Sunday Service

RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

Grow ng in

CHURCH OF STEPHENS CITY VIRGINIA

810 Fairfax Street Stephens City, VA 22655 Easter Sunday Worship April 20th 2025 9:30AM

Zoom to Worship, 9:30AM Meeting ID: 893 4718 0792 Passcode: 173681
 Dial 1-301-715-8592 US
 Facebook Live: you must have internet, but you do not need to have a Facebook account https://www.facebook.com/trinitylutheranchurchstephenscityva/live/

Easter Sunday; Greeters: Maxine Rogers & Hilda Painter. Lessons & Prayers Reader: Hilda Painter. Communion Assistants: Hilda Painter & Susan Scheulen. Next Week; Greeter: Nan Righter. Lessons & Prayers Reader: Christine Cornwell. Communion Assistant: David Reichert.

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PRELUDE

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

In the name of the Father, and of the I Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. We give you thanks, O God,

for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters

and by your Word you created the world,

calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG Jesus Christ Is Risen Today (ELW 365)

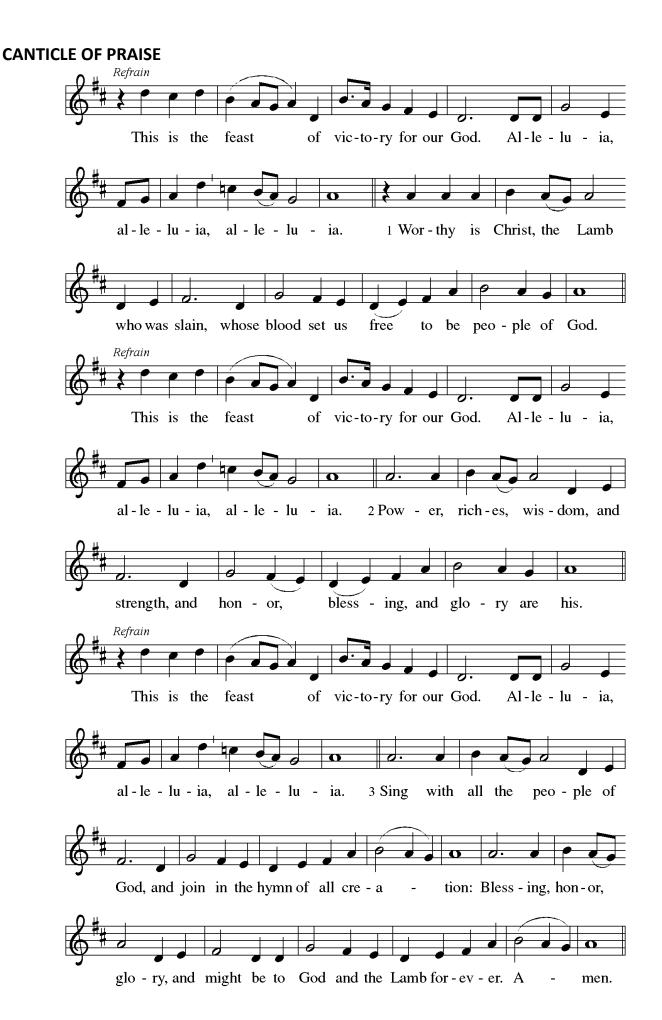


Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1–3; tr. J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt.; Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, st. 4 Music: EASTER HYMN, J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708

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

Let us pray.

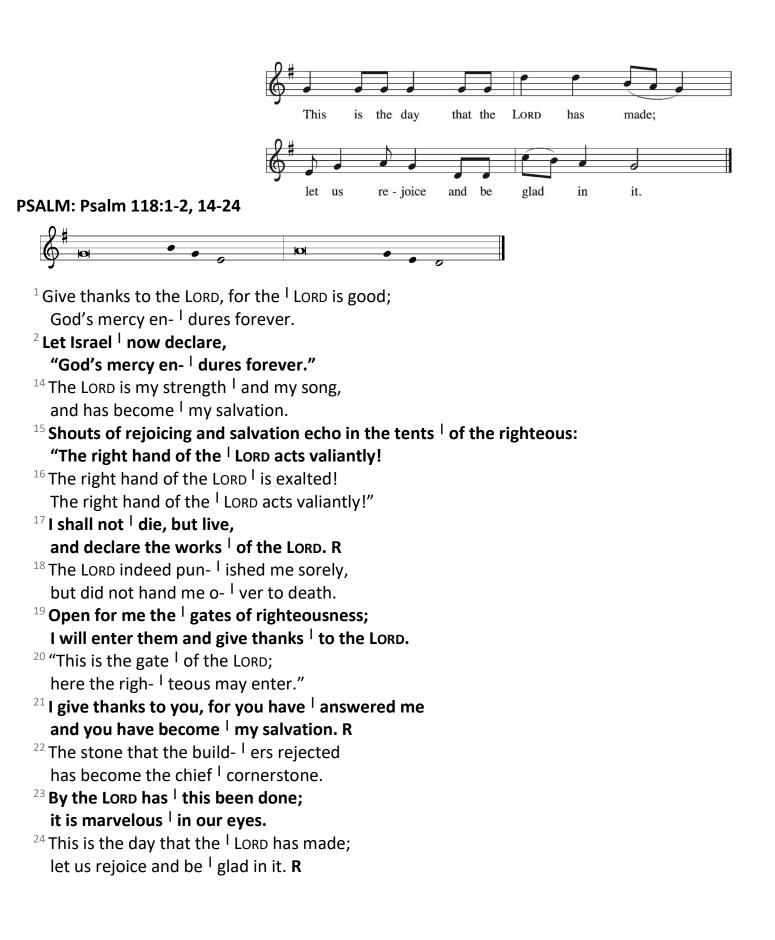
O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Acts 10:34-43

