

# *Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

## *Sunday, October 8, 2023*

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

[www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org](http://www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org)

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### **GATHERING**

**PRELUDE**

"Morning Prayer"

D. Lasky

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

We gather in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

If we say we have no sins, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**  
**Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN** "When Morning Gilds the Skies"  
[See back of bulletin]

## **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.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. By the inspiration of your Spirit help us to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **WORD**

### **A READING FROM ISAIAH**

<sup>1</sup>Let me sing for my beloved  
my love-song concerning his vineyard:  
My beloved had a vineyard  
on a very fertile hill.  
<sup>2</sup>He dug it and cleared it of stones,  
and planted it with choice vines;  
he built a watchtower in the midst of it,  
and hewed out a wine vat in it;  
he expected it to yield grapes,  
but it yielded wild grapes.  
<sup>3</sup>And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem  
and people of Judah,  
judge between me  
and my vineyard.  
<sup>4</sup>What more was there to do for my vineyard  
that I have not done in it?  
When I expected it to yield grapes,  
why did it yield wild grapes?  
<sup>5</sup>And now I will tell you  
what I will do to my vineyard.  
I will remove its hedge,  
and it shall be devoured;  
I will break down its wall,  
and it shall be trampled down.  
<sup>6</sup>I will make it a waste;

it shall not be pruned or hoed,  
and it shall be overgrown with briers and thorns;  
I will also command the clouds  
that they rain no rain upon it.  
<sup>7</sup>For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts  
is the house of Israel,  
and the people of Judah  
are his pleasant planting;  
he expected justice,  
but saw bloodshed;  
righteousness,  
but heard a cry! (Isaiah 5:1-7)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

### **PSALM 80:7-15 (Read responsively)**

<sup>7</sup>Restore us, O God of hosts;  
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.  
<sup>8</sup>**You have brought a vine out of Egypt;**  
**you cast out the nations and planted it.**  
<sup>9</sup>You cleared the ground for it;  
it took root and filled the land.  
<sup>10</sup>**The mountains were covered by its shadow**  
**and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.**  
<sup>11</sup>You stretched out its tendrils to the sea  
and its branches to the river.  
<sup>12</sup>**Why have you broken down its wall,**  
**so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?**  
<sup>13</sup>The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it,  
and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.  
<sup>14</sup>**Turn now, O God of hosts,**  
**look down from heaven;**  
<sup>15</sup>behold and tend this vine;  
preserve what your right hand has planted.

### **A READING FROM PHILIPPIANS**

[Paul writes:] <sup>4b</sup>If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup>circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup>as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

<sup>7</sup>Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. <sup>8</sup>More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. <sup>10</sup>I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup>if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

<sup>12</sup>Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. <sup>13</sup>Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 1:4b-14)

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Congregation:*

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we

go? You have the words of e - ter - nal

life. Al - le - lu - ia! *Optional Repeat*

## GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the people:] <sup>33</sup>“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. <sup>34</sup>When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. <sup>35</sup>But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. <sup>36</sup>Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. <sup>37</sup>Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ <sup>38</sup>But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ <sup>39</sup>So they seized him, threw him out of the

vineyard, and killed him. <sup>40</sup>Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" <sup>41</sup>They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

<sup>42</sup>Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:

'The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone;  
this was the Lord's doing,  
and it is amazing in our eyes'?

<sup>43</sup>Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. <sup>44</sup>The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."

<sup>45</sup>When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. <sup>46</sup>They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet. (Matthew 21:33-46)

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **ANNOUCEMENTS**

## **SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"  
[See back of bulletin]

## **THE APOSTLES' CREED (In unison)**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
and born of the virgin Mary,  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again;

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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 the life everlasting. Amen.

