



Lord's Day Service

At Church of the King on September 27th, 2026
The 18th Sunday of Ordinary Time

"How sweet are Your words to my taste, Sweeter than honey to my mouth!" Psalms 119:103

Call to Worship: Where God Calls Us Into His Presence

"That you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints," Ephesians 1:18b

Hear Today's Call to Worship From God's Word: [congregation standing]

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved." Ephesians 1:3-6 **Come Worship the Triune God of Heaven and Earth!**

God's People Respond With a Hymn of Adoration: [based on Psalm 145:10]

O worship the King all glorious above,	O tell of His might, O sing of His grace,
O gratefully sing his power and His love.	Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.
Our shield and defender, the ancient of days,	His chariot of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.	And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.

Salutation and Response: [based on Matthew 28:19, Ruth 2:4 and Ephesians 2:8,9]

In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit
Amen!

Jehovah be with you!
And also with you!

For by grace you have been saved through faith
And that not of yourselves; It is the gift of God,

Not of works,
Lest anyone should boast

Confession of Sins: Where God Cleanses Us In Christ

The Call For Confession From God's Word:

"That you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness. Therefore, putting away lying, "Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor," for we are members of one another. Ephesians 4:22-25

God's People Sing Our Hymn of Confession:

[congregation standing]

Out of the Depths of Sadness

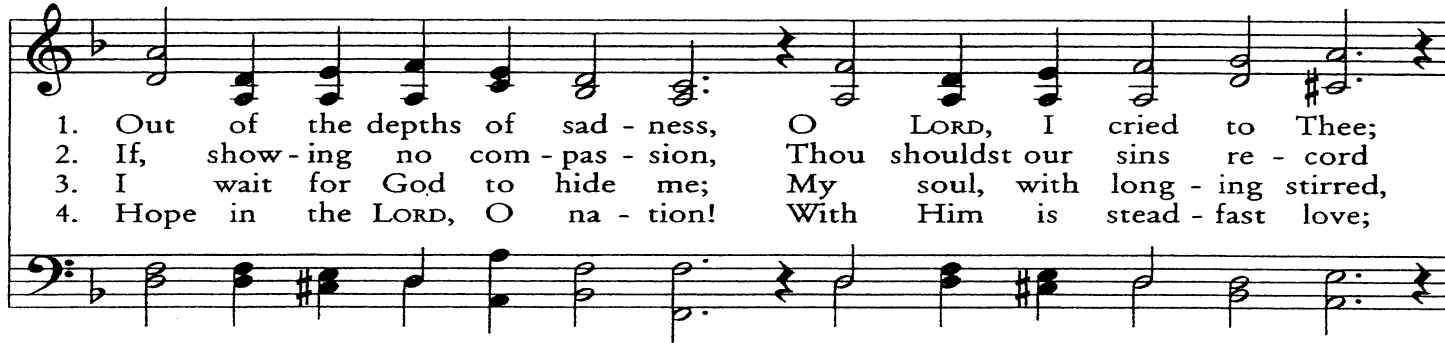
Psalm 130

DU FONS DE MA Pensee (7 6. 7 6. 7 6. 7 6)

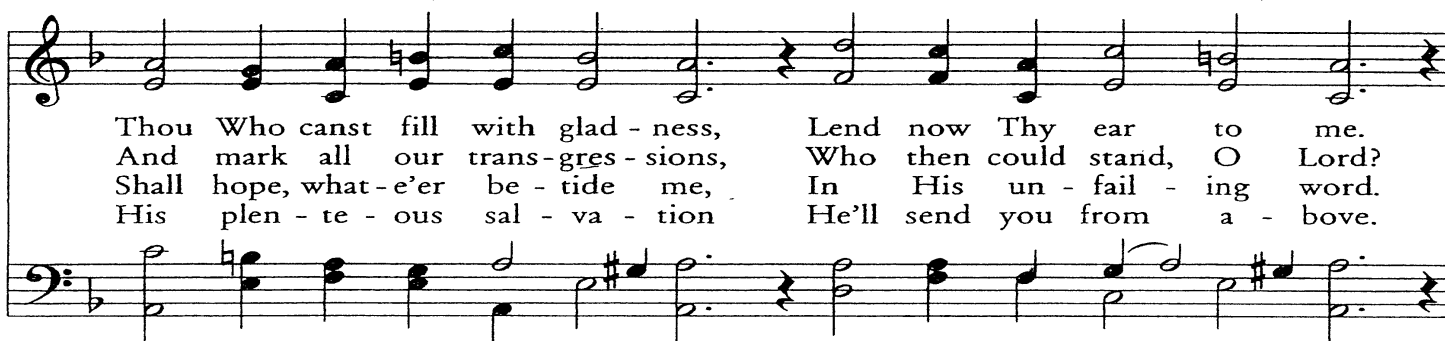
Dewey Westra, 1931; rev.

Strasbourg, 1539

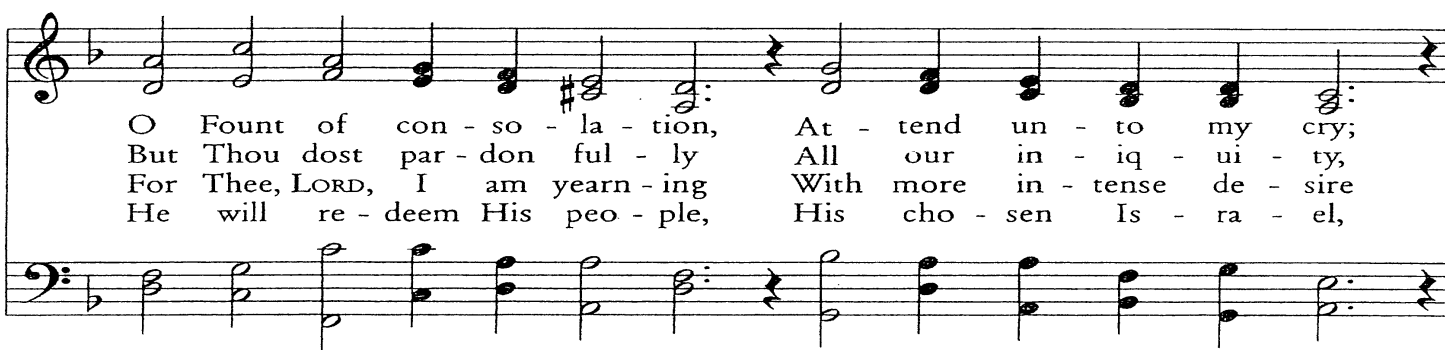
harm. Claude Goudimel, 1564; alt.



