

4/17/2022 - Easter Dawn

SERIES THEME

VICTORIOUS

To the world he seemed like a defeated man: opposed and killed by his enemies, his followers scattered in fear. Yet three days after Jesus' death he rose victorious from the dead. Nothing would ever be the same. The rest of eternity is now a victory march for the risen Christ. During Easter, we should not think of ourselves as passive observers in Christ's victory. We are more than fans cheering for our favorite athlete! Rather, we are active participants in Christ's tirumph. Just as his death was our death, so also his life is our life. Buried with Christ in baptism, our life is now hidden with him on high. The victory is ours, now and forever.

Easter is more than a day. It is an entire joyful season. The six solemn weeks of Lent are eclipsed by seven weeks of unbridled joy. These seven weeks correspond to the period of fifty days on the Jewish calendar between Passover and Pentecost. The Church reserves its highest praise for the Easter season. We do not merely watch from the sidelines as Christ marches in victory over sin, death, Satan, and hell. We join in the festal procession!

THEME OF THE DAY

IDENTITY IN CHRIST MARCHES VICTORIOUS OVER ALL FLAWED IDENTITIES

It is natural for the human beings God has made to pursue a healthy sense of self. We want to know who we are. We want to be confident of the basis of our value. Unfortunately, our fallen nature and the fallen world point us in the wrong direction in that pursuit. Lent's call to self-denial and repentance has prepared us for Easter. Christ's empty tomb is proof that an identity buried with Jesus far surpasses any identity we could hope to discover within ourselves.

FIRST READING

Exodus 15:1-11 - After the Lord's smashing victory in behalf of his people at the Red Sea, Moses and Miriam lead God's people in song.

SECOND READING

Colossians 3:1-4 - Joined to Christ's death and resurrection through baptism, we have been raised with Christ. Our real life is all wrapped up in him. Our minds also focus on the things of God rather than earthly things, and we await the glorious day when we will see him who is our life and share in his splendor.

GOSPEL

*** John 20:1-18 - Mary Magdalene, Peter, and John find the tomb empty. Jesus appears to Mary and brings her out of dejected gloom into the living hope and joy of knowing that our Savior is alive, our salvation accomplished, and our daily and eternal needs are all met—in Jesus Christ the Righteous One.

Conservative:

Ambitious:

local choice

local choice

Opening Hymn:

466 - Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

Psalm of the Day:

Psalm 118A

Gospel Acclamation Proper Verse:

For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. (1 Corinthians 15:22)

Gospel Acclamation setting:

Additional Settings

Easter - Set 1 - Year C

by Fintan O'Carroll

Hymn of the Day:

443 - Awake, My Heart, with Gladness

Third Hymn or Distribution Hymn:

445 - He's Risen, He's Risen

or

*957 - Rejoice, Angelic Choirs, Rejoice

Closing Hymn:

450 - The Day of Resurrection

Optional New Hymns, perhaps requiring advance preparation/cantors:

453 - The Tomb Is Empty

451 - See, What a Morning

Notes for the conservative service:

*957 - optional use and a good fit if the congregation has a paschal candle (st. 3) and if the congregation has not made use of this Exsultet at an Easter Vigil the previous evening

Notes for the ambitious service:

453 - as a new hymn, this would likely require choral introduction; the hymnal pew layout is tune only, but if the congregation sings only the refrain at first, they would have to come in on a pickup note

451 - new but not a huge challenge; choir or cantors should help as it is introduced to congregation as a new tune



4/17/2022 - Easter

SERIES THEME

VICTORIOUS

To the world he seemed like a defeated man: opposed and killed by his enemies, his followers scattered in fear. Yet three days after Jesus' death he rose victorious from the dead. Nothing would ever be the same. The rest of eternity is now a victory march for the risen Christ. During Easter, we should not think of ourselves as passive observers in Christ's victory. We are more than fans cheering for our favorite athlete! Rather, we are active participants in Christ's tirumph. Just as his death was our death, so also his life is our life. Buried with Christ in baptism, our life is now hidden with him on high. The victory is ours, now and forever.

Easter is more than a day. It is an entire joyful season. The six solemn weeks of Lent are eclipsed by seven weeks of unbridled joy. These seven weeks correspond to the period of fifty days on the Jewish calendar between Passover and Pentecost. The Church reserves its highest praise for the Easter season. We do not merely watch from the sidelines as Christ marches in victory over sin, death, Satan, and hell. We join in the festal procession!