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Trusting in the transformative power of God's loving Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

God of all grace, strengthen your church throughout the world, that together we press on toward your heavenly call in Jesus Christ. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of all creation, bless fields and orchards and the hands of those who labor in them, that all your people may be fed. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of all the earth, guide leaders of nations, states, provinces, and cities, that they govern your people with wisdom, integrity, and compassion. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of all compassion, have mercy on all who hunger, all who mourn, all who struggle with their health, all who cry out for justice, and all who suffer in any way. We especially pray for everyone on our prayer list. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of all steadfastness, build up this congregation as living stones, that it stands in the community as a witness to your enduring faithfulness and love. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of all hope, we give you thanks for the faithful witness of all your saints, and we wait for the great day when all your children will be gathered together as one. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

(The Pastor concludes): Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

## OFFERING

**OFFERTORY (8:00 AM)**

"Andante"

T. Kendall

**ANTHEM (10:30 AM)**

"More Love to Thee"\*

T. Fettke

**OFFERTORY HYMN**

"As Grains of Wheat"



## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Blessed are you,

**O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## MEAL

### **THE 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.**

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and  
might; heav - en and earth are filled with your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world, you gave your only Son,  
that all those who believe in him should not perish,  
but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us  
through Jesus Christ.

Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,  
that we may receive our Lord with a living faith  
as he comes to us in his holy supper.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

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 (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.

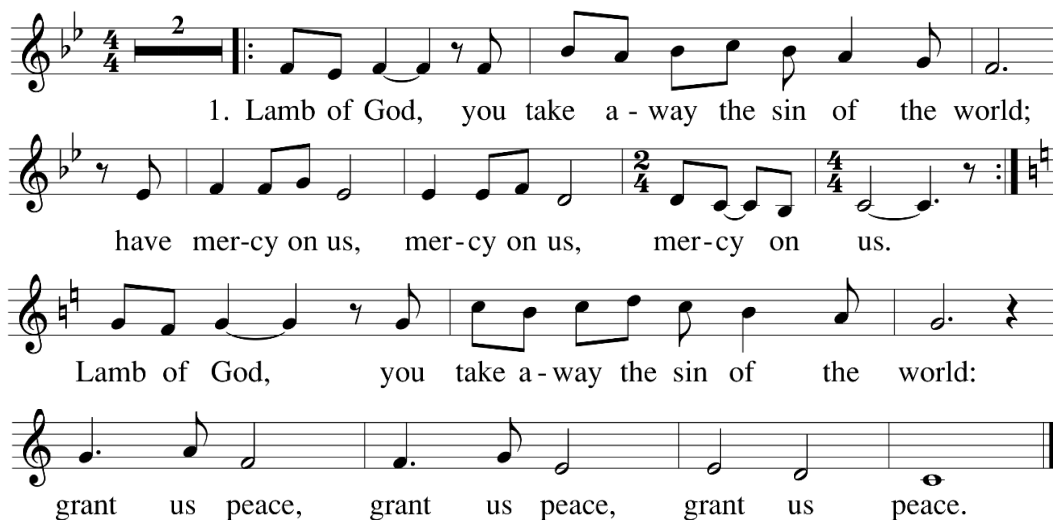
### INSTRUCTIONS

*All who are baptized and seek forgiveness of their sins and the promise of eternal life in Jesus Christ are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion by intinction. Communicants may dip a wafer of bread (the Body of Christ) into a chalice of wine (the Blood of Christ) before consuming it. After you have received the Sacrament, you may choose to briefly stand at the chancel rail before returning to your seat.*

*If you or your child would like to receive a blessing rather than the Sacrament, please come forward and say, "A blessing," or cross your arms over your chest.*

*Those who are unable to come forward should indicate that they wish to receive the Sacrament and they will receive it as they sit in their pew.*

### AGNUS DEI



1. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
have mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world:  
grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

**COMMUNION HYMN (10:30 AM) "Lord of Light"**  
[See back of bulletin]

## TABLE BLESSING

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

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## SENDING

### BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN**    “My Life Flows On in Endless Song”  
[See back of bulletin]

### THE DISMISSAL

Go now in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

"Go Forth in Peace"

T. Birchwood

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**Introduction to the Day:** Jesus tells a vineyard parable, which serves as an image of Israel, the prophets' mission, and Christ's death. For Christians, the vineyard also speaks of God's love poured out in the blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sin. Grafted onto Christ the vine, we are nourished with wine and bread so that we may share Christ's sufferings and know the power of his resurrection.

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**Altar Flowers** are presented in loving memory of Michael Lado, Sr. by Michael and Elinda Lado.

**Chancel Flowers** are presented in memory of my grandparents, William R. and Lottie Lengel, and their children, John A., my father, Guy R., Arthur, and Amelia, by James Lengel and the Lengel Family.

