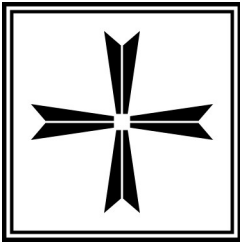




**COME, FOLLOW ME:
THE GLORY OF GOD REVEALED**

*THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD
FEBRUARY 15, 2015*



OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

February 15, 2015 | *The Transfiguration of our Lord*

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship this morning. In our service we gather before our almighty God to offer him our worship and praise. We also gather to strengthen ourselves through the study of God's holy and powerful Word. If you are a guest, please fill out a Connection card found in our entryway. You can place it in the offering plate or hand it to Pastor or an usher as you leave.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Sound / Music: Erik Roberson

Ushers: Erik Roberson, Roger Benz

Service Leader: Pastor Ben Kratz

Church Office: (205) 677-8642

Cell: (205) 478-6843

Email: Pastor@OurSaviorBirmingham.com

SERVICE NOTES FOR THIS SUNDAY

The Son of God who has come into the world calls us to follow him. During the Epiphany season, we learn about that call to follow and about him who gives it. On this last day of the Epiphany season, we see one more time who this Jesus is. All of God's glory is revealed in him. In his person, God's glory shines in this world. Through his gospel, God's glory shines in our hearts.

BEFORE WORSHIP

As you prepare to worship your Lord today, spend a few quiet moments in prayer before the service. Review the lessons, the service notes, and pray this prayer:

Lord God, before the suffering and death of your one and only Son, you revealed his glory on the holy mountain. Grant that we who bear his cross on earth may behold by faith the light of his heavenly glory and so be changed into his likeness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FOR FAMILIES

Children's Activity Sheets give activities and lessons pertaining to the Scripture lessons for the day. Ask an usher at the door into the sanctuary.

If your little one needs a moment, there is a speaker and window in our entryway that will allow you to see and hear the service.

Children's Church is a special place for younger children to hear a Bible story, sing some songs, learn a prayer, and do a craft. You can escort your child to our children's church just before the sermon as noted in the service folder.

INFORMATION

Bathrooms are located at the end of the end of the hallway as you exit the sanctuary.

Holy Communion will be celebrated as part of this morning's worship service. Here at Our Savior Lutheran Church, we practice "membership communion" and ask that only members come forward to receive the sacrament. On page 156 in the front of the hymnal, there is a "Personal Preparation for Holy Communion" you can use to prepare to receive Christ's true body and blood.

Looking for more information? If you would like to learn more about Our Savior Lutheran Church...

- check out our information table in the entryway,
- Scan the code to the right with your smartphone
- speak with Pastor Kratz after the service, send him an email at: Pastor@OurSaviorBirmingham.com, or call the church office at (205) 677-8642.



Our Savior Lutheran Church is a member of a group of more than twelve hundred churches called Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod or WELS. The WELS is a worldwide church body with congregations serving all fifty of the United States, as well as Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and over 25 countries through world mission work.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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DIVINE SERVICE

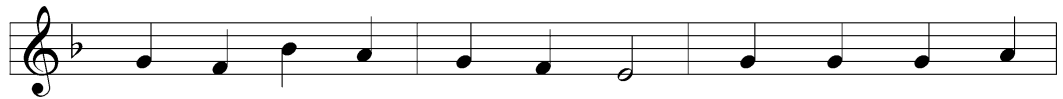
HYMN | #712 *Jesus Take Us to the Mountain*



1 Je - sus, take us to the moun-tain Where, with Pe - ter,
2 What do you want us to see there That your close com -
3 What do you want us to hear there That your dear dis -
4 Take us to that oth - er moun-tain Where we see you
5 We who have be - held your glo - ry, Ris - en and as -



James, and John, We are daz - zled by your glo - ry,
pan - ions saw? Your di - vin - i - ty re - vealed there
ci - ples heard? Once a - gain the voice from heav - en
glo - ri - fied, Where you shout - ed, "It is fin - ished!"
cend - ed Lord, Can - not help but tell the sto - ry,



Light as blind - ing as the sun. There pre - pare us
Fills us with the self - same awe. Clothed in flesh like
Says of the in - car - nate Word: "Lis - ten, lis - ten,
Where for all the world you died. Hear the stunned cen -
All that we have seen and heard, Say with Pe - ter,



for the night By the vi - sion of that sight.
ours you go, Matched to meet our dead - liest foe.
ev - 'ry - one; This is my be - lov - ed Son!"
tu - ri - on: "Tru - ly this was God's own Son!"
James, and John: "You are God's be - lov - ed Son!"

