

EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

September 14, 2025

Opening Hymn

Lift High the Cross #881

Responsorial Psalm #1208

Psalm 78: Do not forget the works of the Lord!

Communion Hymns

Center of My Life #679

For God So Loved the World #580

Behold the Wood #514

Closing Hymn

Praise to You, O Christ, Our Savior #596

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; You take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; You are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord. You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, In the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God,
the Father Almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
He descended into hell;
on the third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Holy Catholic Church,
the communion of Saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen.

Readings

#1208

First Reading:
Numbers 21:4b-9

Second Reading:
Philippians 2:6-11

Gospel:
John 3:13-17



St. Michael the Archangel

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan, and all evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Opening Hymn

881 Lift High the Cross / Alcen la Cruz


Refrain



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim till
 Al - cen la cruz, em - ble - ma de su a - mor; que el

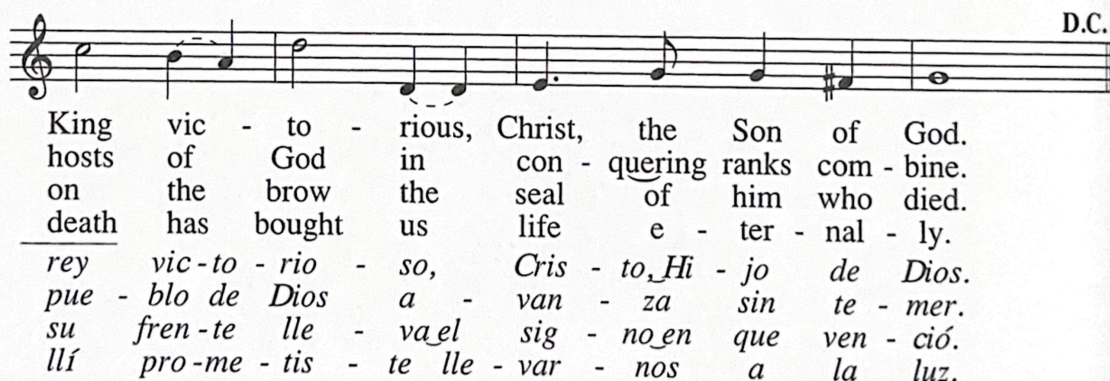
all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.
 mun-do al fin co - noz - ca al Sal - va - dor.

Verses



1. Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our Sav - ior trod, Our
 2. Led on their way by this tri - um - phant sign, The
 3. Each new - born ser - vant of the Cru - ci - fied Bears
 4. O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree, Your

1. Va - mos, cris - tia - nos, tras nues - tro Se - ñor; El
 2. Ba - jo es - te sig - no de su gran po - der El
 3. Ca - da cre - yen - te del que en cruz mu - rió En
 4. Cuan - do te al - za - ron glo - rio - so en la cruz, A -



King vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
 hosts of God in con - quering ranks com - bine.
 on the brow the seal of him who died.
 death has bought us life e - ter - nal - ly.

rey vic - to - rio - so, Cris - to, Hi - jo de Dios.
 pue - blo de Dios a - van - za sin te - mer.
 su fren - te lle - va el sig - no en que ven - ció.
 llí pro - me - tis - te lle - var - nos a la luz.

5. So shall our song of triumph ever be: 5. *Himnos de gloria alcemos sin cesar;*
 Praise to the Crucified for victory! *Al rey vencedor que en cruz supo triunfar.*

Text: 1 Corinthians 1:18; George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912, and Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956, alt.; tr. by Dimas Planas-Belfort, 1934–1992, and Ángel Mattos, alt.

Tune: CRUCIFER, 10 10 with refrain; Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947
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First Reading

Numbers 21:4b-9

With their patience worn out by the journey,
the people complained against God and Moses,
"Why have you brought us up from Egypt to die in this desert,
where there is no food or water?
We are disgusted with this wretched food!"

In punishment the LORD sent among the people saraph serpents,
which bit the people so that many of them died.
Then the people came to Moses and said,
"We have sinned in complaining against the LORD and you.
Pray the LORD to take the serpents from us."
So Moses prayed for the people, and the LORD said to Moses,
"Make a saraph and mount it on a pole,
and if any who have been bitten look at it, they will live."
Moses accordingly made a bronze serpent and mounted it on a pole,
and whenever anyone who had been bitten by a serpent
looked at the bronze serpent, he lived.

Responsorial Psalm

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38



Do not for - get the works of the Lord!

Give ear, my people, to my teaching;
incline your ear to the words of my
mouth.