**Bulletins** are presented in honor of Jeffry and Amanda Ritschel's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

\*"More Love to Thee" was presented by Steve and Robin Zimmerman in honor of the 40th anniversary of their wedding, 23 May 1976. (2016)

## THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday, October 8	8:00 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
	9:15 AM	Adult Forum and Teen Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion Youth Sunday School
Monday, October 9	6:30 PM	WEIK Presentation
	7:00 PM	Council
Tuesday, October 10	1:00 PM	WELCA
Wednesday, October 11	6:00 PM	Bell Choir
	7:00 PM	Chancel Choir
Thursday, October 12	6:30 PM	Men of St. Paul's
Friday, October 13	10:00 AM	STiC Walk in Auburn
Saturday, October 14		"HARVEST HOME"
	5:30 PM	Worship
Sunday, October 15		"HARVEST HOME"
	8:00 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
	9:15 AM	Adult Forum
	10:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion

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### "SECOND SUNDAY" SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our Second Sunday School class gathers TODAY! Children ages 1-10 are welcome to come upstairs during the 10:30 AM service for Bible stories, fun, fellowship, and a snack.

Students ages 11 to 18 are invited to join me between the services (9:15 - 10:15 a.m.) for a teen Sunday School group.

Please contact Sarah Eger with questions or to volunteer. (570) 394-3522 (cell) [swoodring86@hotmail.com](mailto:swoodring86@hotmail.com).

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## **SERVING THIS SUNDAY (10/08/23)**

### **8:00 AM**

GREETER: Krista Harding; LECTOR: Connie Teter

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Connie Teter

### **10:30 AM**

GREETER: Bill Smoot; USHER: Joyce O'Rourke; LECTOR: Wayne Lutsey

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Bill Smoot

ALTAR GUILD: Barbara Lafko and Amy Dewald

COUNTERS: Rosalie Wingle, Diane Brobst, and Marlene Eidam

## **SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (10/15/23)**

### **8:00 AM**

GREETER: Krista Harding; LECTOR: Connie Teter

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Connie Teter

### **10:30 AM**

GREETER: Greg Sklar; USHER: Karen Shoener; LECTOR: Sarah Eger

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Jeff Ritschel

ALTAR GUILD: Barbara Lafko and Amy Dewald

COUNTERS: Joyce O'Rourke, Gloria Dierwechter, and Pat Davis

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## **HARVEST HOME**


Harvest Home is an annual event which allows our congregation to help the many families who rely on our Food Pantry. This year "Harvest Home" will be held next weekend, October 14 & 15. Please begin bringing your non-perishable food items to church as soon as possible. We will use food item donations to set up our display in the chancel and then donate them to our local food pantry. A large box will be placed in the narthex for donations. Thank you for your generosity!

## **LOOKING FOR A CHURCH HOME?**


Please worship with us again. Take a copy of our monthly newsletter. Check out our webpage. Visit us on Facebook. Watch our weekly video on YouTube. And get to know us better! We are a Lutheran congregation with a rich tradition, but we are not old-fashioned. Everyone is invited to worship and work together here -- to the glory of God. Contact us at our church office at 570-366-2316 Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

## GATHERING HYMN


### “When Morning Gilds the Skies”



1 When morn-ing gilds the skies, my heart a - wak - ing cries:  
2 When mirth for mu - sic longs, this is my song of songs:  
3 No love - lier an - ti - phon in all high heav'n is known  
4 Let all of hu - man - kind in this their con - cord find:  
5 Sing, sun and stars of space, sing, all who see his face,



may Je - sus Christ be praised! When eve - ning shad - ows fall,  
may Je - sus Christ be praised! God's ho - ly house of prayer  
than "Je - sus Christ be praised!" There to the e - ter - nal Word  
may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let all the earth a - round  
sing, "Je - sus Christ be praised!" God's whole cre - a - tion o'er,