The hymn writer reminds us that the glimpse of glory seen in Jesus' transfiguration foreshadows the ultimate glory of Christ displayed at Calvary, hidden under the cross.

INVOCATION

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

The name of the triune God and the sign of the cross remind worshipers of their baptisms.

CONFESSION OF SINS

L As we come to worship God and have our faith fed through Word and Sacrament, let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

The use of the keys (the power to forgive sins) is that special power and right which Christ gave to his church on earth: to forgive the sins of penitent sinners (See John 20:21-23).

C **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

Silence for personal confession and reflection

LORD, HAVE MERCY | *Kyrie*

Lord, have mer-cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy on us. Lord, have mer-cy on us. A - men.

"Kyrie" is the Greek word for "Lord." The expression "Lord, have mercy" is one of the oldest responses in the Christian church.

L God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

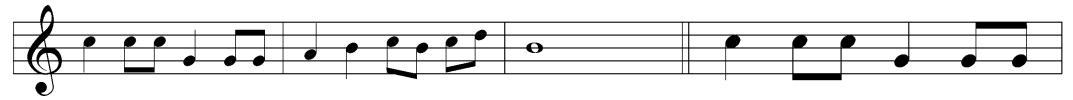
C Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

□ In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord!

GLORY BE TO GOD | *Gloria in Excelsis*

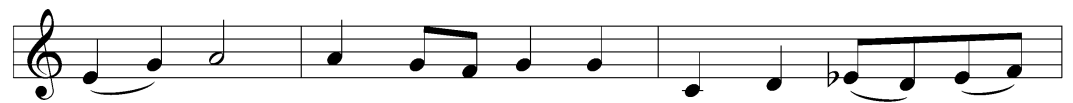
Christians praise God by proclaiming the great things he has done to accomplish our rescue from sin. "Glory to God in the Highest" has been a Christian song of worship since the fourth century.



Glo - ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and



Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we



praise you for your glo - ry! Glo - ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly



Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,



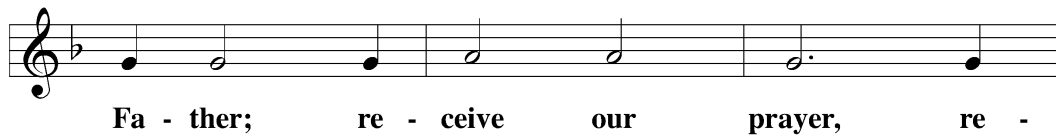
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



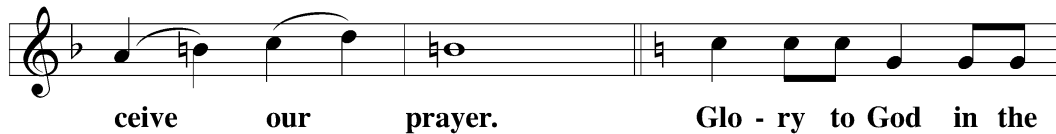
world; have mer - cy on us.



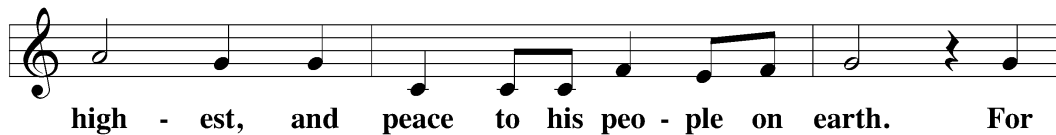
You are seated at the right hand of the



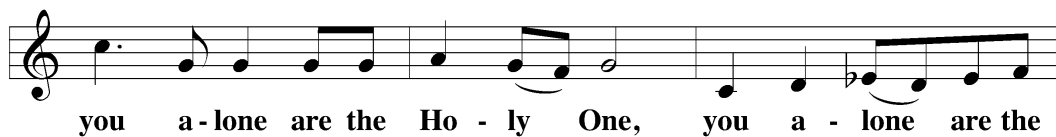
Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer, re -



ceive our prayer. Glo - ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth. For



you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the



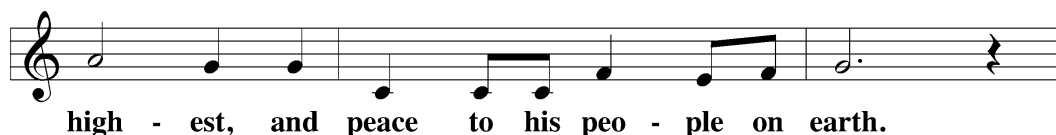
Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,



Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the



glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. Glo - ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God!