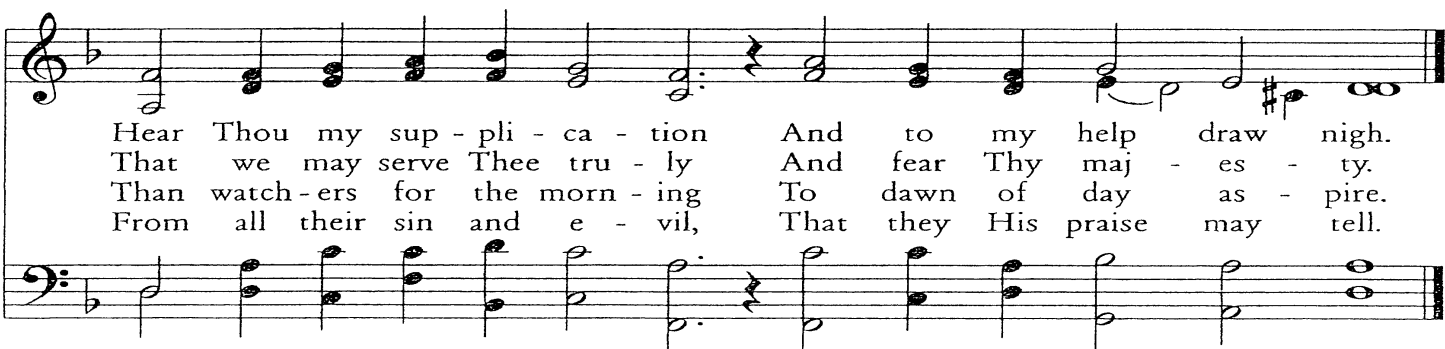
1. Out of the depths of sad - ness, O LORD, I cried to Thee;
2. If, show - ing no com - pas - sion, Thou shouldst our sins re - cord
3. I wait for God to hide me; My soul, with long - ing stirred,
4. Hope in the LORD, O na - tion! With Him is stead - fast love;



Thou Who canst fill with glad - ness, Lend now Thy ear to me.
And mark all our trans - gres - sions, Who then could stand, O Lord?
Shall hope, what - e'er be - tide me, In His un - fail - ing word.
His plen - te - ous sal - va - tion He'll send you from a - bove.



O Fount of con - so - la - tion, At - tend un - to my cry;
But Thou dost par - don ful - ly All our in - iq - ui - ty,
For Thee, LORD, I am yearn - ing With more in - tense de - sire
He will re - deem His peo - ple, His cho - sen Is - ra - el,



Hear Thou my sup - pli - ca - tion And to my help draw nigh.
That we may serve Thee tru - ly And fear Thy maj - es - ty.
Than watch - ers for the morn - ing To dawn of day as - pire.
From all their sin and e - vil, That they His praise may tell.

Silent Confession:

"You should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind" Ephesians 4:17b

Those who are willing and able are invited to kneel for our time of confession.

Corporate Prayer of Confession:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty who was and is and is to come. In your merciful presence we confess that we have broken your Law, both in what we have done and what we have left undone. We confess that these trespasses, apart from your Grace, result in our impurity, and also make us liable to receive your just punishments. We confess our sins and ask that you wash us from our impurities through the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ. We acknowledge our iniquities, and ask that you shield us from punishment through the atoning death of our Savior. From our violations of your just Law, forgive us through the perfect obedience of our Lord, and empower us to love mercy, do justice and walk humbly with You. Finally, we ask you to receive our praise and worship, for we speak in the blessed name of Jesus, and seek the visible manifestation of His Kingdom on earth Amen.

Arise and Receive the Assurance of Pardon & Forgiveness

"God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus." Ephesians 2:4-7

Congregation of the Lord Jesus Christ: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for our sins and to be raised for our justification; and for His sake forgives us all our sins. This I declare in the name and authority of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Having confessed our sins with faith in the completed work of Christ on our behalf, we are forgiven; we have been cleansed and clothed in the righteousness of Jesus. And not only that, we are now **in Christ** and **in Him** we are in the heavenly places, in the very midst of the blessed Trinity with the Saints of all the ages, from every tongue, tribe and nation prepared to worship in the beauty of holiness. **Come, let us worship the Lord!**

Come Bless the Father:

Come bless the Fath - er, all you ser - vants of the Son, who stand by the Spir - it in the House of the Lord. Lift up your hands to the Ho - ly Place and bless your God. May the Lord _____ bless you from Zi - on, He Who made hea - ven and earth. _____

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up un - to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God!

It is pro - per and right to do so.

Truly it is proper and right that we should at all times and in all places give praise to you O LORD. And so, with the angels and all the company of heaven and with the Church, as she gathers throughout the world this day, we praise and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you & singing:

God's People Sing a Hymn of Thanks:

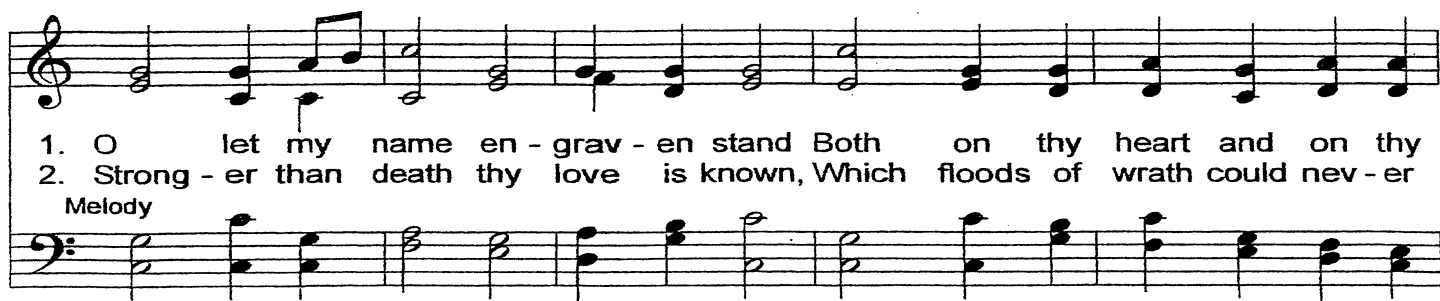
[congregation standing]

"Giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ," Ephesians 5:20

O Let My Name Engraven Stand

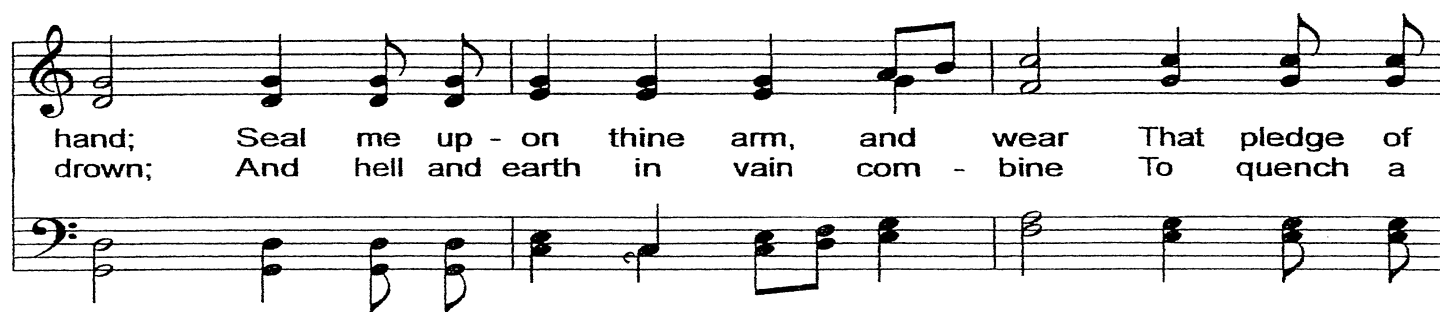
INVITATION (L.M.)
Jacob Kimball, 1784

Isaac Watts, 1709



1. O let my name en - grav - en stand Both on thy heart and on thy
2. Strong - er than death thy love is known, Which floods of wrath could nev - er