A reading from Acts.

³⁴ Peter began to speak to [the people]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Thanks be to God.



SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:19-26

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

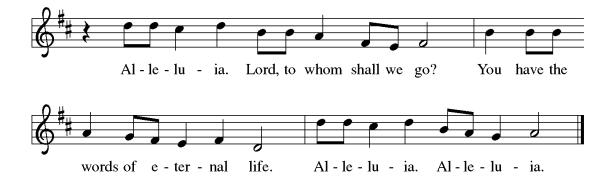
¹⁹ If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. ²¹ For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; ²² for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. ²³ But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴ Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. ²⁵ For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶ The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Luke 24:1-12

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ On the first day of the week, at early dawn, [the women] came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. ² They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³ but when they went in, they did not find the body. ⁴ While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. ⁵ The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. ⁶ Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷ that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." ⁸ Then they remembered his words, ⁹ and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰ Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles.

¹¹ But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. ¹² But Peter got up and

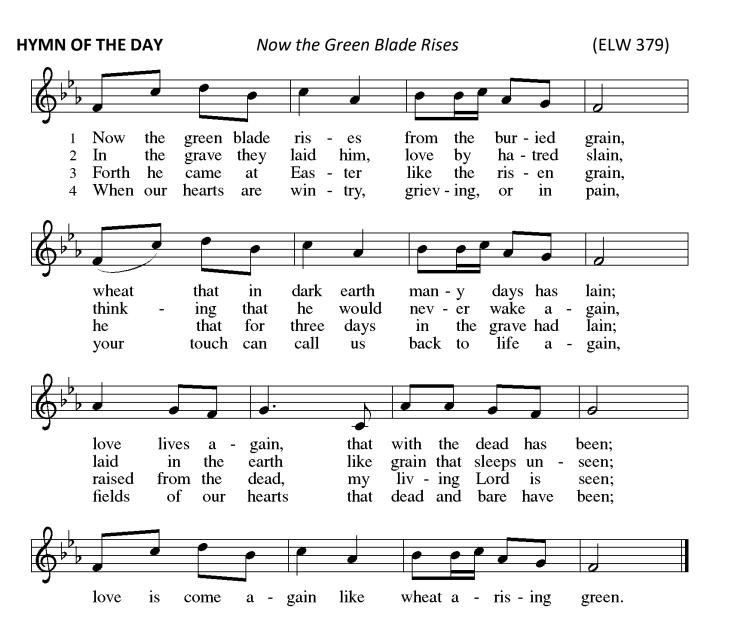
ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

REV. LARRY CLOSTER



Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958 Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol Text from *Oxford Book of Carols*, © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved. 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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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 INTERCESSION

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Kindle new life in your church. Encourage all who seek creative ways to share the good news of Christ's resurrection. Bless mission developers and new ministries (*local examples may be named*), that their work plant seeds that flourish. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Nourish new life in all of creation. Shower forests and grasslands, deserts, and mountains with lifegiving rains. Grant us delight in your glory that shows forth in all that grows this season. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Empower new life among the nations. As you raised Jesus from the dead, bring new hope for peace and reconciliation in places of war and strife (*places or situations may be named*). Raise up leaders who are steadfast in their commitment to justice and transformation. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Bring new hope among all who are in need, especially neighbors without homes or food, and those whose housing or food supply is at risk. Bring healing to all who are fearful, ill, or grieving especially Barb, Shirley, Louise, Stephen, Paul, Hadley, Nikki, Michael, Jeff, Monica (worshippers may add names silently or aloud). God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Awaken new life in this place. Open our hearts to ways you are calling us to be at work in the world and our community (*communities and neighborhoods may be named*). Give us courage to boldly share your love for all people beyond our walls. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Trusting in the promises of the resurrection, we remember with thanksgiving our beloved dead. Sustain us with a living hope until we are reunited with them and all the saints at the heavenly banquet. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**