SALUTATION

This greeting has deep roots in Christian worship and marks the beginning of the Word and the Sacrament sections of the service.

- L** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- L** Let us pray:

Lord God, before the suffering and death of your one and only Son, you revealed his glory on the holy mountain. Grant that we who bear his cross on earth may behold by faith the light of his heavenly glory and so be changed into his likeness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** **Amen.**

~Please be seated



THE WORD

LESSON | *2 Kings 2:1-12 (pg. 570)*



Elijah, later present on the Mount of Transfiguration, is taken up into heaven.

2 When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ²Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here; the LORD has sent me to Bethel.”

But Elisha said, “As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel.

³The company of the prophets at Bethel came out to Elisha and asked, “Do you know that the LORD is going to take your master from you today?”

“Yes, I know,” Elisha replied, “but do not speak of it.”

⁴Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here, Elisha; the LORD has sent me to Jericho.”

And he replied, “As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you.” So they went to Jericho.

⁵The company of the prophets at Jericho went up to Elisha and asked him, “Do you know that the LORD is going to take your master from you today?”

“Yes, I know,” he replied, “but do not speak of it.”

⁶Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here; the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.”

And he replied, “As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them walked on.

⁷Fifty men of the company of the prophets went and stood at a distance, facing the place where Elijah and Elisha had stopped at the Jordan. ⁸Elijah took his cloak, rolled it up and struck the water with it. The water divided to the right and to the left, and the two of them crossed over on dry ground.

⁹When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Tell me, what can I do for you before I am taken from you?”

“Let me inherit a double portion of your spirit,” Elisha replied.

¹⁰“You have asked a difficult thing,” Elijah said, “yet if you see me when I am taken from you, it will be yours—otherwise not.”

¹¹As they were walking along and talking together, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. ¹²Elisha saw this and cried out, “My father! My father! The chariots and horsemen of Israel!” And Elisha saw him no more. Then he took hold of his own clothes and tore them apart.

PSALM OF THE DAY | *Psalm 148*

The splendor of the Lord is above the earth and the heavens.

REFRAIN

Praise in the heights. Praise from the depths.
All cre - a - tion sing praise.
Sing to the stars and the sea:
Al - le - lu - ia!

Please join in singing the refrain after it has been sung once, then as it is indicated below.

*Praise, praise the Lord! Sing from the heavens in the heights!
All you angels, sing out your song. Sing praise, sing praise! **Refrain.***

*Sing praise, all you who lead, ev'ryone sing praise!
Young men and women, sing from your heart! Sing praise, sing praise! **Refrain.***

*Sing praise to the name of God, sing to the highest heaven!
Sing praise to the name of all names! Sing praise, sing praise! **Refrain.***

*Sing praise to God who hears our cry, God has lifted us high!
All you faithful, sing out your joy! Sing praise, sing praise! **Refrain.***

LESSON | *2 Corinthians 4:3-6 (pg. 1797)*

Through the gospel of Jesus Christ, God shines the light of his glory in our hearts.

³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

VERSE OF THE DAY | *Mark 9:7*

Refrain



C Refrain. (*sung twice*)

L A voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him."

C Refrain. (*sung twice*)

GOSPEL | *Mark 9:2-9 (pg. 1567)*

-Please stand

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



The congregation stands and speaks words of acclamation out of respect for the word of Christ, our King.

Jesus reveals God's glory on the mountain, predicts his resurrection.

²After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them.³His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them.⁴And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

⁵Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah."⁶(He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.)

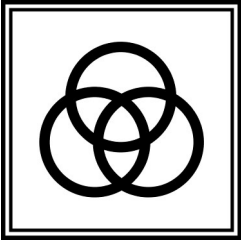
⁷Then a cloud appeared and enveloped them, and a voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!"

⁸Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus gave them orders not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:





NICENE CREED | *Credo*

☑ 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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. 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, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian* 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.

Public confession is faith's response to God's saving Word. Christian's composed the Nicene Creed in the fourth century to defend the Bible's teachings that both Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit are true God, equal to the Father in one eternal, undivided Trinity.

**The original text here reads "catholic," a word meaning "universal." The Church consists of all believers in heaven and earth, of every time in history.*

-Please be seated

Children are invited to assemble at the front for a children's message.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

During the singing of the hymn, parents may choose to escort their young child(ren) to our children's church, where they will hear a Bible story, sing songs, learn a prayer, and do a craft.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

HYMN | #96 *Oh, Wondrous Type! Oh, Vision Fair*

The Hymn of the Day is assigned to this day because of its rich content and connection to the day's Gospel.