Melody

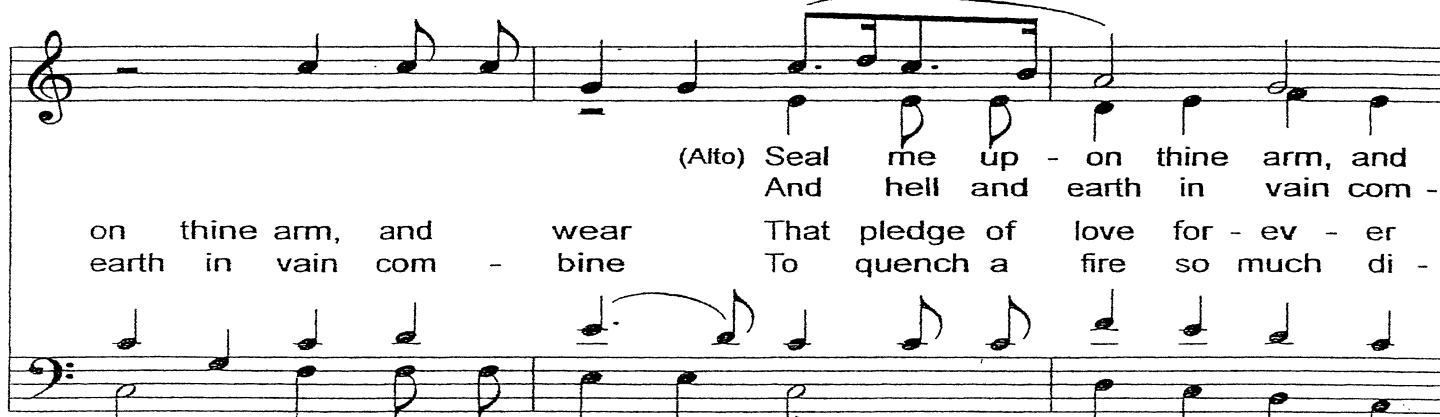


hand; Seal me up - on thine arm, and wear That pledge of
drown; And hell and earth in vain com - bine To quench a



love for - ev - er there, (Tenor) Seal me up -
fire so much di - vine, And hell and

(Soprano) Seal me up - on thine arm, and
And hell and earth in vain com -



(Alto) Seal me up - on thine arm, and
And hell and earth in vain com -

on thine arm, and wear That pledge of love for - ev - er
earth in vain com - bine To quench a fire so much di -

wear That pledge of love for so - ev - er
bine To quench a fire so much di -

(Soprano & Alto)

wear That pledge of love for - ev - er
bine To quench a fire so much di -

(Tenor & Bass)

there, Seal me up - on thine arm, and wear
vine, And hell and earth in vain com - bine

there, That pledge of love for - ev - er there.
vine, To quench a fire so much di - vine.

That pledge of love for - ev - er there.
To quench a fire so much di - vine.

3. Come, my Beloved, haste away,
Cut short the hours of thy delay;
Fly like a youthful hart or roe
Over the hills where spices grow.

Consecration: Where God Equips & Prepares His People

I[Paul], therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. Ephesians 4:1-6

Ephesians 2:8-22

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves

It is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works

Which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them

Therefore remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh, were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world

But now in Christ Jesus we who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ

For he himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in his flesh the enmity

So as to create in himself one new man from the two, thus making peace

And that he might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross

Thereby putting to death the enmity

And he came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near

For through him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father

Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets

Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone

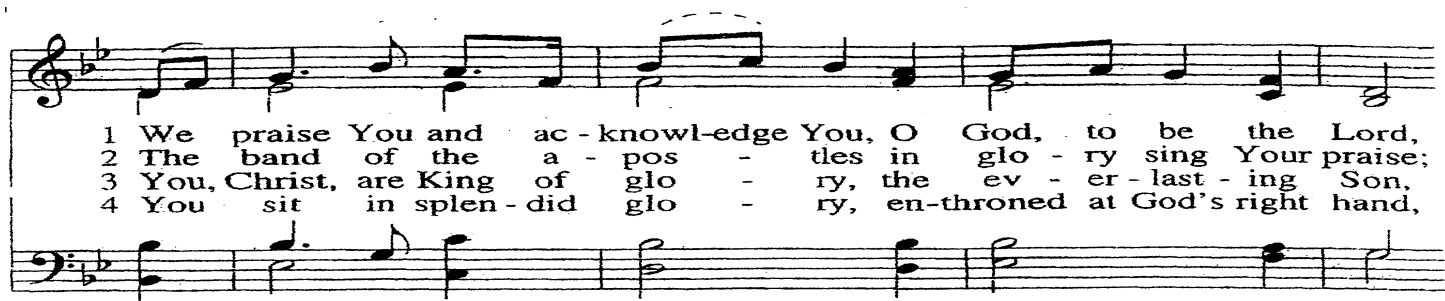
In whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together

For a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

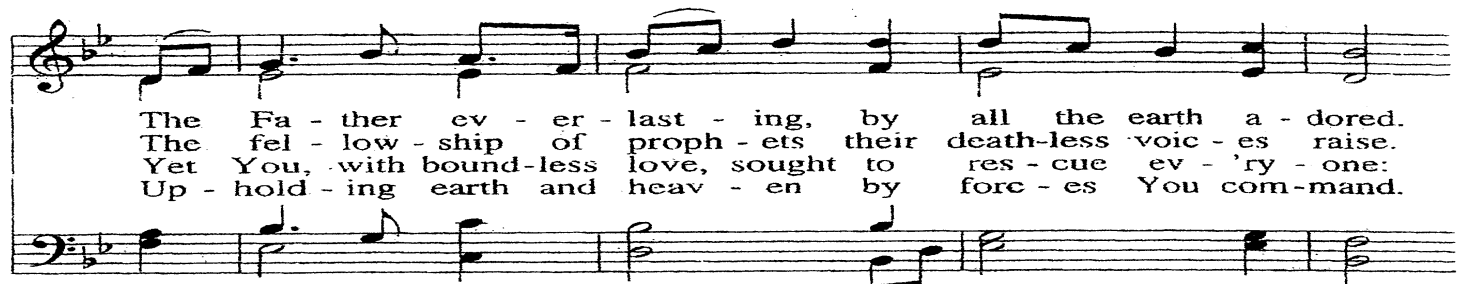
God's People Respond With a Hymn of Preparation:

We Praise You and Acknowledge You

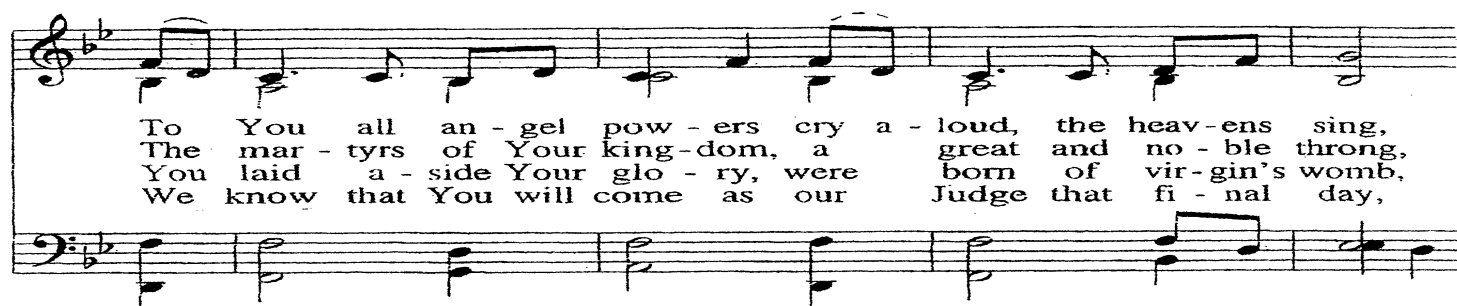
We Praise You and Acknowledge You



1 We praise You and ac - knowl - edge You, O God, to be the Lord,
 2 The band of the a - pos - tles in glo - ry sing Your praise;
 3 You, Christ, are King of glo - ry, the ev - er - last - ing Son,
 4 You sit in splen - did glo - ry, en - throned at God's right hand,



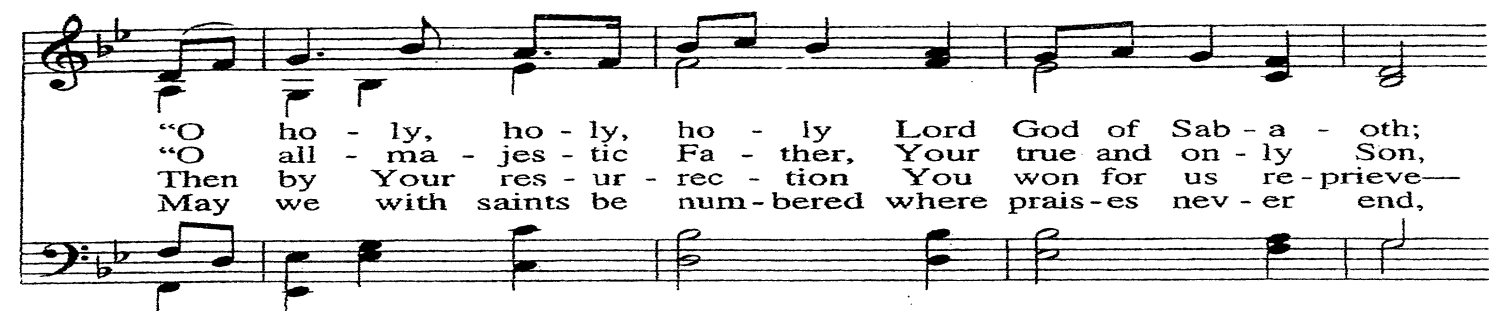
The Fa - ther ev - er - last - ing, by all the earth a - dored.
 The fel - low - ship of proph - ets their death - less voic - es raise.
 Yet You, with bound - less love, sought to res - cue ev - 'ry - one:
 Up - hold - ing earth and heav - en by forc - es You com - mand.



To You all an - gel pow - ers cry a - loud, the heav - ens sing,
 The mar - tyrs of Your king - dom, a great and no - ble throng,
 You laid a - side Your glo - ry, were born of vir - gin's womb,
 We know that You will come as our Judge that fi - nal day,



The cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim their prais - es to You bring:
 Sing with the ho - ly Church through - out all the world this song:
 Were cru - ci - fied for us and were placed in - to a tomb;
 So help Your ser - vants You have re - deemed by blood, we pray;



"O ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
 "O all - ma - jes - tic Fa - ther, Your true and on - ly Son,
 Then by Your res - ur - rec - tion You won for us re - prieve—
 May we with saints be num - bered where prais - es nev - er end,



Your maj - es - ty and glo - ry fill the heav - ens and the earth!"
 And Ho - ly Spir - it, Com - fort - er— for - ev - er Three in One!"
 You o - pened heav - en's king - dom to all who would be - lieve.
 In glo - ry ev - er - last - ing. A - men, O Lord, a - men!

God Speaks to Us Through His Word: Scripture, Prayer for Illumination, and Sermon

"How sweet are Your words to my taste, Sweeter than honey to my mouth! Through Your precepts I get understanding Therefore I hate every false way. Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." Psalm 119:103-105

"Baptized into the Bride of Christ"

From **Pastor Paul Liberati**

Based on **John 3:22-36**

John 3:22-36 (NKJV)

22 After these things Jesus and His disciples came into the land of Judea, and there He remained with them and baptized. **23** Now John also was baptizing in Aenon near Salim, because there was much water there. And they came and were baptized. **24** For John had not yet been thrown into prison. **25** Then there arose a dispute between *some* of John's disciples and the Jews about purification. **26** And they came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, He who was with you beyond the Jordan, to whom you have testified—behold, He is baptizing, and all are coming to Him!" **27** John answered and said, "A man can receive nothing unless it has been given to him from heaven. **28** "You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, 'I am not the Christ,' but, 'I have been sent before Him.' **29** "He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is fulfilled. **30** "He must increase, but I *must* decrease. **31** "He who comes from above is above all; he who is of the earth is earthly and speaks of the earth. He who comes from heaven is above all. **32** "And what He has seen and heard, that He testifies; and no one receives His testimony. **33** "He who has received His testimony has certified that God is true. **34** "For He whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for God does not give the Spirit by measure. **35** "The Father loves the Son, and has given all things into His hand. **36** "He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."

Notes:

God's People Sing a Hymn of Response:

[congregation standing]

To God the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray

NUN BITTEN WIR (10 9. 11 9. 4)

