

Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>

## Prelude

### Welcome and Announcements



### \*Call to Worship

Leader: Christ is risen!

**People: Christ is risen, indeed!**

Leader: God is alive, new birth is given.

**People: Hope is alive, a new age is dawning.**

Leader: Joy is alive, redemption is here.

**People: Love is alive, death cannot harm us.**

Leader: We are alive, new life is within us.

**People: The church is alive, God's spirit is within us.**

Leader: God of life, we worship you.

**People: God of creation, we praise you.**

Leader: God of revelation, we learn from you.

**People: God of resurrection, we come to celebrate you.**

### \*Hymn # 239 – Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!

### Call to Confession

#### Prayer of Confession

**O God, your love is boundless and your grace exceeds our imaginations. You keep finding ways to be among us, even when the doors of our hearts are locked. Graciously, you seek us out. We cannot hide, but we can confess that sin has us in its grip. It has led us from your ways and corrupted our best intentions, tempting us to believe that you don't notice, that you aren't even present. Correct our vision. Cleanse our hearts. Create in us a place where we can welcome you and receive the fullness of what you have given us in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

#### Assurance of Pardon

#### \*Passing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

#### Prayer of Illumination

#### Scripture: John 20:19-31

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

#### Sermon: Faith and Doubt

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**Affirmation of Faith:** The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Special Music**

**Prayers of the People**

**The 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**\*Hymn # 366 – Love Divine, All Loves Excelling**

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**\*Congregational Response: Hymn # # 243 – Be Not Afraid (x2)**

*Be not afraid; sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!*

*Be not afraid; sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!*

**Postlude**

# Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing! 239

1 Good Chris-tians all, re - joice and sing! Now is the tri - umph  
2 The Lord of life is risen to - day! Death's might - y stone is  
3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that life which  
4 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to - day with

of our King! To all the world glad news we bring:  
rolled a - way. Let all the earth re - joice and say:  
can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:  
one ac - cord the life laid down, the life re - stored:

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

This 20th-century Easter text is both a song of encouragement (stanzas 1–3 directed to the congregation) and a song of praise (stanza 4 addressed to the risen Christ), all ending with joyous alleluias. It was written specifically for the dancelike 17th-century tune found here.

TEXT: Cyril A. Alington, 1931, alt.

MUSIC: Melchior Vulpius, 1609; harm. *Pilgrim Hymnal*, 1958

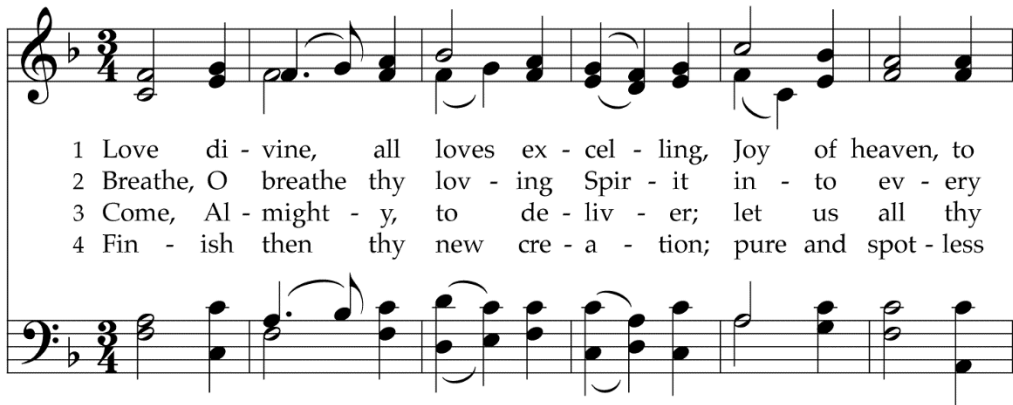
Text © 1958, ren. 1986 *Hymns Ancient & Modern* (admin. Hope Publishing Company)