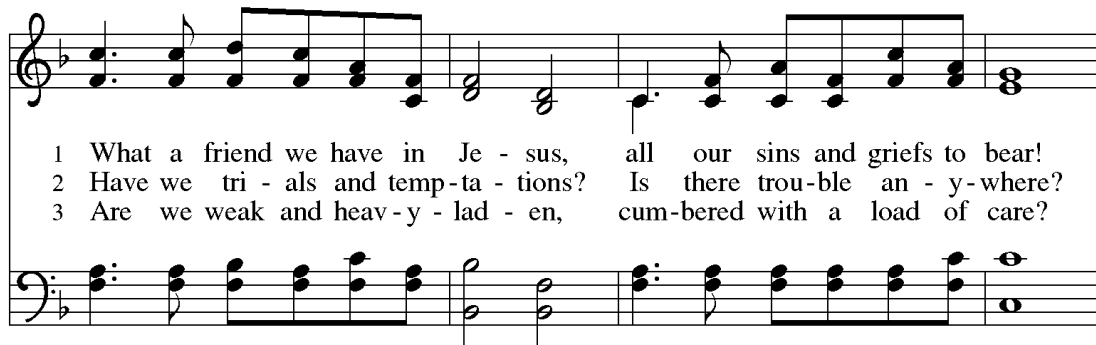


this rings my cur - few call: may Je - sus Christ be praised!  
has none that can com - pare with "Je - sus Christ be praised!"  
the e - ter - nal psalm is heard: oh, Je - sus Christ be praised!  
ring joy - ous with the sound: may Je - sus Christ be praised!  
to - day and ev - er - more shall Je - sus Christ be praised!

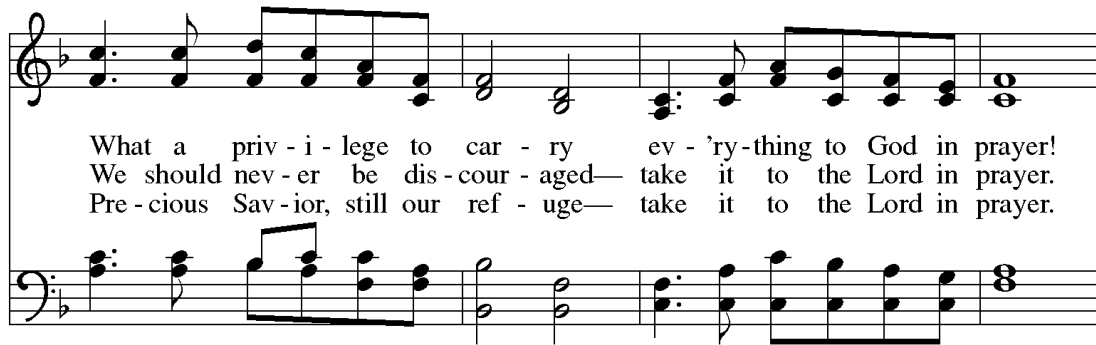
## HALLOWEEN PARADE AND TRICK-OR-TREAT

The Evangelism Committee will participate in the Orwigsburg Halloween Parade at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, October 25 (with rain date Thursday, October 26) and our Trick-or-Treat Night on Monday, October 31 from 6 to 8 p.m. (with rain date Tuesday, November 1). Anyone wishing to participate should contact Elinda Lado at 570-366-8998 or the church office at 570-366-2316.

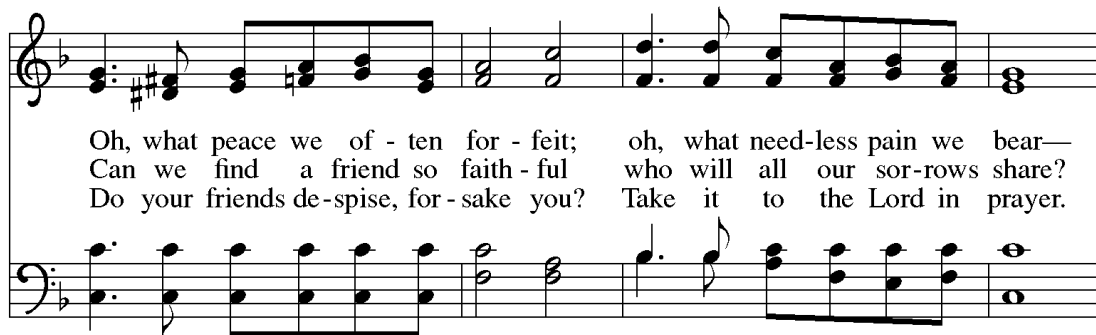
# HYMN OF THE DAY “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”



