

Third Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 7, 2021

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
215 N. Warren St.
Orwigsburg, PA
570-366-2316

www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org

GATHERING

PRELUDE

"The Old Rugged Cross"

R. Wilson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EXHORTATION

Trusting in God's mercy, we gather in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

As disciples of the Lord Jesus, we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from the love of God and neighbor. Prayer, fasting, and works of love—the discipline of Lent—help us to wage our spiritual warfare. I invite you, therefore, to commit yourself to this struggle and confess your sins, asking our Father in heaven for strength to persevere in your Lenten discipline.

(Silence for self-reflection)

CONFESSION

Let us now make confession:

Almighty God, I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended you and for which I justly deserve punishment. But I am sorry for them, and repent of them, and pray for your boundless mercy. For the sake of the suffering and death of your son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being. Forgive my sins, give me your Holy Spirit for the amendment of my life, and bring me to life everlasting. Amen.

God does not desire the death of sinners, but rather that they may turn from their wickedness and live. Therefore, we implore him to grant us true repentance and his Holy Spirit, that those things we do on this day may please him, that the rest of our

life may be pure and holy, and that at the last we may come to his eternal joy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the

o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of
ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
love up - on my way, from the cross the
cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that

sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
ra - dianc e stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

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.**

KYRIE

1. Have mer-cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer. We
2. Have mer-cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin. Pour
3. Have mer-cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part. Re -

5
come to hear your li - ving word; it saves us from de - spair.
out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

A Reading from Exodus

¹God spoke all these words:

²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me. ⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall

not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³You shall not murder.

¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵You shall not steal.

¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

(Exodus 20:1-17)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 19 (Read responsively)

¹The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

²**Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares knowledge.**

³There is no speech, nor are there words;
their voice is not heard;

⁴**yet their voice goes out through all the earth,
and their words to the end of the world.**

In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,

⁵which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy,
and like a strong man runs its course with joy.

⁶**Its rising is from the end of the heavens,
and its circuit to the end of them;
and nothing is hid from its heat.**

⁷The law of the LORD is perfect,
reviving the soul;
the decrees of the LORD are sure,
making wise the simple;

⁸**the precepts of the LORD are right,
rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear,
enlightening the eyes;**

⁹the fear of the LORD is pure,
enduring forever;

the ordinances of the LORD are true
and righteous altogether.

¹⁰**More to be desired are they than gold,
even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey,
and drippings of the honeycomb.**

¹¹Moreover by them is your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.

¹²**But who can detect their errors?
Clear me from hidden faults.**

¹³Keep back your servant also from the insolent;
do not let them have dominion over me.
Then I shall be blameless,
and innocent of great transgression.

¹⁴**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable to you,
O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.**

A Reading from First Corinthians

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

(1 Corinthians 1:18-25)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

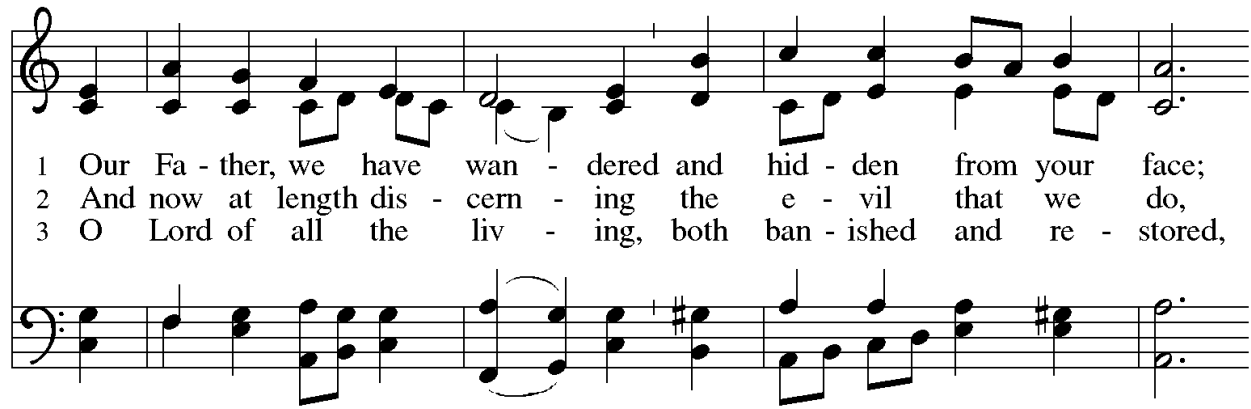
¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

(John 2:13-22)