German *Leise*, c. 1100

Johann Walter, *Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn*, 1524

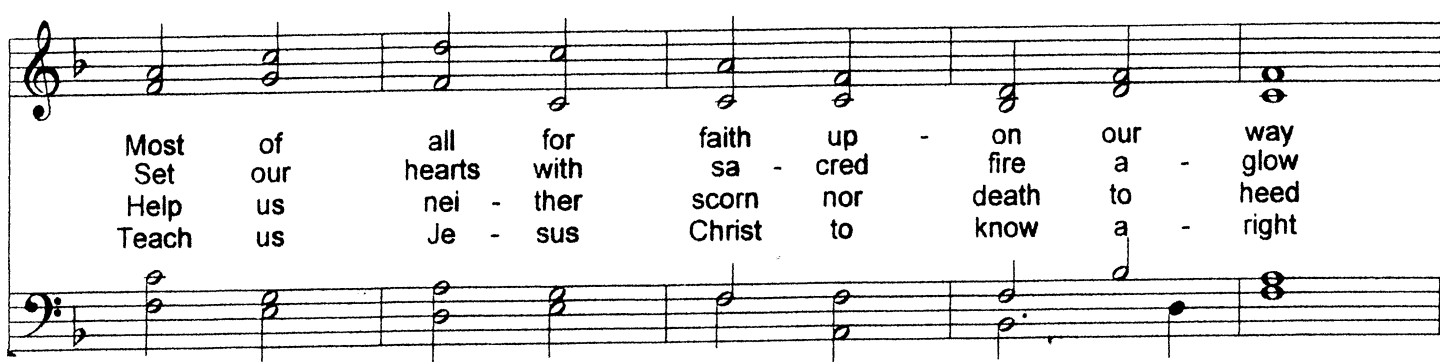
st. 1, author unknown, c. 1250

st. 2-4, Martin Luther, 1524

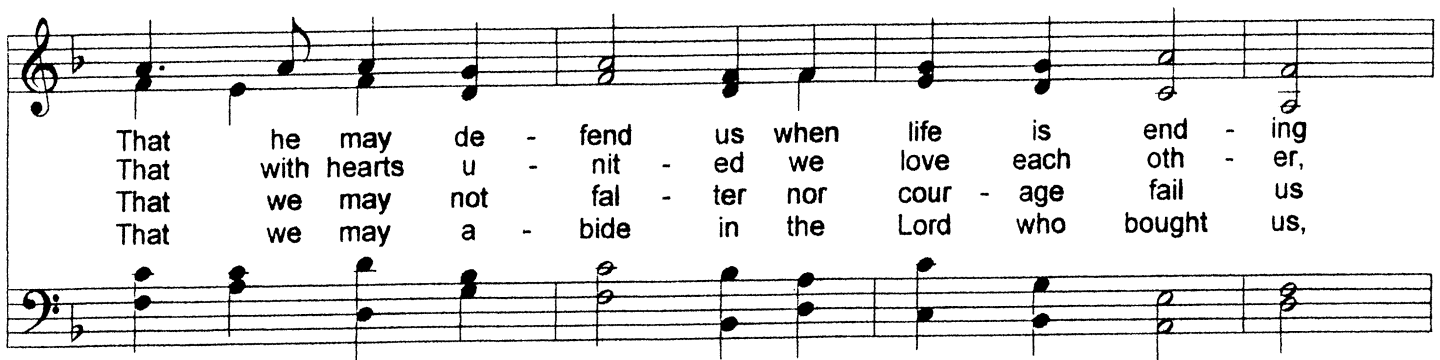
tr. *Worship Supplement*, 1969, adapt.



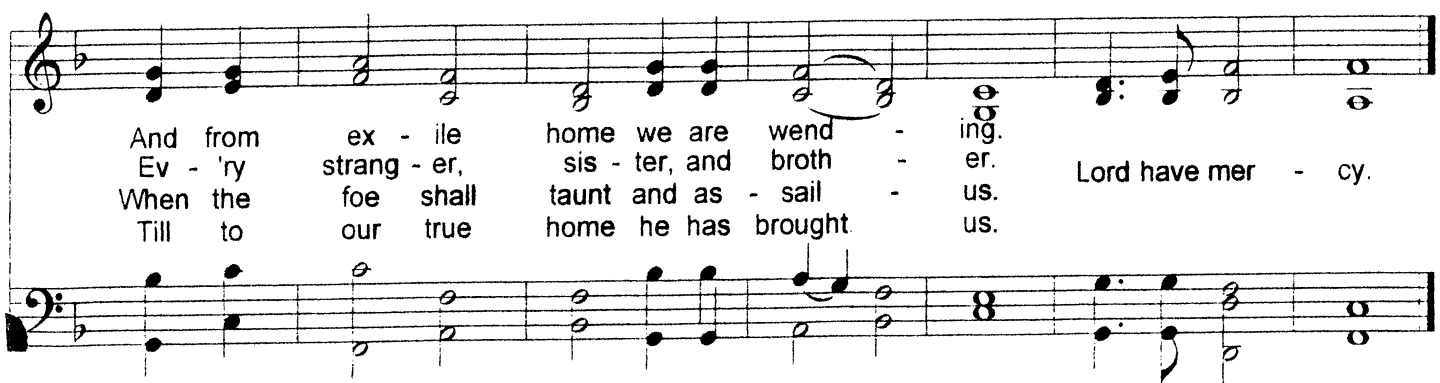
1. To God the Ho - ly Spir - it let us pray
2. O sweet - est Love, your grace on us be - stow;
3. Tran - scen - dent Com - fort in our ev - 'ry need,
4. Shine in our hearts, O Spir - it pre - cious light;



Most of all for faith up - on our way
Set our hearts with sa - cred fire a - glow
Help us nei - ther scorn nor death to heed
Teach us Je - sus Christ to know a - right



That he may de - fend us when life is end - ing
That with hearts u - nit - ed we love each oth - er,
That we may not fal - ter nor cour - age fail us
That we may a - bide in the Lord who bought us,



And from ex - ile home we are wend - ing.
Ev - 'ry strang - er, sis - ter, and broth - er.
When the foe shall taunt and as - sail us. Lord have mer - cy.
Till to our true home he has brought us.

God Receives our Tithes and Gifts as a Tribute Offering: [read in unison]

“And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;” *Ephesians 4:11-13*

Presenting our Tithes and Offerings

With the singing of Psalm 30:11-12 & the Doxology

Words composed by Brenda Fisher

1: Oh Lord you have now turned for me, My grief into a dance to Thee. In sackcloth I'm no longer dressed; With gladness you have made me blessed.	2: I will sing praises from my soul; To not be silent is my goal. Oh Lord my God to You I raise, Thanks never ending; You I praise!
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**3: Praise God from Whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

The Great Prayer, Concluding with the Lord's Prayer

Jacob Stabler

“Jehovah has heard my supplication; Jehovah will receive my prayer.” Psalm 6:9

**Our Father,
Which 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 the evil one,
For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power and the glory forever: AMEN**
[Matthew 6:9-13]

Communion: Where God Communes With His People

*“The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ?
The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?” 1 Corinthians 10:16*

Preparation for Communion: Congregation of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord has prepared His table for all who love and trust Him for their salvation. All those who have repented of their sins, have been baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and are not under discipline from Christ's Church are welcome at this table. For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as our Lord our God will call.

Our Confession of Faith - The Apostle's Creed [sung with music by Amber Bartels]

Piano

The musical score is written for piano in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of nine systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score includes measure numbers 8, 16, 25, 35, 43, 52, 60, and 70. The music features various note values, rests, and dynamic markings. The lyrics are: 'I be-lieve in God the Fa-ther Al-migh-ty, Ma-ker of hea-ven and earth; And in Je-sus Christ, His on-ly be-got-ten Son, our Lord; Who was con-ceived by the Ho-ly Spi-rit, born of the vir-gin—Ma-ry, Suf-fered un-der Pon-tius Pi-late, was cru-ci-fied, dead and bur-ied; He de-scend-ed in-to hell, the third day He rose a-gain from the dead; He as-cend-ed in-to heav-en, and sit-teth at the right hand of God the Fath-er Al-might-ty; From thence He shall come to judge the liv-ing and the dead. I be-lieve in the Ho-ly Spi-rit; I be-lieve a ho-ly cath-olic Church, the com-mun-ion of saints, the for-give-ness of sins; the re-sur-rec-tion of the bo-dy, and the life ev-er-last-ing. A-men.'

I be-lieve in God the Fa-ther Al-migh-ty, Ma-ker of hea-ven and earth;

And in Je-sus Christ, His on-ly be-got-ten Son, our Lord; Who was con-ceived by the

Ho-ly Spi-rit, born of the vir-gin—Ma-ry, Suf-fered un-der Pon-tius

Pi-late, was cru-ci-fied, dead and bur-ied; He de-scend-ed in-to

hell, the third day He rose a-gain from the dead; He as-cend-ed in-to

heav-en, and sit-teth at the right hand of God the Fath-er Al-might-ty; From

thence He shall come to judge the liv-ing and the dead. I be-lieve in the Ho-ly Spi-rit;

I be-lieve a ho-ly cath-olic Church, the com-mun-ion of saints, the for-give-ness of sins; the

re-sur-rec-tion of the bo-dy, and the life ev-er-last-ing. A-men.