THEME OF THE DAY

LIFE MARCHES VICTORIOUS OVER DEATH

Death hung like a suffocating shroud over us all. It was a constant source of sorrow and shame. Death doesn't just bring life to an end. The impending threat of death spoils every moment of life that leads up to it. The moment Christ emerged from the tomb, however, nothing would be the same. Life was unleashed on humanity and it will reign until death and its effects are no more. The salvation Christ brings is not just a rescue from a world gone bad but a resurrection to a world that will once again be good. Christ's victory restores life to us even now. Even as we continue to wipe the tears that death causes, we can defiantly taunt this fallen tyrant: Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

FIRST READING

Isaiah 25:6-9 - The Lord has taken away our disgrace, torn up the shroud of death, and promised us an eternal feast.

SECOND READING

*** 1 Corinthians 15:51-57 - Death has been swallowed up in victory.

GOSPEL

Luke 24:1-12 - The account of Christ's Easter victory.

Conservative:

Setting 3

organ and brass or piano and instruments

Ambitious:

Setting 2 organ and brass

or piano and instruments

Opening Hymn:

441 - I Know That My Redeemer Lives

Psalm of the Day:

Psalm 16A

Gospel Acclamation Proper Verse:

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. (Psalm 118:24 CSB)

Gospel Acclamation setting:

Setting 3

or

Additional Settings

Easter - Set 1 - Year C

by Fintan O'Carroll

Hymn of the Day:

439/440 - Christ Jesus Lay In Death's Strong Bands

Third Hymn or Distribution Hymn:

471 - Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

Closing Hymn:

438 - Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

Optional New Hymns, perhaps requiring advance preparation/cantors:

460 - Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven

Notes for the conservative service:

460 - New to CW21 but been around for a long time and tune is very familiar



4/24/2022 - Second Sunday of Easter

SERIES THEME

VICTORIOUS

To the world he seemed like a defeated man: opposed and killed by his enemies, his followers scattered in fear. Yet three days after Jesus' death he rose victorious from the dead. Nothing would ever be the same. The rest of eternity is now a victory march for the risen Christ. During Easter, we should not think of ourselves as passive observers in Christ's victory. We are more than fans cheering for our favorite athlete! Rather, we are active participants in Christ's tirumph. Just as his death was our death, so also his life is our life. Buried with Christ in baptism, our life is now hidden with him on high. The victory is ours, now and forever.

Easter is more than a day. It is an entire joyful season. The six solemn weeks of Lent are eclipsed by seven weeks of unbridled joy. These seven weeks correspond to the period of fifty days on the Jewish calendar between Passover and Pentecost. The Church reserves its highest praise for the Easter season. We do not merely watch from the sidelines as Christ marches in victory over sin, death, Satan, and hell. We join in the festal procession!

THEME OF THE DAY

WITNESS MARCHES VICTORIOUS OVER RESTRAINT

The good news of the risen Christ is bigger than a single day. The Easter gospel will continue to march across centuries and continents. However, there will always be forces that try to slow that march. Those forces could be self-inflected fears and doubts (Gospel). They could be various types of persecutions (First and Second Reading). Whatever the case, the good news of Easter will not be restrained. For it is not some myth or fable, not a hoax or conspiracy. The reality of Easter rests on the testimony of eyewitnesses. Therefore, the gospel cannot be boxed in any more than Christ could be put back in a tomb. Many may try and restrain the good news of Christ. But the march of the Church's witness will never slow down.

FIRST READING

Acts 5:12,17-32 - The disciples served as witnesses of Christ's resurrection, but some wanted to restrain the spread of the gospel.

SECOND READING

Revelation 1:4-18 - The risen Savior promises to be with his churches as they share the light of the gospel in the midst of a persecution.

GOSPEL

*** John 20:19-31 - The Easter gospel is based on the written testimony of eyewitnesses of the risen Christ. As we read that testimony, the Spirit enables us who are not eyewitnesses to also believe.

