

**Our Savior Lutheran Church  
Mankato, Minnesota**

**The Fifth Sunday in Lent  
March 26, 2023**

***At Our Savior Lutheran Church we live to make Christ known.***

**Monthly Memory Verse:**

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;  
according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

Psalm 51:1

**Weekly Discussion Question:**

What do you think is God's answer to this request?

**Confession and Absolution**

**Opening Hymn: "Christ, the Life of All the Living"**

**LSB 420**

- 1 Christ, the life of all the living,  
Christ, the death of death, our foe,  
Who, Thyself for me once giving  
To the darkest depths of woe:  
Through Thy sufferings, death, and merit  
I eternal life inherit.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,  
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.
- 2 Thou, ah! Thou, hast taken on Thee  
Bonds and stripes, a cruel rod;  
Pain and scorn were heaped upon Thee,  
O Thou sinless Son of God!  
Thus didst Thou my soul deliver  
From the bonds of sin forever.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,  
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

- 3 Thou hast borne the smiting only  
That my wounds might all be whole;  
Thou hast suffered, sad and lonely,  
Rest to give my weary soul;  
Yea, the curse of God enduring,  
Blessing unto me securing.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,  
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.
- 4 Heartless scoffers did surround Thee,  
Treating Thee with shameful scorn  
And with piercing thorns they crowned Thee.  
All disgrace Thou, Lord, hast borne,  
That as Thine Thou mightest own me  
And with heav'nly glory crown me.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,  
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.
- 5 Thou hast suffered men to bruise Thee,  
That from pain I might be free;  
Falsely did Thy foes accuse Thee:  
Thence I gain security;  
Comfortless Thy soul did languish  
Me to comfort in my anguish.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,  
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.
- 6 Thou hast suffered great affliction  
And hast borne it patiently,  
Even death by crucifixion,  
Fully to atone for me;  
Thou didst choose to be tormented  
That my doom should be prevented.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,  
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.
- 7 Then, for all that wrought my pardon,  
For Thy sorrows deep and sore,  
For Thine anguish in the Garden,  
I will thank Thee evermore,  
Thank Thee for Thy groaning, sighing,  
For Thy bleeding and Thy dying,  
For that last triumphant cry,  
And shall praise Thee, Lord, on high.

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.**

## Absolution

*LSB 151*

## Service of the Word

### Kyrie

*LSB 152*

**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C** Amen.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Old Testament Reading

*Ezekiel 37:1–14*

<sup>1</sup>The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup>And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. <sup>3</sup>And he said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” And I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.” <sup>4</sup>Then he said to me, “Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. <sup>5</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup>And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD.”

<sup>7</sup>So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup>And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup>Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.” <sup>10</sup>So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

<sup>11</sup>Then he said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are clean cut off.’ <sup>12</sup>Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup>And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup>And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Psalm

*Psalm 130;*

<sup>1</sup>Out of the depths  
I cry to you, O LORD!  
<sup>2</sup>O Lord, hear my voice!  
Let your ears be attentive  
to the voice of my pleas for mercy!  
<sup>3</sup>If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,  
O Lord, who could stand?  
<sup>4</sup>But with you there is forgiveness,  
that you may be feared.  
<sup>5</sup>I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,  
and in his word I hope;  
<sup>6</sup>my soul waits for the Lord  
more than watchmen for the morning,  
more than watchmen for the morning.  
<sup>7</sup>O Israel, hope in the LORD!  
For with the LORD there is steadfast love,  
and with him is plentiful redemption.  
<sup>8</sup>And he will redeem Israel  
from all his iniquities.

## Gloria Patri

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**☩ Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## Epistle

*Romans 8:1–11*

<sup>1</sup>There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup>For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. <sup>3</sup>For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, <sup>4</sup>in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. <sup>5</sup>For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. <sup>6</sup>To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup>For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. <sup>8</sup>Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. <sup>9</sup>You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. <sup>10</sup>But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup>If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Anthem: “Somebody’s Knocking at Your Door”

## Introductory Bells

## Holy Gospel

*John 11:1–45*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eleventh chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. <sup>2</sup>It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. <sup>3</sup>So the sisters sent to him, saying, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” <sup>4</sup>But when Jesus heard it he said, “This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.”