I will open my mouth in a parable
and utter hidden lessons of the
past. *R.*

When he slew them, then they sought
him,
repented and earnestly sought God.
They would remember that God was
their rock,
God the Most High their
redeemer. *R.*

Yet they deceived him with their
mouths;
they lied to him with their tongues.
For their hearts were not steadfast
toward him;
they were not faithful to his
covenant. *R.*

Yet he who is full of compassion
forgave them their sin and spared
them.
So often he held back his anger,
and did not stir up all his rage. *R.*

Second Reading

Philippians 2:6-11

Brothers and sisters:
Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God something to be grasped.
Rather, he emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
coming in human likeness;
and found human in appearance,
he humbled himself,
becoming obedient to death,
even death on a cross.
Because of this, God greatly exalted him
and bestowed on him the name
that is above every name,
that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue confess that
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel

John 3:13-17

Jesus said to Nicodemus:
"No one has gone up to heaven
except the one who has come down from heaven, the Son of Man.
And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert,
so must the Son of Man be lifted up,
so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life."

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him might not perish
but might have eternal life.
For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world,
but that the world might be saved through him.

Communion Hymns

679 Center of My Life

Refrain



O Lord, you are the cen-ter of my life:



I will al-ways praise you, I will al-ways serve you,



I will al-ways keep you in my sight.

Verses 1-3



1. Keep me safe, O God, I take ref-uge in you. I
2. I will bless the Lord who gives me coun-sel, who
3. And so my heart re-joic-es, my soul is glad; 7



say to the Lord, "You are my God. My
e-ven at night di-rects my heart. I
e-ven in safe-ty shall my bod-y rest. For

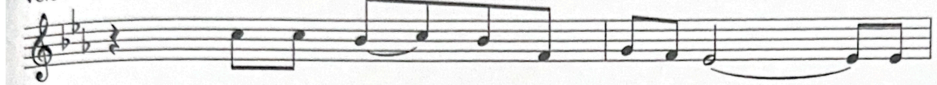


hap-pi-ness lies in you a-lone; my
keep the Lord ev-er in my sight: since
you will not leave my soul a-mong the dead, nor

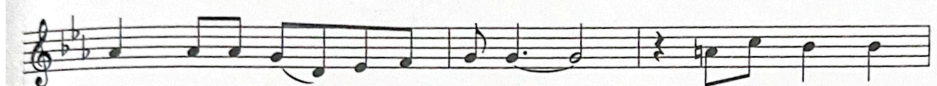


hap-pi-ness lies in you a-lone."
he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm.
let your be-lov-ed know de-cay.

Verse 4



4. You will show me the path of life, the



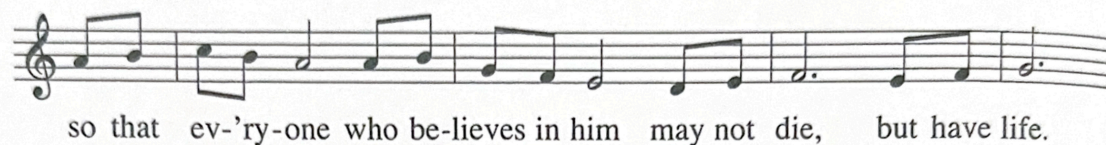
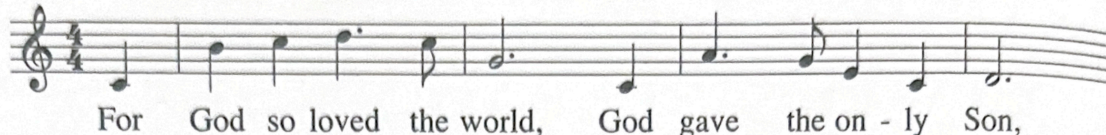
full-ness of joy in your pres-ence, at your right hand,



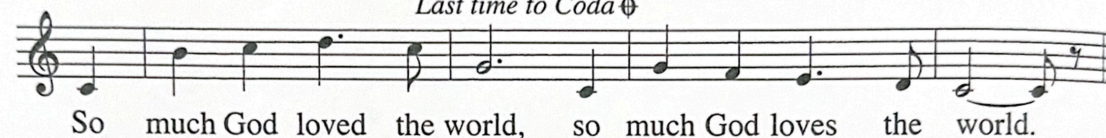
at your right hand hap-pi-ness for ev-er.

580 For God So Loved the World

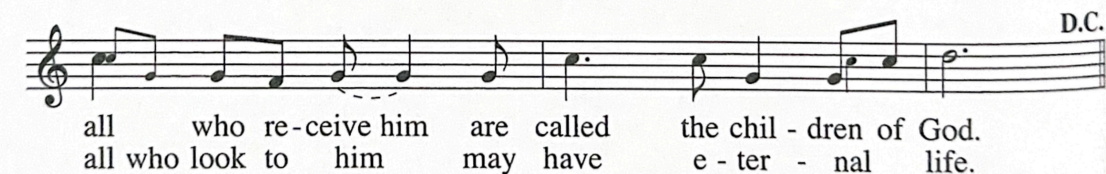
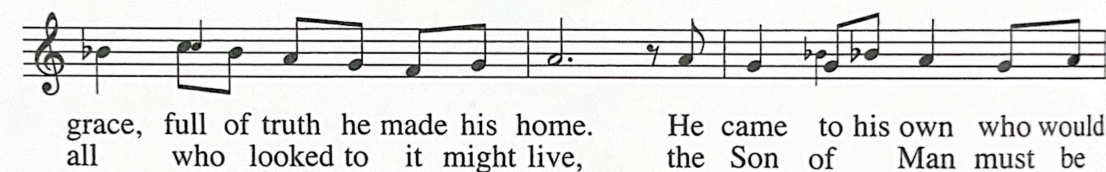
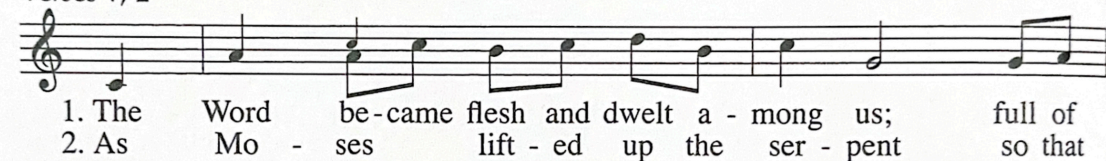
Refrain