Conservative:

Ambitious:

Setting 3

Setting 3

Opening Hymn:

510 - In Christ Alone

Psalm of the Day:

Psalm 150A

Gospel Acclamation Proper Verse:

Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. (John 20:29b)

Gospel Acclamation setting:

Setting 3

or

Additional Settings

Easter - Set 1 - Year C

by Fintan O'Carroll

Hymn of the Day:

456/457 - O Sons and Daughters of the King

Third Hymn or Distribution Hymn:

442 - Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia

Closing Hymn:

448 - Now Let the Heavens Be Joyful

Optional New Hymns, perhaps requiring advance preparation/cantors:

Psalm 150A should be introduced

447 - Christ Is Risen, He Is Risen Indeed

448 - Now Let the Heavens Be Joyful

468 - These Things Did Thomas Count as Real

Notes for the conservative service:

448 - was in LAPPY, probably new tune for most but pretty straightforward

Notes for the ambitious service:

447 - new tune

468 - new tune



5/1/2022 - Third Sunday of Easter

SERIES THEME

VICTORIOUS

To the world he seemed like a defeated man: opposed and killed by his enemies, his followers scattered in fear. Yet three days after Jesus' death he rose victorious from the dead. Nothing would ever be the same. The rest of eternity is now a victory march for the risen Christ. During Easter, we should not think of ourselves as passive observers in Christ's victory. We are more than fans cheering for our favorite athlete! Rather, we are active participants in Christ's tirumph. Just as his death was our death, so also his life is our life. Buried with Christ in baptism, our life is now hidden with him on high. The victory is ours, now and forever.

Easter is more than a day. It is an entire joyful season. The six solemn weeks of Lent are eclipsed by seven weeks of unbridled joy. These seven weeks correspond to the period of fifty days on the Jewish calendar between Passover and Pentecost. The Church reserves its highest praise for the Easter season. We do not merely watch from the sidelines as Christ marches in victory over sin, death, Satan, and hell. We join in the festal procession!

THEME OF THE DAY

SIGHT MARCHES VICTORIOUS OVER BLINDNESS

A recent survey asked Americans which of the five senses they would least like to lose. 77% chose sight. Navigating life blind poses a plethora of challenges that the sighted do not face. This is why Scripture often uses the concept of blindness as a metaphor for how hard it is to navigate life without a correct understanding of Christ. Spiritual blindness can take many different forms. In some cases, it is hostile opposition to the message of Jesus. In others, spiritual blindness might be demonstrated in confusion about Jesus' true identity. No matter the specific form spiritual blindness takes, Easter has the power to replace it with sight. Easter allows us to see where we sinners stand with a holy God. It enables us to see the path though life that is worth pursuing (as opposed to those that lead to a dead end). Spiritual sight gives us the ability to see who holds our future in his hands and who is worth our eternal worship.

FIRST READING

Acts 9:1-22 - To get his attention, Jesus struck Saul blind. Then he not only restored Saul's physical sight but also gave Saul spiritual sight. Saul was given faith in the One who had risen from the dead.

SECOND READING

*** Revelation 5:11-14 - While in exile on the island of Patmos, St. John was given special sight, the ability to see the sacrifical Lamb who is worthy of our worship and praise.

GOSPEL

John 21:1-14 - Many of the disciples first met Jesus while fishing near the Sea of Galilee. At the time they were spiritually blind, not fully realizing who Jesus was. The resurrected Jesus now appears again to these disciples while they are fishing, and this time they see him clearly through eyes of faith.

Conservative:

Ambitious:

Setting 3

Setting 3

Opening Hymn:

512 - All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Psalm of the Day:

Psalm 30A

Gospel Acclamation Proper Verse:

Christ Jesus has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. (2 Timothy 1:10)

Gospel Acclamation setting:

Setting 3

or

Additional Settings

Easter - Set 1 - Year C

by Fintan O'Carroll

Hymn of the Day:

459 - Christ the Lord is Risen Again

Third Hymn or Distribution Hymn:

*675 - At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

Closing Hymn:

885 - There Is a Higher Throne

Optional New Hymns, perhaps requiring advance preparation/cantors:

454 - Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen

Notes for the conservative service:

454 - CW93 tune but may not be well known; imagery fits the sermon text



5/8/2022 - Fourth Sunday of Easter

SERIES THEME

VICTORIOUS

To the world he seemed like a defeated man: opposed and killed by his enemies, his followers scattered in fear. Yet three days after Jesus' death he rose victorious from the dead. Nothing would ever be the same. The rest of eternity is now a victory march for the risen Christ. During Easter, we should not think of ourselves as passive observers in Christ's victory. We are more than fans cheering for our favorite athlete! Rather, we are active participants in Christ's tirumph. Just as his death was our death, so also his life is our life. Buried with Christ in baptism, our life is now hidden with him on high. The victory is ours, now and forever.