THE LORD COMMUNES WITH US AT HIS TABLE: (Peace Offering, Gift of Life)

A Word of Encouragement -- Giving of Thanks -- Breaking of the Bread

God's People Sing a Hymn of Thanks and Celebration:

(Sung as a representative of each family comes forward to receive their bread and wine)

How Sweet and Awful Is the Place

ST. COLUMBA (C.M.)
Old Irish hymn melody

Isaac Watts, *Hymns and Sacred Songs*, 1707

1. How sweet and aw - ful is the place
2. While all our hearts and all our songs
3. "Why was I made to hear Thy voice,
4. 'Twas the same love that spread the feast
5. Pit - y the na - tions, O our God!
6. We long to see Thy church - es full,

With Christ with - in the doors, While ev - er - last - ing
Join to ad - mire the feast, Each of us cry, with
And en - ter while there's room, When thou - sands make a
That sweet - ly drew us in; Else we had still re -
Con - strain the earth to come; Send Thy vic - to - rious
That all the cho - sen race May with one voice and

love dis - plays The choic - est of her stores!
thank - ful tongues, "Lord, why was I a guest?
wretch - ed choice, And rath - er starve than come?"
fused to taste, And per - ished in our sin.
Word a - broad, And bring the stran - gers home.
heart and soul, Sing Thy re - deem - ing grace.

Feasting At The Lord's Table: A simple act of obedience on the 1st day of a new Week

Partaking of the bread together -- Giving Thanks -- Partaking of the Wine

"For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes." 1 Corinthians 11:26

Commissioning: Where God Sends Out His People

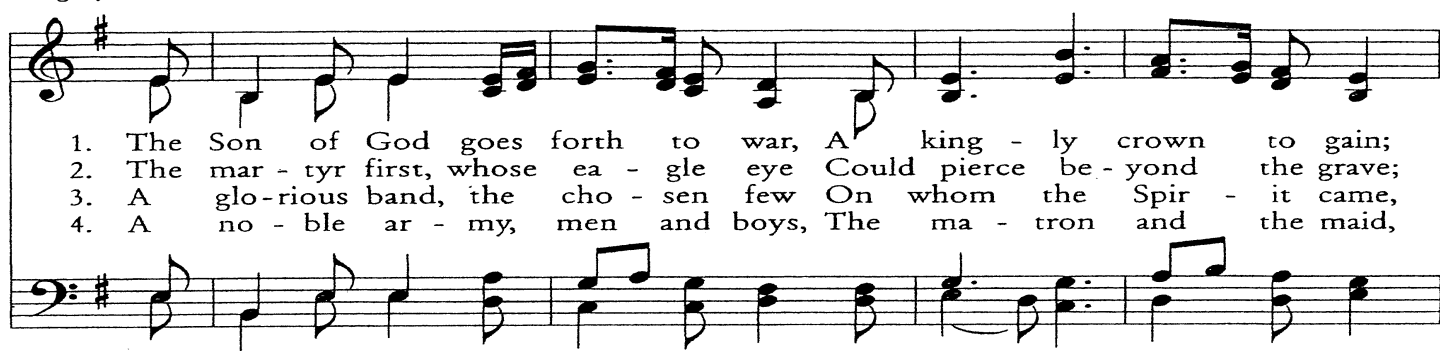
"But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than that of Abel....."Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. For our God is a consuming fire." Hebrews 12:22-24,28-29

God's People Respond With Singing:

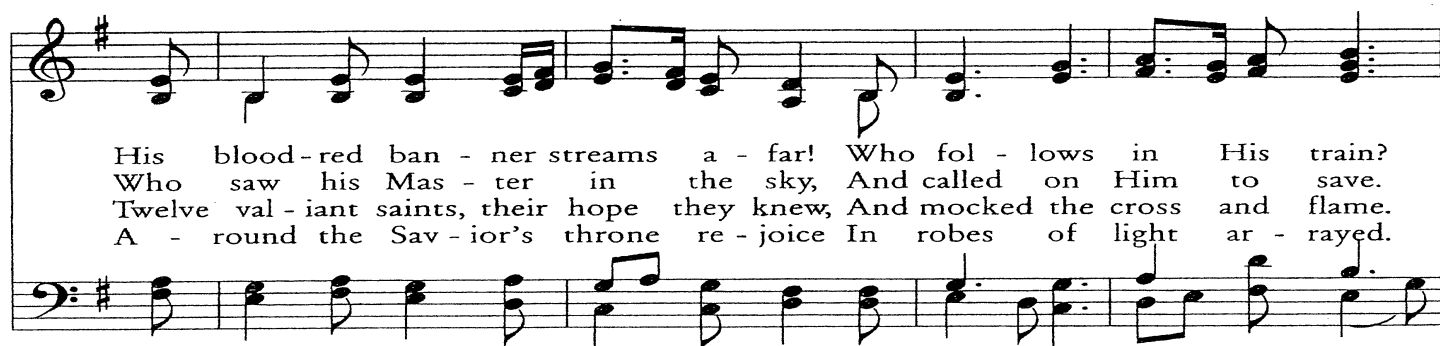
The Son of God Goes Forth to War

GREYOAKS (C.M.D.)
Gregory D. Wilbur, 1994

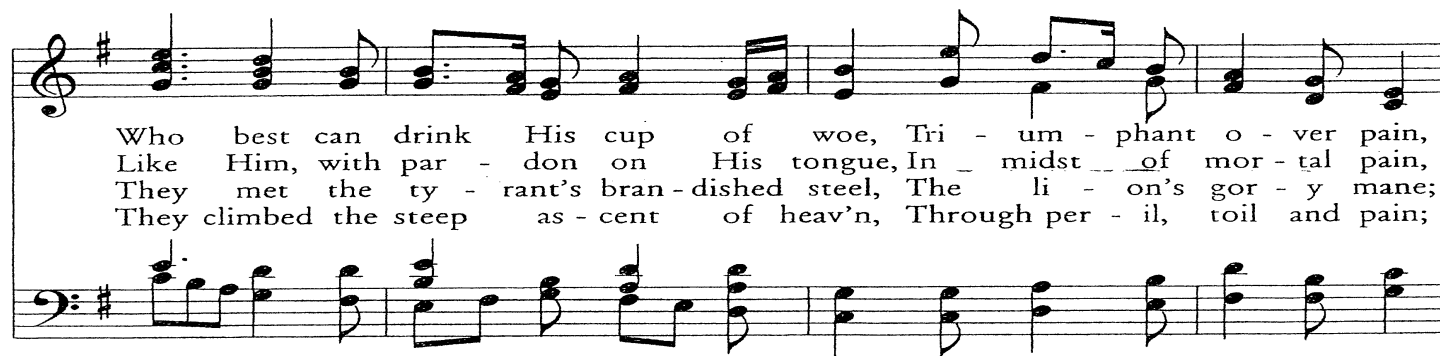
Reginald Heber, 1827



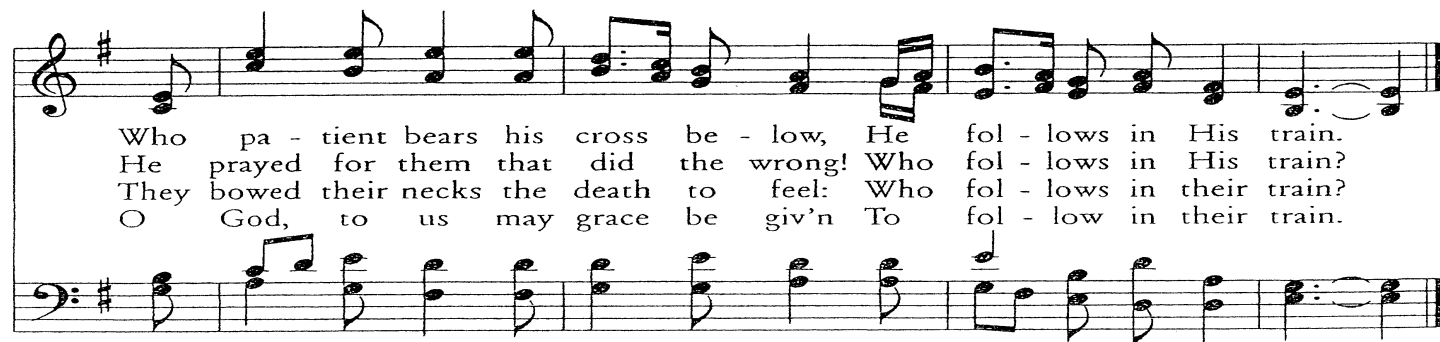
1. The Son of God goes forth to war, A king - ly crown to gain;
2. The mar - tyr first, whose ea - gle eye Could pierce be - yond the grave;
3. A glo - rious band, the cho - sen few On whom the Spir - it came,
4. A no - ble ar - my, men and boys, The ma - tron and the maid,



His blood - red ban - ner streams a - far! Who fol - lows in His train?
Who saw his Mas - ter in the sky, And called on Him to save.
Twelve val - iant saints, their hope they knew, And mocked the cross and flame.
A - round the Sav - ior's throne re - joice In robes of light ar - rayed.



Who best can drink His cup of woe, Tri - um - phant o - ver pain,
Like Him, with par - don on His tongue, In - midst of mor - tal pain,
They met the ty - rant's bran - dished steel, The li - on's gor - y mane;
They climbed the steep as - cent of heav'n, Through per - il, toil and pain;



Who pa - tient bears his cross be - low, He fol - lows in His train.
He prayed for them that did the wrong! Who fol - lows in His train?
They bowed their necks the death to feel: Who fol - lows in their train?
O God, to us may grace be giv'n To fol - low in their train.

God Blesses His People – The Benediction:

[congregation standing]

*Then Aaron lifted up his hands toward the people and blessed them,
and he came down from offering the sin offering and the burnt offering and the peace offerings. Leviticus 9:22*
“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit *be* with you
all. Amen.” 2 Corinthians 13:14

God’s People Depart to Serve the Risen & Reigning Savior by Singing:

Simeon’s Prayer & the Gloria Patri

Lord, now let- test Thou Thy ser- vant de- part in peace, ac- cord- ing to Thy Word:

For mine eyes have seen Thy sal-va- tion, Which Thou hast pre- pared be- fore the face of all peo- ple;

A light to ligh- ten the Gen- tles, and the glo- ry of Thy peo- ple Is - - ra - el.

With Lifted Hands: Glory Be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen

The Heidelberg Catechism – Lord’s Day 39

104. What does God require in the fifth commandment?

That I show all honor, love, and faithfulness to my father and mother,[1] and to all in authority over me,[2] submit myself with due obedience to all their good instruction and correction, and also bear patiently with their infirmities, since it is God’s will to govern us by their hand.[3] [1] Eph. 6:22; Eph. 6:1–6; Col. 3:18, 20–24; Prov. 1:8–9; 4:1; 15:20; 20:20; Ex. 21:17; Gen. 9:24–25. [2] Rom. 13:1; 1 Pet. 2:18; Rom. 13:2–7; Matt. 22:21. [3] Eph. 6:4, 9; Col. 3:19, 21;

*Prov. 30:17; *Deut. 27:16; *Deut. 32:24; *Prov. 13:24; *1 Tim. 2:1–2; *1 Tim. 5:17; *Heb. 13:17–18.

The Heidelberg Catechism – Questions 1–26

1. What is your only comfort in life and in death? **That I, with body and soul, both in life and in death,[1] am not my own,[2] but belong to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ,[3] who with His precious blood [4] has fully satisfied for all my sins,[5] and redeemed me from all the power of the devil;[6] and so preserves me [7] that without the will of my Father in heaven not a hair can fall from my head;[8] indeed, that all things must work together for my salvation.[9] Wherefore, by His Holy Spirit, He also assures me of eternal life,[10] and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live unto Him.[11]**[1] Rom. 14:7–8. [2] 1Cor. 6:19. [3] 1Cor. 3:23. [4] 1Pet. 1:18–19. [5] 1Jn. 1:7; 2:2. [6] 1Jn. 3:8. [7] Jn. 6:39. [8] Matt. 10:29–30; Lk. 21:18. [9] Rom. 8:28. [10] 2Cor. 1:21–22; Eph. 1:13–14; Rom. 8:16. [11] Rom. 8:1
2. How many things are necessary for you to know, that in this comfort you may live and die happily? **Three things:[1] First, the greatness of my sin and misery.[2] Second, how I am redeemed from all my sins and misery.[3] Third, how I am to be thankful to God for such redemption.[4]** [1] Lk. 24:46–47; 1 Cor. 6:11; Tit. 3:3–7. [2] Jn. 9:41; 15:22. [3] Jn. 17:3. [4] Eph. 5:8–11; 1 Pet. 2:9–12; Rom. 6:11–14; *Rom. 7:24–25; *Gal. 3:13; *Col. 3:17.
3. From where do you know your misery? **From the Law of God.[1]** [1] Rom. 3:20; *Rom. 7:7.
4. What does the Law of God require of us? **Christ teaches us in sum, Matthew 22, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”[1]** [1] Matt. 22:37–40; Lk. 10:27. *Deut. 6:5. *Gal. 5:14.
5. Can you keep all this perfectly? **No,[1] for I am prone by nature to hate God and my neighbor.[2]** [1] Rom. 3:10–12, 23; 1 Jn. 1:8, 10. [2] Rom. 8:7; Eph. 2:3.
6. Did God create man thus, wicked and perverse? **No,[1] but God created man good and after His own image,[2] that is, in righteousness and true holiness, that he might rightly know God his Creator, heartily love Him, and live with Him in eternal blessedness, to praise and glorify Him.[3]** [1] Gen. 1:31. [2] Gen. 1:26–27. [3] 2 Cor. 3:18; Col. 3:10; Eph. 4:24.
7. From where, then, does this depraved nature of man come? **From the fall and disobedience of our first parents, Adam and Eve, in Paradise,[1] whereby our nature became so corrupt that we are all conceived and born in sin.[2]** [1] Gen. 3 (The whole chapter). Rom. 5:12, 18–19. [2] Ps. 51:5; *Ps. 14:2–3.
8. But are we so depraved that we are completely incapable of any good and prone to all evil? **Yes,[1] unless we are born again by the Spirit of God.[2]** [1] Jn. 3:6; Gen. 6:5; Job 14:4; Isa. 53:6. [2] Jn. 3:5; *Gen. 8:21; *2 Cor. 3:5; *Rom. 7:18; *Jer. 17:9.
9. Does not God, then, do injustice to man by requiring of him in His Law that which he cannot perform? **No, for God so made man that he could perform it;[1] but man, through the instigation of the devil, by willful disobedience deprived himself and all his descendants of those divine gifts.[2]** [1] Eph. 4:24. [2] Rom. 5:12.
10. Will God allow such disobedience and apostasy to go unpunished? **Certainly not,[1] but He is terribly displeased with our inborn as well as our actual sins, and will punish them in just judgment in time and eternity, as He has declared, “Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them.”[2]** [1] Heb. 9:27. [2] Deut. 27:26; Gal. 3:10; *Rom. 1:18; *Matt. 25:41.
11. But is not God also merciful? **God is indeed merciful,[1] but He is likewise just;[2] His justice therefore requires that sin which is committed against the most high majesty of God, be punished with extreme, that is, with everlasting punishment both of body and soul.** [1] Ex. 34:6–7. [2] Ex. 20:5; Ps. 5:5–6; 2 Cor. 6:14–16; *Rev. 14:11.
12. Since, then, by the righteous judgment of God we deserve temporal and eternal punishment, how may we escape this punishment and be again received into favor? **God wills that His justice be satisfied;[1] therefore, we must make full satisfaction to that justice, either by ourselves or by another.[2]** [1] Ex. 20:5; 23:7. [2] Rom. 8:3–4.