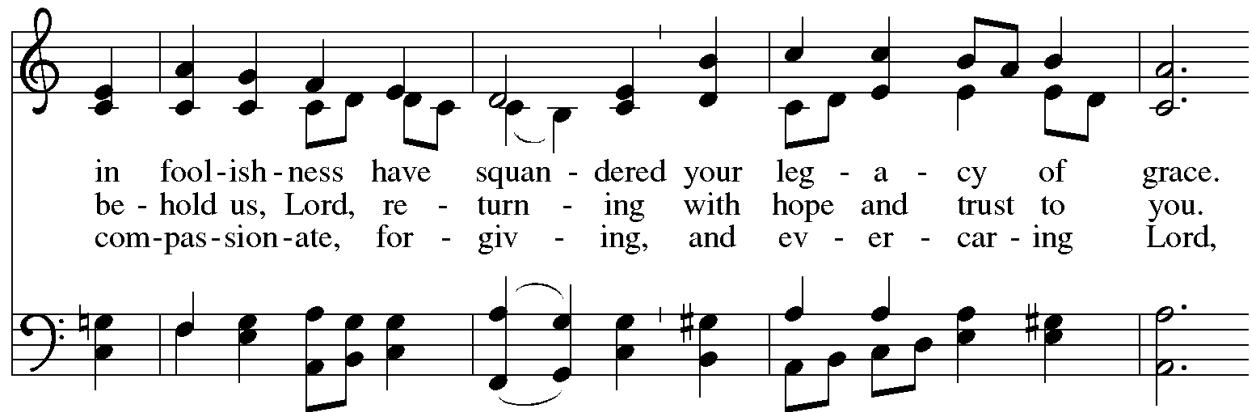
The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.


HYMN OF THE DAY "Our Father, We Have Wandered"



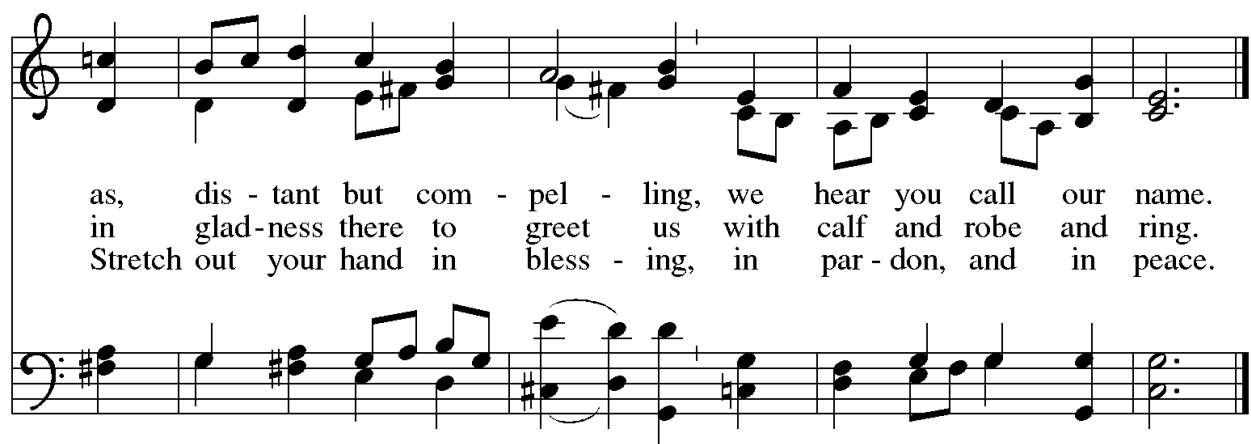
1 Our Fa - ther, we have wan - dered and hid - den from your face;
2 And now at length dis - cern - ing the e - vil that we do,
3 O Lord of all the liv - ing, both ban - ished and re - stored,



in fool - ish - ness have squan - dered your leg - a - cy of grace.
be - hold us, Lord, re - turn - ing with hope and trust to you.
com - pas - sion - ate, for - giv - ing, and ev - er - car - ing Lord,



But now, in ex - ile dwell - ing, we rise with fear and shame,
In haste you come to meet us and home re - joic - ing bring,
grant now that our trans - gress - ing, our faith - less - ness may cease.



as, dis - tant but com - pel - ling, we hear you call our name.
in glad - ness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.
Stretch out your hand in bless - ing, in par - don, and in peace.

SERMON

THE NICENE CREED (Read in Unison)

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;

by the power of the Holy Spirit

he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.