SERMON | *Mark 9:2-9*

~Please stand

After the sermon, the congregation sings:



Cre - ate in me a
pure heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with -
in me. Do not cast me a - way from your
pres - ence or take your Ho - ly Spir - it from
me. Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up -
hold, up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

~Please be seated

OFFERING

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

The Lord invites our prayers and asks that Christians pray for many people and circumstances.

-Please stand

*Throughout the prayer, when the leader says, "Lord, in your mercy..." the congregation responds by saying, "**hear our prayer.**"*

LORD'S PRAYER

- ☐ 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.**



THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION



The opening words of the communion liturgy mark the beginning of the Sacrament section of the service and lift the worshipers' hearts in praise. The opening sentences are among the oldest in the Christian liturgy.

PREFACE

- L** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- L** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them up to the Lord.**
- L** Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.
- C** **It is good and right so to do.**
- L** It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who promised that where two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock till he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY | *Sanctus*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er,
 God of might: heav'n and earth are full of your glo -
 ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless -
 ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
 na in the high - est. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

"Sanctus" means "holy." Used possibly as early as the second century, this canticle was in wide use among Christians in worship by the fourteenth century.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

As he speaks the Words of Institution, the pastor both proclaims the words of Jesus to the congregation and sets apart the bread and wine for the Lord's use. The sign of the cross reminds us of Christ's death.

☐ Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat, this is my (†) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (†) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

☐ The peace of the Lord be with you always.

☑ Amen.

LAMB OF GOD | *Agnus Dei*

Jesus is God's Lamb (Agnus Dei), who was offered as a sacrifice for sin once for all.

O Christ, Lamb of
God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of
God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of
God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - men. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Our Savior Lutheran Church asks that only members come forward to receive the sacrament.

There is a Personal Preparation for Communion available on page 156 in the red hymnal.



The Scriptures teach that the celebration of the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another who are united around a common confession of faith.

THANKSGIVING

SONG OF SIMEON | *Nunc Dimittis*

-Please stand

In peace, Lord, you let your
ser - vant now de - part ac - cord - ing to your word. For my
eyes have seen your sal - va - tion, which you have pre - pared for
ev - 'ry peo - ple, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the
glo - ry, the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

The "Nunc Dimittis" ("Now dismiss") is also known as the "Song of Simeon." Through God's Word and Sacrament, we have seen Jesus Christ, and like Simeon we find divine peace and comfort through faith in the Savior.

L O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

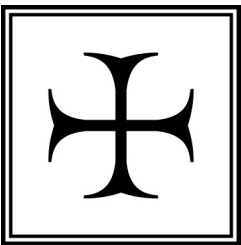
C **And his mercy endures forever.**

L O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

L The Lord has refreshed us with His Word. Let us head into this new week equipped for lives of service.

C **Our mission is to worship God, to spread his Word to our community and to all nations, and to nurture all believers to prepare them for lives of Christian service.**



The blessing of Aaron has been spoken over God's people for over 3,500 years. The Lord said, "So they will put my name on [them], and I will bless them" (Numbers 6:27).

BLESSING

L Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (†) give you peace.

C **Amen.**

~Please be seated

FAREWELL TO ALLELUIA

□ Brothers and sisters in Christ, when we next gather for worship, it will be Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent. On that day we will begin our solemn journey to the Savior's cross. While the joy of faith remains undiminished throughout the year, our rejoicing during Lent is muted and quiet. For centuries, therefore, the Christian churches have omitted their most jubilant songs during this season, including the word *alleluia*, which means, "praise the Lord."

Now for a time we say farewell to *alleluia*. We do this to prepare ourselves for the quieter days of Lent. The *alleluias* will return on Easter dawn as we gather to shout our praise to the risen Lord.



1 Al - le - lu - ia, song of tri - umph, sound of joy that
2 Al - le - lu - ia we are sing - ing, voic - ing hymns in
3 Al - le - lu - ia can - not al - ways be our song while
4 May our hymns be filled with long - ing—hear us, Ho - ly



can - not die; Al - le - lu - ia is the an - them
pure ac - cord, With Christ's ho - ly Church u - nit - ed,
here be - low; Al - le - lu - ia our trans - gres - sions
Trin - i - ty— As we look to your blest Eas - ter,



ev - er dear to choirs on high; Saints a - dorned in
jus - ti - fied, re - deemed, re - stored, And with all his
make us for a while fore - go. For the sol - emn
here, and then e - ter - nal - ly, When we shall once



robes of glo - ry join the great an - gel - ic cry.
faith - ful peo - ple raise our songs to praise the Lord.
time is com - ing when our tears for sin must flow.
more be sing - ing al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly!

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