

The United Methodist Church at Absecon

100 Pitney Rd // Absecon, NJ 08201

609.641.1265 // abseconumc.com

abseconumc@comcast.net

The Reverend David L. Ledford III, Pastor

ReverendDaveLedford@gmail.com

**Priscilla Cunningham,
Director of Music and Organist**



Come and Worship the Lord

May 7, 2023

Today's Lay Reader: Lynn Caterson

Welcome

Call to Worship

Leader: We need your presence on the long road, Lord.

People: **The road between fear and hope,**

Leader: the road between the place where all is lost and the place of resurrection.

People: **Like the disciples walking the road to Emmaus, we are in need of your company!**

Leader: Jesus, stand among us, in your risen power,

People: **let this time of worship be a time when we recognize Jesus in the breaking of the bread and Christ himself feeds us.**

Prelude

Prelude in F Major

J. S. Bach

Hymn

And Can It Be that I Should Gain

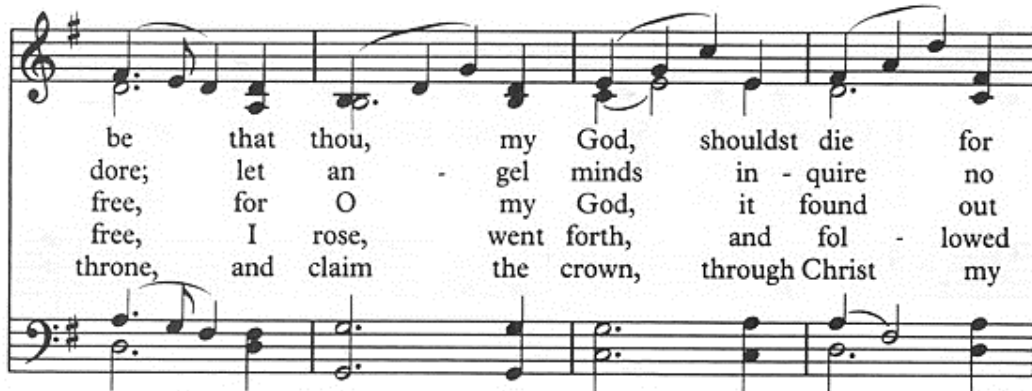
(verses 1, 3, and 5)

1. And can it be that I should gain an
 2. 'Tis mys - tery all: th'Im - mor - tal dies! Who
 3. He left his Fa - ther's throne a - bove (so
 4. Long my im - pris - oned spir - it lay, fast
 5. No con - dem - na - tion now I dread; Je -

in - terest in the Sav - ior's blood! Died he for
 can ex - plore his strange de - sign? In vain the
 free, so in - fi - nite his grace!), emp - tied him -
 bound in sin and na - ture's night; thine eye dif -
 sus, and all in him, is mine; a - live in

me? who caused his pain! For me? who him to
 first - born ser - aph tries to sound the depths of
 self of all but love, and bled for Ad - am's
 fused a quickening ray; I woke, the dun - geon
 him, my liv - ing Head, and clothed in righ - teous -

death pur - sued? A - maz - ing love! How can it
 love di - vine. 'Tis mer - cy all! Let earth a -
 help - less race. 'Tis mer - cy all, im - mense and
 flamed with light; my chains fell off, my heart was
 ness di - vine, bold I ap - proach th'e - ter - nal

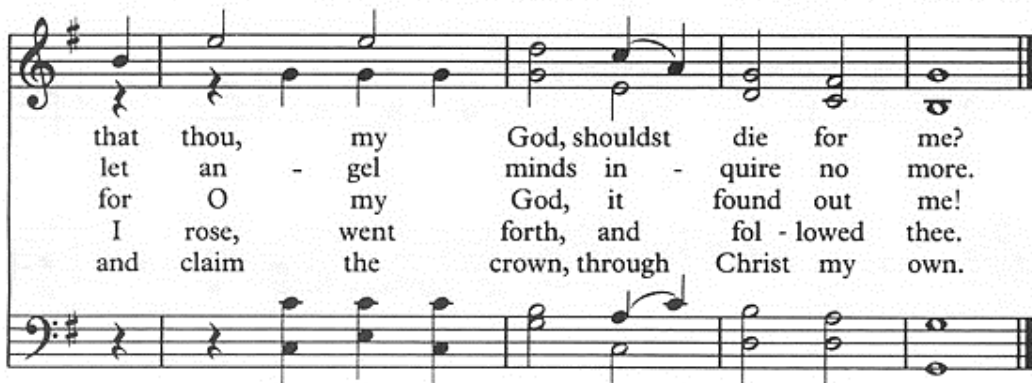


be that thou, my God, shouldst die for
dore; let an - gel minds in - quire no
free, for O my God, it found out
free, I rose, went forth, and fol - lowed
throne, and claim the crown, through Christ my