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.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified,

He 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

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Purify the faith of your church, that your people place their trust in nothing besides you. Guide your church, that in every situation your people's words and actions honor your name. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Provide leaders in the struggle for clean air and water; protect creatures and crops that rely on healthy ecosystems; give all people the willingness to change our wasteful way of life. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Fill leaders with a love for your peace and mercy. Your law defends the vulnerable. Work through legislators, judicial systems, and systems of law enforcement to protect the wellbeing and freedom of all. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Protect those who are vulnerable and give courage to all who are suffering (*especially everyone who suffers from COVID-19 and everyone on our prayer list*). Defend victims of crime and open the hearts of all who have harmed others. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Give clarity to this congregation and our leaders, so that we might daily follow Christ. Remove anything in our common life that would obstruct or hinder the gospel. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Thank you for all the martyrs whose witness reveals the power of the cross. Help us to trust in God's love in this life and beyond this life. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

(The Pastor concludes): We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

OFFERTORY

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 him thanks and praise.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Read in Unison)

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

Jesus draws the whole world to himself. Come to this meal and be fed.

[INSTRUCTIONS

The Sacrament will be distributed by the Pastor and the Communion Assistant while the congregation is seated. If you wish to receive a bread wafer, please open your hand towards the pastor. The Pastor will use small stainless-steel tongs to pick up the wafer and drop it into your hand. Then pull up your face mask and place the wafer in your mouth. After you have received the wafer, the Pastor will proceed to the next person seated in the pew.

The Communion Assistant will follow the pastor with a tray of cups of wine. If you wish to receive a cup, you should extend your hand towards the Communion Assistant. The Communion Assistant will allow you to pick up a cup from the tray. Then pull up your face mask to drink from the cup.

If you would like to receive a blessing from the pastor rather than the Sacrament, please say, "Blessing." The Pastor will give a blessing to you without making any physical contact.

Please place empty cups in the small plastic bags found in the pews. These bags will be removed from the pews once the service is ended.]

TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of steadfast love, at this table you gather your people into one body for the sake of the whole world. In the power of the Spirit, send us that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

May God bless you that you may be a blessing to others, in the name of the Father, the †Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

“Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow”

[See back of bulletin]

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Grand Chorus in A Minor"

C. Demorest

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Introduction to the day: The third covenant in this year’s Lenten readings is the central one of Israel’s history: the gift of the law to those God freed from slavery. The commandments begin with the statement that because God alone has freed us from the powers that oppressed us, we are to let nothing else claim first place in our lives. When Jesus throws the merchants out of the temple, he is defending the worship of God alone and rejecting the ways commerce and profit-making can become our gods. The Ten Commandments are essential to our baptismal call: centered first in God’s liberating love, we strive to live out justice and mercy in our communities and the world.

Altar flowers are presented in honor of our Chancel Choir and Justin, by Sue Schenck, who misses singing with you all!

Chancel flowers are presented in memory of my mother, on her birthday, by her daughter, Joanne Emerich

Bulletins are presented in memory of great-grandparents, George Washington Lengel, and his wife, Elizabeth, by James W. Lengel and family.

PLEASE RESERVE YOUR PLACE

We will celebrate the Feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord (or Easter) on Sunday, April 4 at the 8 and 10:30 AM services.

Unfortunately, because of our COVID-19 precautions, our seating for Easter worship will be limited to 50-60 people/service. While that may not pose a problem for those who regularly attend our the 8 AM service, it will likely affect everyone who wishes to attend the 10:30 AM service.

To avoid turning anyone away from worship on Easter Sunday, everyone who plans to attend our 10:30 AM Easter service should call our church office by Sunday, March 28, 2021 to reserve a place for themselves and their family.

SERVING THIS SUNDAY (3/7/21)

8:00 AM

LECTOR: Kay Weidensaul; GREETER: Krista Harding;
COMMUNION ASSISTANT: TBA

10:30 AM

LECTOR: Doug Travor ; GREETER: Cindy Ritschel; USHER: Wayne Lutsey;
COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Tina Butler; ALTAR GUILD: Joanne Emerich and
Gwen Wehr; COUNTERS: Rosalie Wingle, Marlene Eidam, and Diane Brobst

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (3/14/21)

8:00 AM

LECTOR: Justin McClure; GREETER: Krista Harding

10:30 AM

LECTOR: Tina Butler; GREETER: Cindy Ritschel; USHER: Sue Petresky;
ALTAR GUILD: Barb Lafko and Beth Post
COUNTERS: Joyce O'Rourke, Gloria Dierwechter, and Pat Davis

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday, March 7	8:00 AM	Worship w/ Holy Communion
	10:30 AM	Worship w/ Holy Communion
Thursday, March 11	7:00 PM	Adult Forum Zoom meeting
Saturday, March 13	5:30 PM	Worship
		Daylight Savings Time begins at 2 AM
Sunday, March 14	8:00 AM	Worship
	10:30 AM	Worship

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MIDWEEK LENTEN VIDEOS

Midweek Lenten videos are available to view every Wednesday in Lent. This year, Pastor Mike will continue to preach on verses of the Lord's Prayer as follows:

- March 10: "Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven" and "Give us this day our daily bread."
- Mar. 17: "And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us."
- Mar. 24: "And lead us not into temptation" and "But deliver us from evil."
- Mar. 31: "For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory" and "Amen."