OFFERING EASTER BELLS ARE RINGING TRINITY CHOIR THE NOISY OFFERING TODAY will benefit The Blue Ridge Habitat for Humanity. Offering is an act of worship that shows our gratitude to God for all that we are and have in our lives. The offering today will provide support for the ministries of Trinity both locally and in the world around us. You may provide your offering in person, scan the QR code

adjacent or send it by mail. We thank you for sharing not only your monetary gifts but also your gifts of time and talent to further our mission to share Jesus' love in worship, fellowship, hospitality, and community, doing God's work with our hands.



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980 Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923 Text and music @ 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

DIALOGUE (ELW p. 144)

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

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

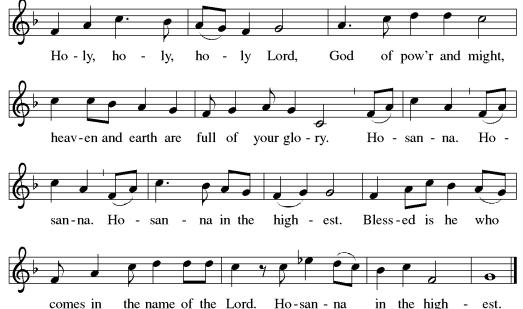
PREFACE (ELW p. 144)

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,

with earth and sea and all their creatures,

and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age: the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the words of the prophets; and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son, who proclaimed the good news in word and deed and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast. **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.** Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we who share in Christ's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light. **Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us. 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.

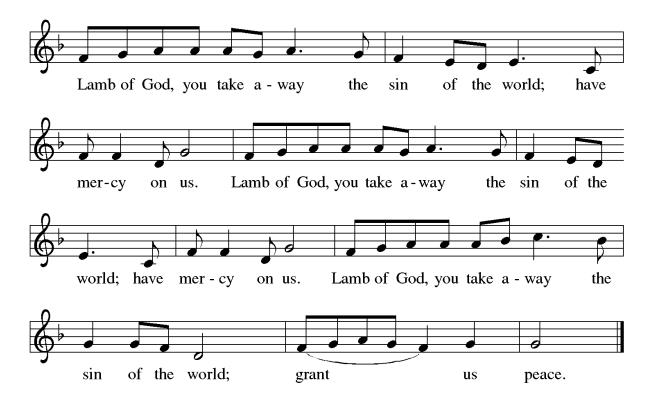
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready. Those communing from home, have your package ready to open, but do not consume the elements until the pastor acknowledges those at home and says: "Come to the banquet, for all is now ready." Then you may partake.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. Amen.

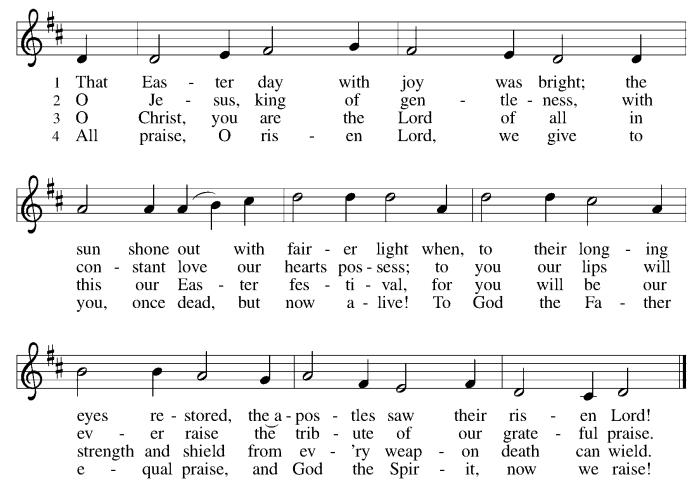
COMMUNION SONG



Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia: Mfurahini, haleluya



That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright



Text: Latin hymn, 5th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt. Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING OF COMMUNION

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are *sick, homebound, and imprisoned*. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