me? A - maz - ing love! How can it be
more. 'Tis mer - cy all! Let earth a - dore;
me! 'Tis mer - cy all, im - mense and free,
thee. My chains fell off, my heart was free,
own. Bold I ap - proach th'e - ter - nal throne,

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. A - maz - ing love! | How can it be |
| 2. 'Tis mer - cy all! | Let earth a - dore; |
| 3. 'Tis mer - cy all, | im - mense and free, |
| 4. My chains fell off, | my heart was free, |
| 5. Bold I ap - proach | th'e - ter - nal throne, |



that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?
let an - gel minds in - quire no more.
for O my God, it found out me!
I rose, went forth, and fol - lowed thee.
and claim the crown, through Christ my own.

that thou, my God,
let an - gel minds
for O my God,
I rose, went forth,
and claim the crown,

Opening Prayer

Open our eyes, Lord. Without the gift of your revelation, our eyes are kept from recognizing you. Appear before us, suddenly, unexpectedly, in all your glory. So that we, too, may proclaim to a world in despair, that we have seen the risen Lord.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn

My Tribute

To God be the glo - ry, to God be the glo - ry,

to God be the glo - ry for the things he has done.

With his blood he has saved me; with his power he has raised me;

to God be the glo - ry for the things he has done.

Senior Choir

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

arr. Joel Raney

Young Disciples Chatting with the Rev

Scripture Lesson

Luke 24:13-35

Now on that same day two of them 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.

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God

People: Thanks be to God

Message

On the Road with Jesus – from Fear to Faith

Rev. Brian Roberts

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts to God

Offertory

Sing a New Song

Douglas Wagner

Doxology

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

A Service of Word and Table

*Please see the Communion Liturgy on **page 9** of this document.*

Communion Anthem

Whisper to My Heart

Angerman/Martin

Hymn

Alleluia, Alleluia

(verses 1, 2, and 4)

Refrain (Unison) E C#m F#m

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the

ris - en Lord. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give

praise to his name. name.

1. Je - sus is Lord of all the earth.
 2. Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
 3. We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ.
 4. Come, let us praise the liv - ing God,

Chords: E, C#m, F#m, B

Repeat Refrain

He is the King of cre - a - tion.
 Je - sus has died and has ris - en. Al - le -
 Now we shall live for - ev - er.
 joy - ful - ly sing to our Sav - ior.

Benediction

Postlude

Voluntary for Two Trumpets

John Stafford Smith

We are blessed to have Rev. Brian Roberts with us in worship this morning! Pastor Brian is a former pastor of AUMC, and currently serves as the Executive Director, UM Stewardship Foundation of Greater New Jersey.

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A Service of Word and Table

Invitation

Pastor: Christ our Lord invites to His table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Confession and Pardon

People: Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved You with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done Your will, we have broken Your law, we have rebelled against Your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pastor: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are all forgiven!

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! All: Thanks be to God!

The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The pastor gives thanks appropriate to the occasion, remembering God's mighty acts of salvation, and concludes: And so, with Your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The people sing their response:

Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord; God of
 power and might. Heav - en and earth are
 full of your glo - - -
 - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! 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! Ho -
 san - na in the high - est!

WORDS: From *The United Methodist Hymnal* (Isa. 6:3; Matt. 21:9)

MUSIC: Mark A. Miller

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Source: *The Faith We Sing*, no. 2257-b.

The pastor continues the Thanksgiving. The institution of the Lord's Supper is recalled. The pastor concludes: And so, in remembrance of these Your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and

living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

The people sing their response:

Memorial Acclamation

Christ has died, Christ is ris - en,
Christ will come a - gain. Ho -
san - na in the high - est! Ho - san - na in the high - est! Ho -
san - na in the high - est!

WORDS: From *The United Methodist Hymnal*

MUSIC: Mark A. Miller

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Source: *The Faith We Sing*, no. 2257-c.

The pastor invokes the present work of the Holy Spirit and then praises the Trinity, concluding: All honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

ALL: Amen!

Breaking the Bread

Giving the Cup