These videos are available through our Facebook page, our website, or on YouTube. Please share them with your family and friends!

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Julianne Schenck, Office Support Staff	570-366-2316	office@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Carl Heintzelman, Sexton	484-408-5152	
Karen Travor, Treasurer	570-366-8757	karen@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Wayne Lutsey, Financial Secretary	570-366-8766	cwlutsey@gmail.com
Jessica Swick, Social Media Manager	936-648-6809	jessica@stpauls-orwigsburg.org

Easter Flower Orders

Please detach lower portion and place in the basket in the Gathering Room
or return by U.S. Mail.

Deadline: Sunday, March 21, 2021

No orders will be taken after this date.

Your name: _____

Type of flower	How Many	Price	Total	Sponsorship
Easter Lilies	_____X	\$8	_____	H/M_____
Regular-sized Daffodils	_____X	\$7	_____	H/M_____
6-bulb Tulips (Red)	_____X	\$7	_____	H/M_____
3-bulb Hyacinth (Purple)	_____X	\$7	_____	H/M_____
3-bulb Hyacinth (Pink)	_____X	\$7	_____	H/M_____
3-bulb Hyacinth (White)	_____X	\$7	_____	H/M_____
Hydrangeas (Pink)	_____X	\$15	_____	H/M_____

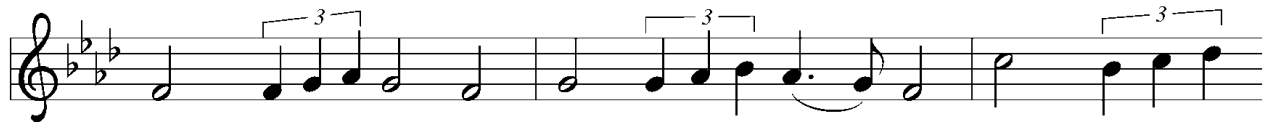
TOTAL \$ _____

If more space is needed for dedications, please use an additional sheet of paper.

Please detach lower portion of this sheet and place it with your payment in the
basket marked "Easter Flowers" in the Gathering Room.

SENDING HYMN

“Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow”



1 Through the night of doubt and sor - row, on - ward
 2 One the light of God's own pres - ence on the
 3 One the strain that lips of thou - sands lift as
 4 On - ward, there - fore, sis - ters, broth - ers; on - ward,



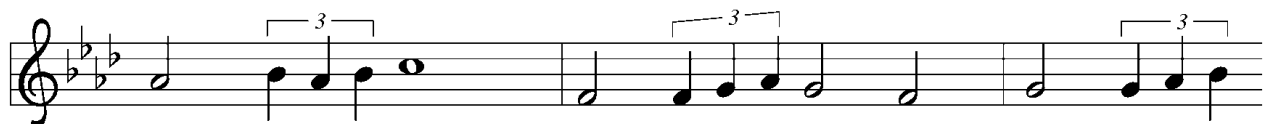
goes the pil - grim band, sing - ing songs of ex - pec -
 ran - somed peo - ple shed, chas - ing far the gloom and
 from the heart of one; one the con - flict, one the
 with the cross our aid. Bear its shame, and fight its



ta - tion, march - ing to the prom - ised land. Clear be -
 ter - ror, bright - ning all the path we tread. One the
 per - il, one the march in God be - gun. One the
 bat - tle till we rest be - neath its shade. Soon shall



fore us through the dark - ness gleams and burns the
 ob - ject of our jour - ney, one the faith which
 glad - ness of re - joic - ing on the far e -
 come the great a - wak - ning; soon the rend - ing



guid - ing light; pil - grim clasps the hand of
 nev - er tires, one the ear - nest look - ing
 ter - nal shore, where the one al - might - y
 of the tomb! Then the scat - t'ring of all



pil - grim step - ping fear - less through the night.
 for - ward, one the hope our God in - spires.
 Fa - ther reigns in love for - ev - er - more.
 shad - ows, and the end of toil and gloom.