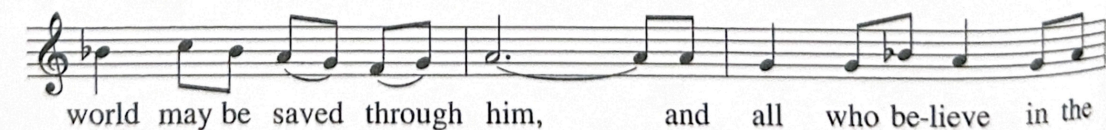
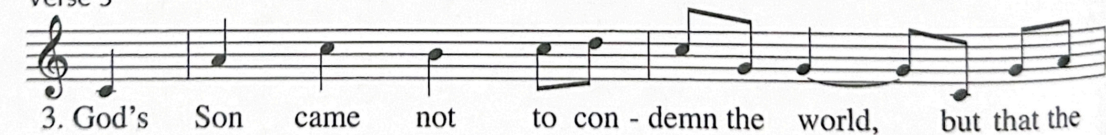
Last time to Coda ♪



Verses 1, 2



Verse 3



Son of God shall come to the light, and

live in the light, and dwell in the heart of God. D.C.

♢ Coda

much God loves the world, so much God

loves the world.

Text: John 1:11-12, 14, 3:14-17, 21; Marty Haugen, b. 1950, and Susan Briehl, b. 1952
Tune: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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Behold the Wood 514

Refrain

Be - hold, be - hold the wood of the
cross, on which is hung our sal - va - tion.
O come, let us a - dore.

Verses

1. Un - less a grain of wheat shall fall up -
2. And when my hour of glo - ry comes as
3. For there can be no great - er love
4. My Fa - ther, if it be your plan, this
5. For sure - ly he has borne our tears, is
6. My bod - y now is torn with pain, my
on the ground and die, it shall re - main but a
all was meant to be, & you shall see me
shown up - on this land than in the one who
cup might pass me by, yet let it hap - pen
wound - ed by our sin, and yet he o - pens
friends have left and gone. O lov - ing Fa - ther,

D.C.
sin - gle grain and not give life.
lift - ed up on a tree.
came to die that we might live.
as you will if I must die.
not his mouth that we might live.
take my life in - to your hands.

Closing Hymn

Praise to You, O Christ, Our Savior 596

Refrain

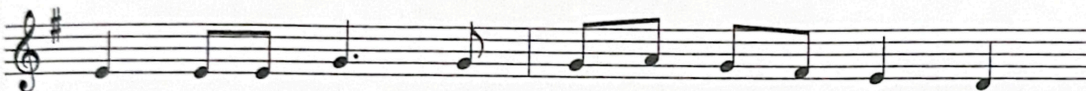


Praise to you, O Christ, our Sav-ior, Word of the Fa-ther, call-ing us to life;

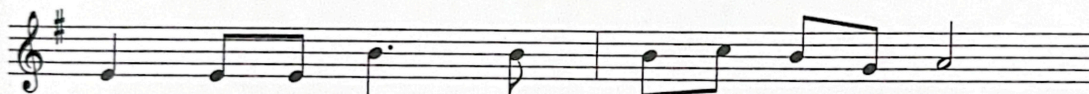


Son of God who leads us to free-dom: glo-ry to you, Lord Je-sus Christ!

Verses



1. You are the Word who calls us out of dark - ness;
2. You are the one whom proph - ets hoped and longed for;
3. You are the Word who calls us to be ser - vants;
4. You are the Word who binds us and u - nites us;



you are the Word who leads us in - to light;
 you are the one who speaks to us to - day;
 you are the Word whose on - ly law is love;
 you are the Word who calls us to be one;



you are the Word who brings us through the des - ert:
 you are the one who leads us to our fu - ture:
 you are the Word - made - flesh who lives a - mong us:
 you are the Word who teach - es us for - give - ness:



glo - ry to you, Lord Je - sus Christ!
 glo - ry to you, Lord Je - sus Christ!
 glo - ry to you, Lord Je - sus Christ!
 glo - ry to you, Lord Je - sus Christ!