by developing fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.



The new pavers have been added to the Memorial Garden. Thank you, David Ehler, for taking on this task!

Volunteers may now sign up online for 2025 VBS. Go to <u>myvbs.org/stpeterlch</u>

MANNA FOOD PANTRY DRIVE: Social Ministry will be holding a Food Drive for the Manna Food Pantry until July. The Pantry is in desperate need of cereal and juice. If you would like to contribute, a box in the Narthex and one by the elevator will be available for your donations. Thank you in advance!

Sat, May 17 5:00 pm Graduation Milestone Dinner (Emilie Hotz)

Sat, May 17 Market Days (WIM Bake Sale) If you would like to donate baked goods, please have them at the KC Hall by 8:00 am so they can cut them up. Thank you in advance!

Sun, May 18 Honor Graduate, Emilie Hotz during 9AM Service

Sun, May 18 2:00 pm Solid Rock End of Year Program: All are invited to attend the End of the Year Program in the Fellowship Hall.

Monday, May 26 Church Office Closed for Memorial Day

SAVE THE DATES IN JUNE 2025:

Sunday, June 1st Next Steps Worship Assistant training 10:30 am -12:30 pm Wednesday, June 11th Lifeline Screening will be in the Fellowship Hall. For more information, please see Kari in the office.

Wednesday, June 11th Forgiveness & Healing Service at 6:00 pm Sunday, June 15 Happy Father's Day GFTG Worship Tuesday, June 17-19 Kari out of office

<u>OFFERING YTD (Jan-Mar '24)</u> \$71,688.40; <u>EXPENSES</u> \$60,525.00 <u>DIFFERENCE +/-</u>+\$11,163.40

Fourth Sunday of Easter May 11, 2025

Acts 9:36-43; Psalm 23; Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-30 This Weekend May 11

Sunday AM: Assisting: Darlene Stacy

Communion Set Up: Barb Koehn Communion Clean Up: Judy Drozd

Organist: Denise Drozd

Ushers: Cal Bonzer, Trent Skelton, Michael Woytek, Kevin Sullivan

Acolytes: Maggie Stillions and Caroline Duty

Power Point Sunday: Julieane Mihalovich

Altar Flowers given by: The Adee Family in memory of friend, Brandon Muschalek

Radio Ministry given by: Women in Mission in memory of Jean Niemetz

Sunday PM: Assisting: Ailene Peck Communion Clean Up: Ailene Peck

This Week @ St. Peter

Sun May 11, 9:00 am Worship Service, "Happy Mother's Day", 10:00 am Coffee Time, 10:30 Adult Christian Learning, 5:00 pm Worship Service

Mon May 12, 1:00 pm Quilting, 5:00 pm Stewardship, 6:00 pm Church Council

Tue May 13, 7:00 pm Prayer Group

Wed May 14, 6:00 pm Family Faith Night

Thu May 15, 12:00 pm FH Rental, 5:00 pm Worship Meeting, 7:00 pm Prayer Group

Sat May 17, 8:00 am WIM Bake Sale @ Market Days, 5:00 pm Graduation Milestone Dinner (FH)

Sun May 18, 9:00 am Worship Service, 10:00 am Coffee Time,

10:30 am Adult Christian Learning,

10:30 am -11:30 pm LYO Service Event,

2:00 pm Solid Rock's End of School Program,

3:00 pm Nursing Home Service, 5:00 pm Worship Service

Our Prayer List:— Requests listed 4 weeks under Concerns For unless otherwise requested.

Jane Yamerick, Aaron Sloper, Tommy Kanak, Betsey Rideout, Leon Woytek, Cynthia Gates, Ky Lange, Christopher Shadden, Ruth Goranson

Extended concerns: Requests listed 9 months unless otherwise requested.

Oleen Covey, Gracie Isbell, Jim Brandt, Edmund Koerth, Barbara Tackett,

Charlotte Hartmann, Melissa Grice, Michael Drozd, Jeffrey Morgenroth, Charlie Garmon,

Carrie Besetsny, DeWayne Dixon, James Evans, Pr. John Schmidt & family (Missionary in Ghana)

Other Concerns: first responders (military, law enforcement, firefighter, medical), Safe House Church (Hallettsville); San Miguel (Ft. Worth) and Houston Oromo Lutheran Churches, President Trump, our country

<u>Grieving Families of:</u> Jordan Ramirez, Bernadette Bludau, Percy Spradlin, Kim Fowlkes, Jean Niemietz, Steve Kutach, Emmanuel Velasquez, Michelle Greenwell, Michelle Goranson, Andy Seay, Howard & Dean Loewe

Serving Next Weekend: May 18

Sunday AM: Assisting: Barb Grindeland

Communion Set Up: Barb Koehn Communion Clean Up: Judy Drozd

Organist: Denise Drozd

Ushers: Cal Bonzer, Trent Skelton, Michael Woytek, Kevin Sullivan

Acolytes: Elli DeForest & Abigail Horton

Power Point Sunday: Judy Garmon

Altar Flowers given by: Leon & Carol Koehne in honor of granddaughter, Lauren's, graduation from UMHB & in celebration of Carol's Birthday, & in memory of Landon Koehne Radio Ministry given by: Matthew & Martha Bludau in celebration of granddaughter, Emilie

Hotz's graduation

<u>Sunday PM:</u> Assisting: Daniel Drozd Communion Clean Up: Daniel Drozd

ENTRANCE HYMN (ELW) Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds (ELW 367)

Text by Paul Z. Strodach; Music by Koln

1 Now all the vault of heav'n resounds in praise of love that still abounds:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!
Repeat their song of glory here:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2 Eternal is the gift he brings, therefore our heart with rapture sings: "Christ has triumphed! He is living!" Now still he comes to give us life and by his presence stills all strife. "Christ has triumphed! He is living!" Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with dauntless love; set heart and will on things above that we conquer through your triumph; grant grace sufficient for life's day that by our lives we truly say:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4 Adoring praises now we bring and with the heav'nly blessed sing: "Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!" Be to the Father, and our Lord, to Spirit blest, most holy God, all the glory, never ending! Alleluia, alleluia!

HYMN OF THE DAY (ELW) The Lord's My Shepherd (ELW 778)

Text by The Psalms of David; Music by Gordon Jacob

1 The Lord's my shepherd; I'll not want. he makes me down to lie in pastures green; he leadeth me the quiet waters by. He leadeth me, he leadeth me the quiet waters by.

2 My soul he doth restore again, and me to walk doth make within the paths of righteousness, e'en for his own name's sake; within the paths of righteousness, e'en for his own name's sake.

3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill; for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me comfort still; for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me comfort still.

4 My table thou hast richly spread in presence of my foes; my head thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.

My head thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.

CLOSING HYMN (ELW) Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing (ELW 389)

Text by Brian A. Wren; Music by T. Williams

1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky. Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

2 Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine, but saving, healing, here and now, and touching ev'ry place and time.

3 In ev'ry insult, rift, and war, where color, scorn, or wealth divide, Christ suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, where even hope has died.

4 Women and men, in age and youth, can feel the Spirit, hear the call, and find the way, the life, the truth, revealed in Jesus, freed for all.