

## **Alleluia, Sing to Jesus**

Alleluia! sing to Jesus! His the scepter, His the throne.  
Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone.  
Hark! the songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood.  
Jesus out of every nation has redeemed us by His blood.

Alleluia! not as orphans are we left in sorrow now;  
Alleluia! He is near us, faith believes, nor questions how;  
Though the cloud from sight received Him when the forty days were o'er  
Shall our hearts forget His promise, "I am with you evermore"?

Alleluia! bread of angels, here on earth our food, our stay;  
Alleluia! here the sinful flee to You from day to day:  
Intercessor, Friend of sinners, Earth's Redeemer, hear our plea,  
Where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluia! King eternal, Lord omnipotent we own;  
Alleluia! born of Mary, Earth Your footstool, Heav'n Your throne:  
As within the veil You entered, robed in flesh our great High Priest;  
Here on earth both priest and victim in the Eucharistic feast.

### **Stanza 1**

It's all about Jesus. His the scepter, His the throne, confesses Matthew 28: all power and authority are given to the Crucified One (the King of the Jews - confessed as King upon the Cross) who has been raised from the dead, so that He is seated at the right hand of God far above all principalities and powers and any name that can be named in this age or in the age to come (Eph 1-2).

His the triumph: Revelation 1 where He introduces Himself as the One who lives and was dead and is alive forevermore and who has the keys of death and hades.

Songs of Zion - Isaiah 35:10. The Church is a singing people as she heads home and the constant theme of her song is the blood of Jesus that redeems her. She sings the blood.

### **Stanza 2 & 3 - Heading toward the Eucharist**

John 14:18 - not as Orphans, I will come to you. (How? In the Eucharist!)

Acts 1:9 - the cloud at the end of the 40 days - the Ascension is not a barrier to His keeping His promise - He who has ALL power and can cause His body and blood to be present wherever He chooses.

Matthew 28:20 He who makes the promise, keeps the promise. Not with some piece of Him, He the God-Man is with us forever.

How? Bread of heaven (John 6); originally “bread of angels” referring to the Manna (see Psalm 78:25). Who is Christ? Intercessor (Romans 8:33; Hebrews 7:25); Friend of sinners (Lk 15:2 “This man receives sinners *and eats with them.*”); Earth’s Redeemer (Job 19), who hears and receives our prayers. As we’re about to see, He liturgizes for us before the Father.

#### **Stanza 4**

King eternal: promise to Mary in Luke 1 reigns forever; Lord omnipotent (Rev. 19:6,7; also Rev. 1); Born of Mary - anchors everything said about Christ in the flesh. Earth the footstool, heaven the throne - from the Psalms, repeated picture of Yahweh. He unites heaven and earth, brings heaven down to earth so that earth can rise up to heaven. Within the veil - picture of the tabernacle - the real offering of Christ’s own life our Great High Priest (Hebrews 7:25-8:2 - Christ the liturgist in the heavenlies); Priest (the one who offers) and the Victim (the One who is offered - see 1 John 2:1): The words of institution.

Krauth’s brilliant insight:

Man offers to God, this is sacrifice. God gives back to man; this is sacrament. The oblation or thing offered up supplies both the sacrifice and the sacrament, but with this difference, that under the Old Dispensation, God receive part and man received part; but under the New, God receives all and gives back all: Jesus Christ, in His own divine person, makes that complete which was narrowed under the Old Covenant by the necessary limitations of mere matter.

Sasse:

Ever since that hour when, in the celebration of the first Supper on the night when he was betrayed, Jesus Christ, the incarnate Word of the Father, as at once the High Priest and the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, distributed his true body and blood to his circle of disciples under bread and wine, thereby making them members of his body and bestowing on them

forgiveness of sins along with life and salvation, *the heart of the church has been beating in the Lord's Supper.* -- Hermann Sasse, \*Lonely Way\* I:425

Luther:

Priest is a strong and lovely word. There is no lovelier or sweeter name on earth. It is much better to hear that Christ is called 'Priest,' than Lord, or any other name. Priesthood is a spiritual power which means no other than that the priest steps forth, and takes all the iniquities of the people upon himself as though they were his very own. He intercedes with God for them and receives from Him the Word with which he can comfort and help the people.... He offered Himself once for all, so that He is Himself both Priest and Sacrifice and the Altar is the Cross. No more precious sacrifice could He offer to God than He gave Himself to be slain and consumed in the fire of love. That is the true sacrifice. -- Exposition of Genesis XIV (Day by Day, p. 151)

### **Various related Scriptures:**

Revelation 5:

5:1 Then I saw in the right hand of him who was seated on the throne a scroll written within and on the back, sealed with seven seals. 2 And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?" 3 And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it, 4 and I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. 5 And one of the elders said to me, "Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals."

6 And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. 7 And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne. 8 And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. 9 And they sang a new song, saying,

"Worthy are you to take the scroll  
and to open its seals,  
for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God  
from every tribe and language and people and nation,

10 and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God,  
and they shall reign on the earth.”

11 Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, 12 saying with a loud voice, “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!” 13 And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, “To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!” 14 And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” and the elders fell down and worshiped.

Rev. 7:

9 After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, 10 and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!” 11 And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, 12 saying, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

13 Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?” 14 I said to him, “Sir, you know.” And he said to me, “These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

15 “Therefore they are before the throne of God,  
and serve him day and night in his temple;  
and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence.  
16 They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore;  
the sun shall not strike them,  
nor any scorching heat.  
17 For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd,  
and he will guide them to springs of living water,  
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”  
Redemption Through the Blood of Christ

## Hebrews 9

11 But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, [1] then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) 12 he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. 13 For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify [2] for the purification of the flesh, 14 how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our [3] conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

## Hebrews 9:23-28

23 Thus it was necessary for the copies of the heavenly things to be purified with these rites, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. 24 For Christ has entered, not into holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true things, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. 25 Nor was it to offer himself repeatedly, as the high priest enters the holy places every year with blood not his own, 26 for then he would have had to suffer repeatedly since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. 27 And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, 28 so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

11 And every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. 12 But when Christ [1] had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, 13 waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet. 14 For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.

## Hebrews 10:19-25

19 Therefore, brothers, [2] since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, 20 by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, 21 and since we have a great priest over the house of God, 22 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. 23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. 24 And let us consider how to stir up one another to

love and good works, 25 not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

#### Heb 12

22 But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, 23 and to the assembly [1] of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, 24 and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

25 See that you do not refuse him who is speaking. For if they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less will we escape if we reject him who warns from heaven. 26 At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.” 27 This phrase, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of things that are shaken—that is, things that have been made—in order that the things that cannot be shaken may remain. 28 Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, 29 for our God is a consuming fire.