GELOBT SEI GOTT

8.8.8 with alleluias

CHRIST'S RETURN AND JUDGMENT

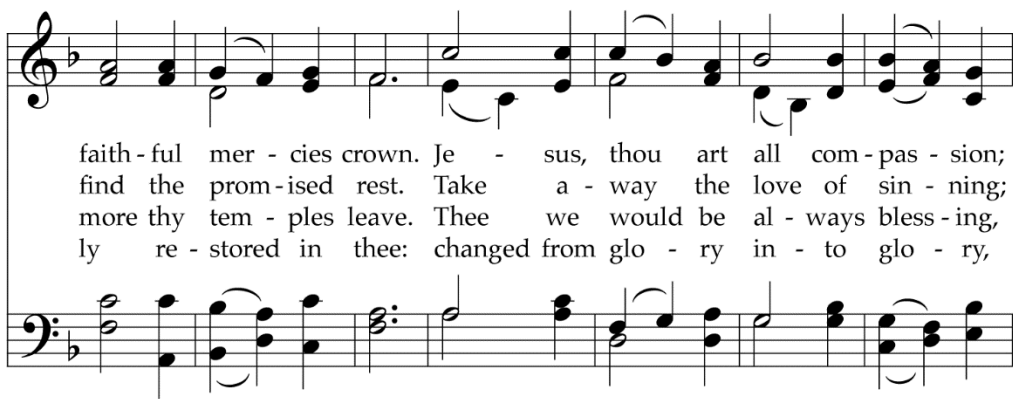
# 366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven, to  
2 Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery  
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy  
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less



earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing; all thy  
trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us  
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -  
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

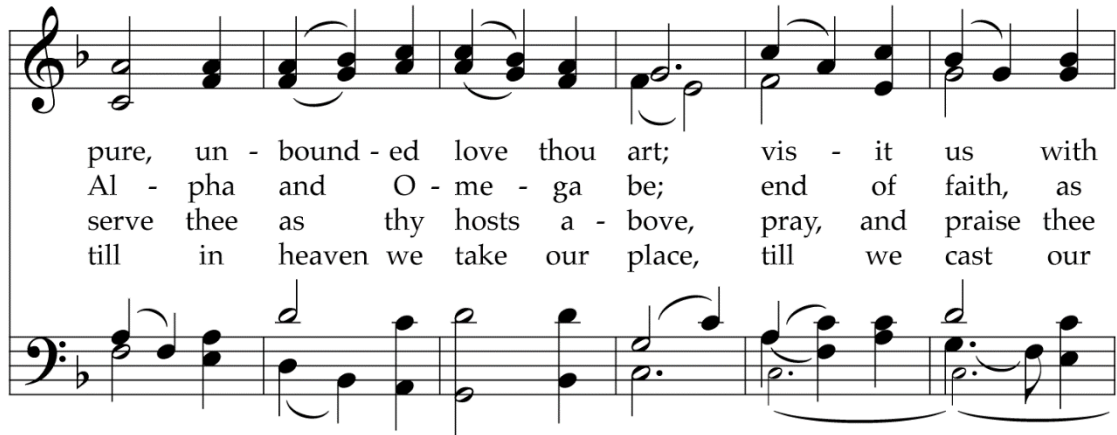


faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion;  
find the prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;  
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,  
ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

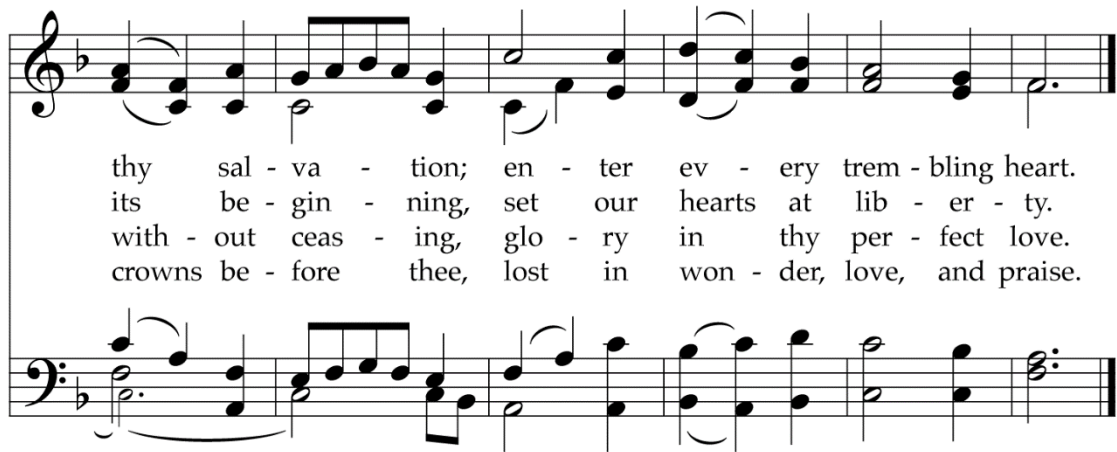
This text and this tune occur in almost all English-language hymnals (though not always together). The transforming power of love motivates the unending praise of the life to come, and this fine Welsh tune (whose name means "delightful") gives us a foretaste of endless song.

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CHRIST'S RETURN AND JUDGMENT



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with  
Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as  
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee  
till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion; en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.  
its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.  
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.