Easter is more than a day. It is an entire joyful season. The six solemn weeks of Lent are eclipsed by seven weeks of unbridled joy. These seven weeks correspond to the period of fifty days on the Jewish calendar between Passover and Pentecost. The Church reserves its highest praise for the Easter season. We do not merely watch from the sidelines as Christ marches in victory over sin, death, Satan, and hell. We join in the festal procession!

THEME OF THE DAY

FULFILLED WORKS MARCH VICTORIOUS OVER EMPTY WORDS

The world is full of talkers. There are plenty of people who say they care about you. But we are aware of what many of those people will do when it comes time to put those words into action. Jesus tells you in his Word that he cares for you dearly... that he would do anything for you. How do you know you can trust him? Jesus followed up his words with works. Jesus said he would suffer and die for you, so that you might enter Paradise. He fulfilled that promise. Jesus words are followed by works. He once illustrated that point in a striking metaphor, that of the Good Shepherd. All shepherds use words, calling to the sheep hoping they will follow. What sets the Good Shepherd apart is the fact that his words are followed by his works, including his willingness to lay down his life. Every word our Good Shepherd speaks to us is trustworthy!

FIRST READING

Acts 13:15-16a, 26-39 - St. Paul points out that Jesus' death and resurrection both fulfilled the Scripture. They prove not only that we are forgiven, but also that every promise God makes to us shall ultimately be fulfilled.

SECOND READING

Revelation 7:9-17 - God's promise to rescue all believers from the tribulation of this world is not just empty words. St. John sees that promise fulfilled through the work of the Lamb.

GOSPEL

*** John 10:22-30 - Both Jesus words and his works are identical to that of the Father, for he and the Father are one. Therefore, the protecting hand of the Good Shepherd is almighty.

Conservative:

Ambitious:

Setting 3

Setting 3

Opening Hymn:

888 - Here from All Nations

Psalm of the Day:

Psalm 23A

Gospel Acclamation Proper Verse:

I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me. (John 10:14)

Gospel Acclamation setting:

Setting 3

or

Additional Settings

Easter - Set 1 - Year C

by Fintan O'Carroll

Hymn of the Day:

552 - The King of Love My Shepherd Is

Third Hymn or Distribution Hymn:

551 - Jesus, Shepherd of the Sheep

Closing Hymn:

889 - Jerusalem the Golden

Optional New Hymns, perhaps requiring advance preparation/cantors:

554 - The Lord's My Shepherd

Notes for the conservative service:

554 - Townend's hymn on Ps 23 has a simple melody and likely will become a favorite

888 - Tune is in the new hymnal four times and was in TLH so it should be ok without choral introduction



5/15/2022 - Fifth Sunday of Easter

SERIES THEME

VICTORIOUS

To the world he seemed like a defeated man: opposed and killed by his enemies, his followers scattered in fear. Yet three days after Jesus' death he rose victorious from the dead. Nothing would ever be the same. The rest of eternity is now a victory march for the risen Christ. During Easter, we should not think of ourselves as passive observers in Christ's victory. We are more than fans cheering for our favorite athlete! Rather, we are active participants in Christ's tirumph. Just as his death was our death, so also his life is our life. Buried with Christ in baptism, our life is now hidden with him on high. The victory is ours, now and forever.

Easter is more than a day. It is an entire joyful season. The six solemn weeks of Lent are eclipsed by seven weeks of unbridled joy. These seven weeks correspond to the period of fifty days on the Jewish calendar between Passover and Pentecost. The Church reserves its highest praise for the Easter season. We do not merely watch from the sidelines as Christ marches in victory over sin, death, Satan, and hell. We join in the festal procession!

THEME OF THE DAY

SELFLESS LOVE MARCHES VICTORIOUS OVER SELF-GLORIFICATION

The disciples argued among themselves about who was "greatest" (Luke 22:24). We are not immune from such hubris. Sinful man is entirely self-focused. We often try and prove our goodness by comparing ourselves to others. You see this sense of superiority in the way we prioritize life, typically putting our wants ahead of others. Easter ends this focus on self. Right now, we know we have value, not because of the greatness of our actions, but because of the great things Christ did to save. We also know a resurrection to glory is in our future. Easter helps us avoid the trap of self-glorification and opens our eyes to a more excellent way: selfless love. Christ did not glorify himself, but selflessly did everything for the benefit of others. This week, he promises to be our inexhaustible power supply that we might also put selfless love into practice.