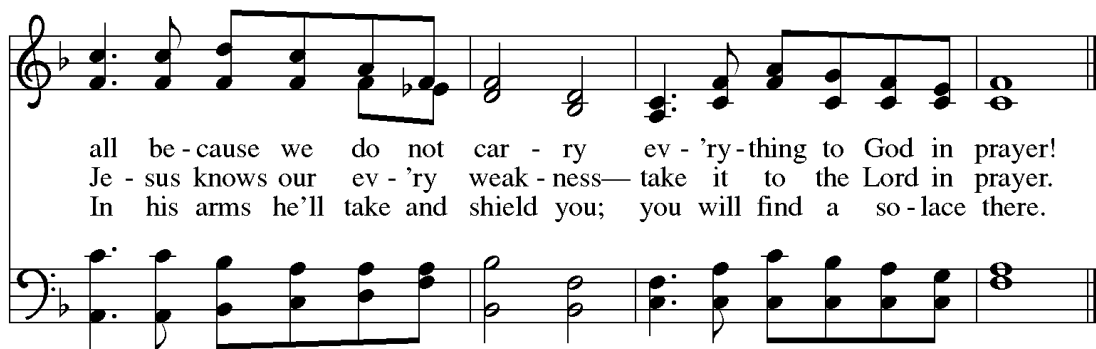
1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!  
2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?  
3 Are we weak and heav - y - lad - en, cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!  
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged— take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need - less pain we bear—  
Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - rows share?  
Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



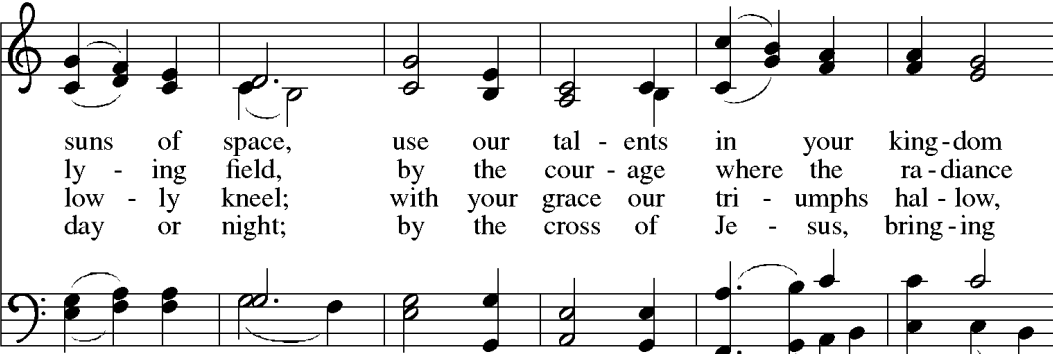
all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!  
Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness— take it to the Lord in prayer.  
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so - lace there.

# COMMUNION HYMN

## “Lord of Light”




1 Lord of light, your name out - shin - ing all the stars and  
 2 By the toil of faith - ful work - ers in some far out -  
 3 Grant that knowl - edge, still in - creas - ing, at your feet may  
 4 By the prayers of faith - ful watch - ers, nev - er si - lent



suns of space, use our tal - ents in your king - dom  
 ly - ing field, by the cour - age where the ra - diance  
 low - ly kneel; with your grace our tri - umphs hal - low,  
 day or night; by the cross of Je - sus, bring - ing



as the ser - vants of your grace; use us to ful -  
 of the cross is still re - vealed, by the vic - to -  
 with your char - i - ty our zeal; lift the na - tions  
 peace to all and heal - ing light; by the love that



fill your pur - pose in the gift of Christ your Son.  
 ries of meek - ness, through re - proach and suf - f'ring won:  
 from the shad - ows to the glad - ness of the sun:  
 pass - es knowl - edge, mak - ing all your chil - dren one:

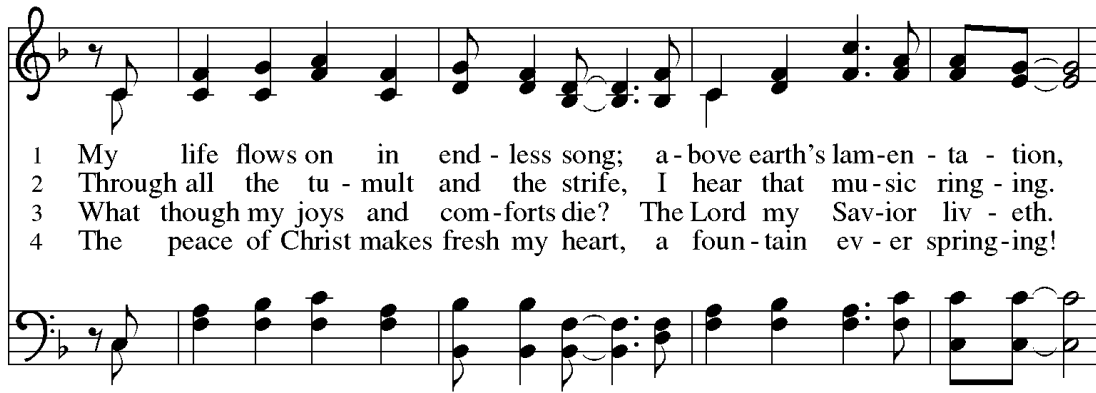
*Refrain*



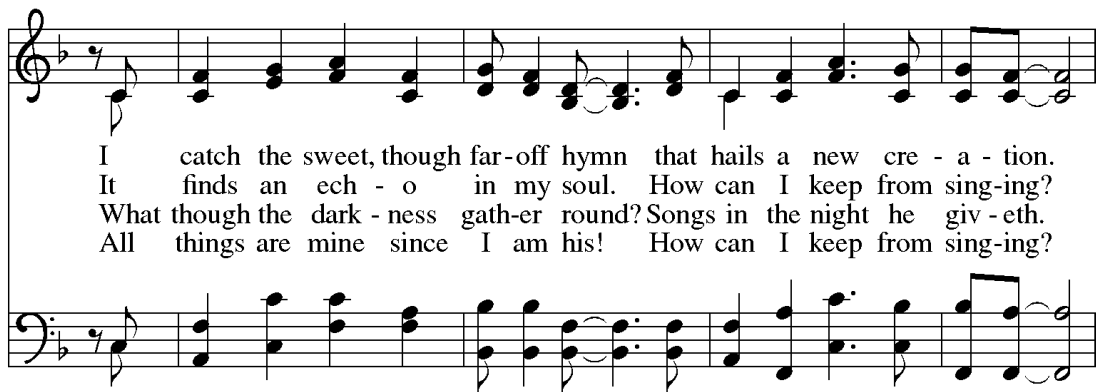
Fa - ther, as in high - est heav - en, so on earth your will be done.

# SENDING HYMN

## “My Life Flows On in Endless Song”

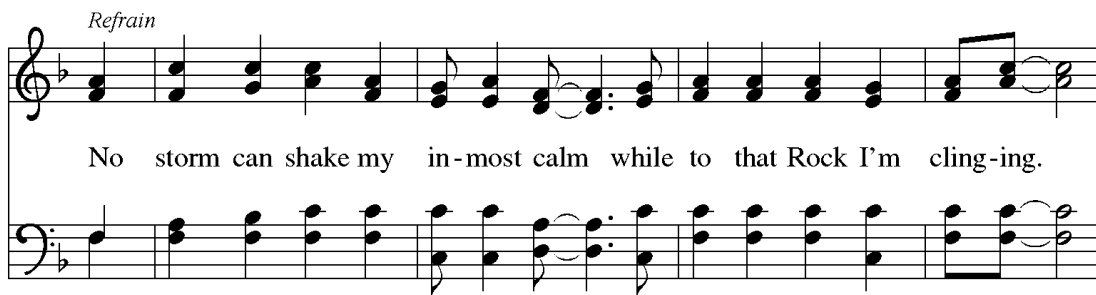


1 My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion,  
2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu - sic ring - ing.  
3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv - eth.  
4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun - tain ev - er spring-ing!



I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.  
It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?  
What though the dark - ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.  
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

*Refrain*



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?