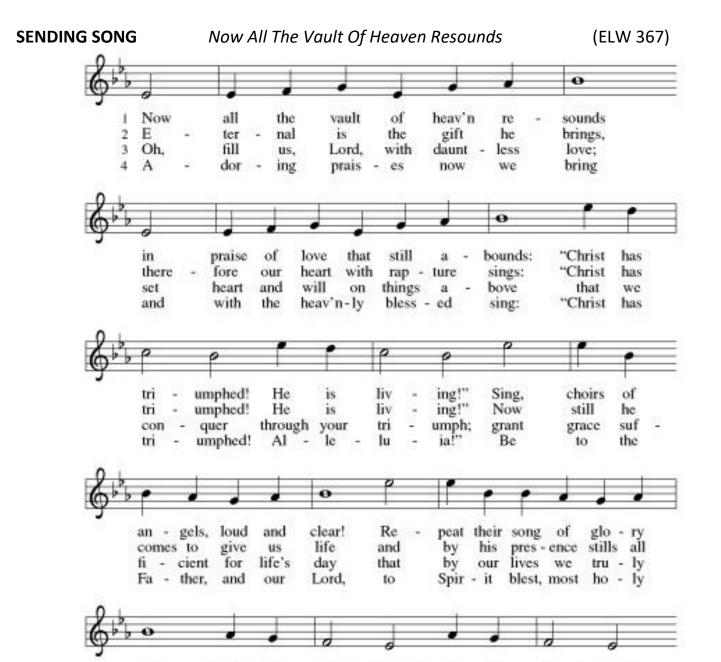
The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,

so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.



DISMISSAL Go in peace. Christ is with you. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Trumpet March(1659-1707)* Daren Johnson-Trumpet

🂠 Easter Chancel Flowers 🌸

Today's beautiful Chancel Flowers were graciously given by David & Pam Reichert.

A heartfelt *thank you* to those from the **Altar Guild** who helped with the Easter flower arrangements: **Robert & Christine Cornwell**

Bonnie Wann

We also give thanks to the following families for their generous contributions of flowers, given in loving memory or honor:

- Bernie Jenkins In memory of her Husband, J. Warden
- Chuck & Marcie Stern
 In memory of their fathers, *Bill Edmonson* and *Bill Stern*
- Mark, Dorrie, & Cooper Greene In memory of *Barbara Greene ("Grammy")*
- Bruce Everly In memory of Dave & Bev Everly
- Suesan Scheulen In memory of Leonard & Annabelle Richard, Harry & Bertha Scheulen, Barbara Greene, and Dennis Richard
- Jerry & Maxine Rogers In honor of their *family*
- William & Darla Wolf In honor of their parents *Scott & Martha Chamber* and *Evely Wolf* In memory of William's father, *Dan Wolf*
- Tom & Nan Righter In memory of *Richard & Helen Righter*, and *Paula Davis*

David & Pam Reichert

In honor of Trinity Lutheran

Your gifts helped make our Easter celebration truly beautiful. Flowers may be picked up after the service.

With Heartfelt Thanks

We extend our sincere gratitude to **Daren C. Johnson**, our guest trumpeter this Easter morning. Daren is a talented street and jammin' musician, sharing his gifts throughout the VA, DC, and MD areas—you may have heard his joyful sound along the walking mall in Winchester. A versatile performer, Daren plays trumpet, flugelhorn, keyboard, and is also a gifted composer and arranger. His musical journey includes decades of experience in jazz, R&B, and classical ensembles across the country.

Thank you, Daren, for enriching our Easter celebration with your beautiful and spirited music.

Daren C. Johnson Trumpet/Flugelhorn Keyboard/Composer/Arranger

Trumpet/Flugelhorn/Percussion, Street/Jammin' Musician, 1996-Present, VA, DC, MD Area. Performing "Corybantic and Sentimental Music" with "Young at Heart, Jammin' Musicians".

Lead Trumpet/Flugelhorn Soloist, Blue Moon R&B Dance Band, 1986-1996, Sonoma/Napa/SF Bay Area, CA. Lead Trumpet/Flugelhorn Soloist, Santa Rosa Community College Jazz Ensemble -Santa Rosa, CA.

Lead Trumpet/Flugelhorn Soloist, Sonoma State University Community Jazz Ensemble - Santa Rosa, CA. Received first place award at the 1995 Pacific Coast Jazz Festival.

Music Teacher Assistant, R. A. Millikan High School, 1973-1975, Long Beach, CA.

Music Education Major, Trumpet, CSULB, Long Beach, CA.

Music performance: Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, Brass Ensemble, Marching Band, and Solo Recitals.

Trumpet, Long Beach Symphony Chamber Orchestra, Long Beach, CA.

Principal First Trumpet, Long Beach City College Community Orchestra, Long Beach, CA.

Principal First Trumpet/Soloist, R. A. Millikan High School, Long Beach, CA. Graduate with Honors, 1971. Music performance: Orchestra, Musical Theatre, Symphonic Band, Jazz Ensemble, and Marching Band.

Honors: MENC Orchestra, MENC Band, Long Beach All-City Orchestra, Long Beach All-City Band.