FIRST READING

Acts 11:1-18 - God overcomes Peter's self-glorification by teaching Peter that God does not show favoritism but rather selfless love to both Jew and Gentile.

SECOND READING

*** 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 - If anything is the defining mark of Christians, it is not the spiritiual gifts that they possess. It is the love at work as they put those gifts into practice.

GOSPEL

John 13:31-35 - The Father has glorified the Son. Christ shares that glory with us and commands us to show others the same selfless love he has shown us.

Conservative:

Ambitious:

Setting 4

Setting 3

Opening Hymn:

730 - Blest Be the Tie That Binds

Psalm of the Day:

Psalm 145A

Gospel Acclamation Proper Verse:

We know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. (1 John 4:16)

Gospel Acclamation setting:

Setting 4

Setting 3

Additional Settings

Easter - Set 1 - Year C

by Howard Hughes

Hymn of the Day:

469 - Welcome, Happy Morning

Third Hymn or Distribution Hymn:

*667 - Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared

Closing Hymn:

731 - Oh, How Good It Is

or

726 - Love in Christ Is Strong and Living

Optional New Hymns, perhaps requiring advance preparation/cantors:

727 - Where Charity and Love Prevail

Notes for the conservative service:

Setting 4 Kyrie and GA are new at this point



5/22/2022 - Sixth Sunday of Easter

SERIES THEME

VICTORIOUS

To the world he seemed like a defeated man: opposed and killed by his enemies, his followers scattered in fear. Yet three days after Jesus' death he rose victorious from the dead. Nothing would ever be the same. The rest of eternity is now a victory march for the risen Christ. During Easter, we should not think of ourselves as passive observers in Christ's victory. We are more than fans cheering for our favorite athlete! Rather, we are active participants in Christ's tirumph. Just as his death was our death, so also his life is our life. Buried with Christ in baptism, our life is now hidden with him on high. The victory is ours, now and forever.

Easter is more than a day. It is an entire joyful season. The six solemn weeks of Lent are eclipsed by seven weeks of unbridled joy. These seven weeks correspond to the period of fifty days on the Jewish calendar between Passover and Pentecost. The Church reserves its highest praise for the Easter season. We do not merely watch from the sidelines as Christ marches in victory over sin, death, Satan, and hell. We join in the festal procession!

THEME OF THE DAY

JOY MARCHES VICTORIOUS OVER CIRCUMSTANCE

Conventional wisdom says that joy is a direct result of circumstance. Our disposition is nothing more than a product of the events, conditions, and relationships of which our life consists. Therefore, it would seem that for our disposition to change, our circumstances need to change. But Jesus offers us a joy that is superior. It is not a product of circumstance; it's a product of Easter. Easter proves that God can take what normally causes people to weep and turn it into what causes people to rejoice. Sin, death, and shame went into Jesus' tomb. Forgiveness, life, and glory came out. Our risen Savior gives us a joy that remains constant in the highest of life's highs and the lowest of life's lows. It is a joy that can never be taken from us.

FIRST READING

Acts 14:8-22 - As a witness of Christ's resurrection, Paul's joy and his ministry were unaffected by circumstance.

SECOND READING

*** Revelation 21:21-27 - The great joy we have now will soon be made perfect and complete.

GOSPEL

John 16:16-24 - Jesus promises that all our grief will be turned to perfect joy.

Conservative:

Ambitious:

Setting 4

Setting 3

Opening Hymn:

887 - Oh, What Their Joy

Psalm of the Day:

Psalm 65A

Gospel Acclamation Proper Verse:

Weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning. (Psalm 30:5)

Gospel Acclamation setting:

Setting 4

Setting 3

Additional Settings

Easter - Set 1 - Year C

by Howard Hughes

Hymn of the Day:

557 - Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice

Third Hymn or Distribution Hymn:

713 - I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Closing Hymn:

840:6,7 - All Men Living Are But Mortal

Optional New Hymns, perhaps requiring advance preparation/cantors:

829 - Take Heart

837 - When Will I Walk

Notes for the conservative service:

837 - new tune with a refrain

887 - reinforcing O QUANTA QUALIA, the opening hymn tune two weeks earlier

Notes for the ambitious service:

829 - new tune in 5/4 time



5/26/2022 - Ascension Thursday

SERIES THEME

VICTORIOUS

To the world he seemed like a defeated man: opposed and killed by his enemies, his followers scattered in fear. Yet three days after Jesus' death he rose victorious from the dead. Nothing would ever be the same. The rest of eternity is now a victory march for the risen Christ. During Easter, we should not think of ourselves as passive observers in Christ's victory. We are more than fans cheering for our favorite athlete! Rather, we are active participants in Christ's tirumph. Just as his death was our death, so also his life is our life. Buried with Christ in baptism, our life is now hidden with him on high. The victory is ours, now and forever.