13. Can we ourselves make this satisfaction? **Certainly not; on the contrary, we daily increase our guilt.**[1] [1] Job 9:2–3; 15:15–16; Matt. 6:12; *16:26.
14. Can any mere creature make satisfaction for us? **None; for first, God will not punish any other creature for the sin which man committed;**[1] **and further, no mere creature can sustain the burden of God's eternal wrath against sin** [2] **and redeem others from it.** [1] Heb. 2:14–18. [2] Ps. 130:3.
15. What kind of mediator and redeemer, then, must we seek? **One who is a true** [1] **and righteous man,**[2] **and yet more powerful than all creatures, that is, one who is also true God.**[3] [1] 1 Cor. 15:21–22, 25–26. [2] Jer. 13:16; Isa. 53:11; 2 Cor. 5:21; Heb. 7:15–16 [3] Isa. 7:14; Heb. 7:26.
16. Why must He be a true and righteous man? **Because the justice of God requires** [1] **that the same human nature which has sinned should make satisfaction for sin; but one who is himself a sinner cannot satisfy for others.**[2] [1] Rom. 5:15. [2] Isa. 53:3–5.
17. Why must He also be true God? **That by the power of His Godhead He might bear in His manhood the burden of God's wrath,**[1] **and so obtain for** [2] **and restore to us righteousness and life.**[3] [1] Isa. 53:8; Acts 2:24. [2] Jn. 3:16; Acts 20:28. [3] 1 Jn. 1:2.
18. But who now is that Mediator, who in one person is true God and also a true and righteous man? **Our Lord Jesus Christ,**[1] **who is freely given unto us for complete redemption and righteousness.**[2] [1] Matt. 1:23; 1 Tim. 3:16; Lk. 2:11. [2] 1 Cor. 1:30; *Acts 4:12.
19. From where do you know this? **From the Holy Gospel, which God Himself first revealed in Paradise,**[1] **afterwards proclaimed by the holy patriarchs** [2] **and prophets, and foreshadowed by the sacrifices and other ceremonies of the law,**[3] **and finally fulfilled by His well-beloved Son.**[4] [1] Gen. 3:15. [2] Gen. 22:18; 49:10–11; Rom. 1:2; Heb. 1:1; Acts 3:22–24; 10:43. [3] Jn. 5:46. Heb. 10:7. [4] Rom. 10:4; Gal. 4:4–5; *Heb. 10:1.
20. Are all men, then, saved by Christ as they have perished in Adam? **No, only those who by true faith are engrafted into Him and receive all His benefits.**[1] [1] Jn. 1:12–13; 1 Cor. 15:22; Ps. 2:12; Rom. 11:20; Heb. 4:2–3; 10:39.
21. What is true faith? **True faith is not only a sure knowledge whereby I hold for truth all that God has revealed to us in His Word,**[1] **but also a hearty trust,**[2] **which the Holy Spirit** [3] **works in me by the Gospel,**[4] **that not only to others, but to me also, forgiveness of sins, everlasting righteousness, and salvation are freely given by God,**[5] **merely of grace, only for the sake of Christ's merits.**[6] [1] Jas. 1:6. [2] Rom. 4:16–18; 5:1. [3] 2 Cor. 4:13; Phil. 1:19, 29. [4] Rom. 1:16; 10:17. [5] Heb. 11:1–2; Rom. 1:17. [6] Eph. 2:7–9; Rom. 3:24–25; Gal. 2:16; *Acts 10:43.
22. What, then, is necessary for a Christian to believe? **All that is promised us in the Gospel,**[1] **which the articles of our catholic, undoubted Christian faith teach us in summary.** [1] Jn. 20:31; Matt. 28:20. *2 Pet. 1:21; *2 Tim. 3:15.
23. What are these articles? **The Apostles Creed which we sang earlier.**
24. How are these articles divided? **Into three parts: the first is of God the Father and our creation; the second, of God the Son and our redemption; the third, of God the Holy Spirit and our sanctification.**[1] [1] 1 Pet. 1:2; *1 Jn. 5:7.
25. Since there is but one Divine Being,[1] why do you speak of three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit? **Because God has so revealed Himself in His Word,**[2] **that these three distinct persons are the one, true, eternal God.** [1] Deut. 6:4. [2] Isa. 61:1; Ps. 110:1; Matt. 3:16–17; 28:19; 1 Jn. 5:7; *2 Cor. 13:14.
26. What do you believe when you say, "I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth"? **That the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who of nothing made heaven and earth with all that is in them,**[1] **who likewise upholds, and governs them by His eternal counsel and providence,**[2] **is for the sake of Christ, His Son, my God and my Father,**[3] **in whom I so trust as to have no doubt that He will provide me with all things necessary for body and soul;**[4] **and further, that whatever evil He sends upon me in this valley of tears, He will turn to my good;**[5] **for He is able to do it, being Almighty God,**[6] **and willing also, being a faithful Father.**[7] [1] Gen. 1:31; Ps. 33:6; *Col. 1:16; *Heb. 11:3. [2] Ps. 104:2–5; Matt. 10:30; Heb. 1:3; Ps. 115:3; *Acts 17:24–25. [3] Jn. 1:12; Rom. 8:15; Gal. 4:5–7; Eph. 1:5; *Eph. 3:14–16; *Matt. 6:8. [4] Ps. 55:22; Matt. 6:25–26; Lk. 12:22–24; Ps. 90:1–2. [5] Rom. 8:28; *Acts 17:27–28. [6] Rom. 10:12. [7] Matt. 7:9–11; *Num. 23:19.