Easter is more than a day. It is an entire joyful season. The six solemn weeks of Lent are eclipsed by seven weeks of unbridled joy. These seven weeks correspond to the period of fifty days on the Jewish calendar between Passover and Pentecost. The Church reserves its highest praise for the Easter season. We do not merely watch from the sidelines as Christ marches in victory over sin, death, Satan, and hell. We join in the festal procession!

THEME OF THE DAY

POWER FROM HEAVEN MARCHES VICTORIOUS TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

When the Church gathers, it regularly remembers Christ's ascension. The words "He ascended into heaven" are found in all three ecumenical creeds which we use to confess our faith. In addition, the Church sets aside a day each year on which this event takes center stage. This is for good reason. Jesus' ascenion marked the fact that his work was complete. Never again will a sacrifice for sin need to be made. However, Jesus' ascension also marks that his work is just beginning. Through the Church Jesus now proclaims forgiveness throughout the world. The Church consists of people like us who are often weak and timid witnesses for Christ. So Jesus promised to send us his Spirit to give us power from heaven, that we might take the gospel to the ends of the earth.

FIRST READING

*** Acts 1:1-11 - Jesus ascends to rule over all things as his Church serves as his witnesses.

SECOND READING

Revelation 19:11-16 - St. John sees the ascended Lord as a warrior riding on a white horse fighting against all those who oppose Christ's gospel and his Church.

GOSPEL

Luke 24:44-53 - Before he ascends, Jesus promises to send the disciples power from heaven to carry out his mission.

Conservative:

Evening Prayer or The Service (hymn tune canticles) with Evening Canticles

Ambitious:

Evening Prayer or The Service (hymn tune canticles) with Evening Canticles

Opening Hymn:

474 - Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise

Psalm of the Day:

Psalm 47A

Gospel Acclamation Proper Verse:

Surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age. (Matthew 28:20b)

Gospel Acclamation setting:

Additional Settings Easter - Set 1 - Year C by Howard Hughes

Hymn of the Day:

472 - A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

Third Hymn or Distribution Hymn:

747 - Christ High-Ascended

Closing Hymn:

476 - On Christ's Ascension I Now Build

Optional New Hymns, perhaps requiring advance preparation/cantors:

473 - Look, Ye Saints, the Sight Is Glorious

Notes for the conservative service:

473 - new tune

Notes for the ambitious service:

474 - The Accompaniment for Hymns has a setting of this hymn in 3/4 at #465



5/29/2022 - Seventh/Final Sunday of Easter

SERIES THEME

VICTORIOUS

To the world he seemed like a defeated man: opposed and killed by his enemies, his followers scattered in fear. Yet three days after Jesus' death he rose victorious from the dead. Nothing would ever be the same. The rest of eternity is now a victory march for the risen Christ. During Easter, we should not think of ourselves as passive observers in Christ's victory. We are more than fans cheering for our favorite athlete! Rather, we are active participants in Christ's tirumph. Just as his death was our death, so also his life is our life. Buried with Christ in baptism, our life is now hidden with him on high. The victory is ours, now and forever.

Easter is more than a day. It is an entire joyful season. The six solemn weeks of Lent are eclipsed by seven weeks of unbridled joy. These seven weeks correspond to the period of fifty days on the Jewish calendar between Passover and Pentecost. The Church reserves its highest praise for the Easter season. We do not merely watch from the sidelines as Christ marches in victory over sin, death, Satan, and hell. We join in the festal procession!

THEME OF THE DAY

UNITY MARCHES VICTORIOUS IN DIVERSITY

When Jesus' followers gathered together, they comprised a group that was not very diverse. They all belonged to the same ethnic group, grew up in the same culture, and spoke the same language. That would change drastically on Pentecost, when the gospel would be proclaimed in many languages to people from "every nation under heaven" (Acts 1:5). This diversity has always been part of Christ's plan. Rather than eliminating differences among the Church's members, the Church's unity is built on truths that transcends those differences. The Church truly is a communion of saints. Differences in our world often lead to division. Therefore, when the world sees the unity in diversity that characterizes Christ's Church, it will recognize something unique and special about Christians.

FIRST READING

Acts 16:6-10 - The ascended Lord directs Paul to leave Asia and preach the gopsel for the first time in a territory that today we call Europe.

SECOND READING

Revelation 22:12-17,20 - St. John sees individuals of every nation, tribe, language, and people in heaven. They are perfectly united in the fact that all are wearing the robe of Christ's righteousness.

GOSPEL

*** John 17:20-26 - Jesus prays that all his followers might be one, just as he and the Father are one.

ORDER OF SERVICE Conservative: Ambitious: Setting 4 Setting 3 Opening Hymn: 697 - May We Your Precepts, Lord, Fulfill Psalm of the Day:

Psalm 133A

Gospel Acclamation Proper Verse:

I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. (John 14:18)

Gospel Acclamation setting:

Setting 4

Setting 3

Set 1 - Year C by Howard Hughes

Hymn of the Day:

446 - Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense

Third Hymn or Distribution Hymn:

*861 - Lord Jesus Christ, the Church's Head

Closing Hymn:

884 - Lord, When Your Glory I Shall See

Optional New Hymns, perhaps requiring advance preparation/cantors:

Notes for the conservative service:



6/5/2022 - Day of Pentecost

SERIES THEME

VICTORIOUS

To the world he seemed like a defeated man: opposed and killed by his enemies, his followers scattered in fear. Yet three days after Jesus' death he rose victorious from the dead. Nothing would ever be the same. The rest of eternity is now a victory march for the risen Christ. During Easter, we should not think of ourselves as passive observers in Christ's victory. We are more than fans cheering for our favorite athlete! Rather, we are active participants in Christ's tirumph. Just as his death was our death, so also his life is our life. Buried with Christ in baptism, our life is now hidden with him on high. The victory is ours, now and forever.

Easter is more than a day. It is an entire joyful season. The six solemn weeks of Lent are eclipsed by seven weeks of unbridled joy. These seven weeks correspond to the period of fifty days on the Jewish calendar between Passover and Pentecost. The Church reserves its highest praise for the Easter season. We do not merely watch from the sidelines as Christ marches in victory over sin, death, Satan, and hell. We join in the festal procession!

THEME OF THE DAY

THE SPIRIT MARCHES VICTORIOUS THROUGH THE WORD

Jesus ascended into heaven. That does not mean the gospel has ceased to march victorious around the world! Jesus promised to send another advocate to represent God to the world: the Holy Spirit. The Spirit is the constant companion of believers in these Last Days. This raises an important question. If God now reveals himself by his Spirit, where is the Holy Spirit found? God has not left the answer to that question in doubt. When Jesus promised to send the Spirit, he indicated that his work would be connected to words, specifically God's Word. As a result, we need never wonder where we can find the Spirit. He marches victorious through the Word.

FIRST READING

Genesis 11:1-9 - At Babel sin led to God confusing people's language. Grace would lead God to share the gospel in many languages on Pentecost.

SECOND READING

Acts 2:1-21 - On Pentecost the disciples proclaimed the gospel. Through their words the Holy Spirit unleashed his power.

GOSPEL

*** John 14:23-27 - Though his Word Jesus sends us the Holy Spirit and gives us peace.

Conservative:

Setting 4

Ambitious:

Setting 3 organ and brass or piano and instruments

Opening Hymn:

477 - O Day Full of Grace

Psalm of the Day:

Psalm 104A

Gospel Acclamation Proper Verse:

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful people, and kindle in them the fire of your love. (Antiphon for Pentecost)

Gospel Acclamation setting:

Festival of Pentecost by Liam Lawton

Hymn of the Day:

585 - Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord

Third Hymn or Distribution Hymn:

479 - God's Holy Spirit Came

Closing Hymn:

931 - Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name

Optional New Hymns, perhaps requiring advance preparation/cantors:

Gospel Acclamation - opening refrain and verse by cantors; cong has closing refrain

478 - When God the Spirit Came

Notes for the conservative service:

Notes for the ambitious service:

478 - VINEYARD HAVEN is a tune worth learning but it will take some work