<sup>5</sup>Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. <sup>6</sup>So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. <sup>7</sup>Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.” <sup>8</sup>The disciples said to him, “Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?” <sup>9</sup>Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. <sup>10</sup>But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him.” <sup>11</sup>After saying these things, he said to them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him.” <sup>12</sup>The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover.” <sup>13</sup>Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. <sup>14</sup>Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus has died, <sup>15</sup>and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.” <sup>16</sup>So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

<sup>17</sup>Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. <sup>18</sup>Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, <sup>19</sup>and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. <sup>20</sup>So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house.

<sup>21</sup>Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.

<sup>22</sup>But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.” <sup>23</sup>Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” <sup>24</sup>Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” <sup>25</sup>Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, <sup>26</sup>and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?” <sup>27</sup>She said to him, “Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.”

<sup>28</sup>When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” <sup>29</sup>And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. <sup>30</sup>Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place

where Martha had met him. <sup>31</sup>When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. <sup>32</sup>Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” <sup>33</sup>When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. <sup>34</sup>And he said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” <sup>35</sup>Jesus wept. <sup>36</sup>So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” <sup>37</sup>But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?”

<sup>38</sup>Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days.” <sup>40</sup>Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?” <sup>41</sup>So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me. <sup>42</sup>I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me.” <sup>43</sup>When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out.” <sup>44</sup>The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

<sup>45</sup>Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## Hymn of the Day: “My Song Is Love Unknown”

LSB 430

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>1 My song is love unknown,<br/>My Savior’s love to me,<br/>Love to the loveless shown<br/>That they might lovely be.<br/>Oh, who am I<br/>That for my sake<br/>My Lord should take<br/>Frail flesh and die?</p>                | <p>3 Sometimes they strew His way<br/>And His sweet praises sing;<br/>Resounding all the day<br/>Hosannas to their King.<br/>Then “Crucify!”<br/>Is all their breath,<br/>And for His death<br/>They thirst and cry.</p>               |
| <p>2 He came from His blest throne<br/>Salvation to bestow;<br/>But men made strange, and none<br/>The longed-for Christ would know.<br/>But, oh, my friend,<br/>My friend indeed,<br/>Who at my need<br/>His life did spend!</p> | <p>4 Why, what hath my Lord done?<br/>What makes this rage and spite?<br/>He made the lame to run,<br/>He gave the blind their sight.<br/>Sweet injuries!<br/>Yet they at these<br/>Themselves displease<br/>And ’gainst Him rise.</p> |

5 They rise and needs will have  
My dear Lord made away;  
A murderer they save,  
The Prince of Life they slay.  
Yet cheerful He  
To suffering goes  
That He His foes  
From thence might free.

6 In life no house, no home  
My Lord on earth might have;  
In death no friendly tomb  
But what a stranger gave.  
What may I say?  
Heav'n was His home  
But mine the tomb  
Wherein He lay.

7 Here might I stay and sing,  
No story so divine!  
Never was love, dear King,  
Never was grief like Thine.  
This is my friend,  
In whose sweet praise  
I all my days  
Could gladly spend!

Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624–1683  
Text: Public domain

## Sermon

### Apostles' Creed

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### Prayer of the Church

#### Offertory

*LSB 159*

**C** What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?  
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.  
I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.  
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,  
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.



# Service of the Sacrament

## Preface

*LSB 160*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

*LSB 161*

**C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:**

**Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.**

**Hosanna. Hosanna.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

*LSB 161*

**P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## The Words of Our Lord

- P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- C** **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**
- P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

## Lord's Prayer

- C** **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.**

## Pax Domini

*LSB 163*

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C** **Amen.**

## Agnus Dei

*LSB 163*

- C** **Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

## Distribution Hymns:

### “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

**LSB 576**

- 1 My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
No merit of my own I claim  
But wholly lean on Jesus' name. Refrain
- ref On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;  
All other ground is sinking sand,  
All other ground is sinking sand.

- 2 When darkness veils His lovely face,  
 I rest on His unchanging grace;  
 In ev'ry high and stormy gale  
 My anchor holds within the veil. Refrain
- 3 His oath, His covenant and blood  
 Support me in the raging flood;  
 When ev'ry earthly prop gives way,  
 He then is all my hope and stay. Refrain
- 4 When He shall come with trumpet sound,  
 Oh, may I then in Him be found,  
 Clothed in His righteousness alone,  
 Redeemed to stand before His throne! Refrain

Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt.  
 Text: Public domain

## “Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus”

LSB 685

- 1 Let us ever walk with Jesus,  
 Follow His example pure,  
 Through a world that would deceive us  
 And to sin our spirits lure.  
 Onward in His footsteps treading,  
 Pilgrims here, our home above,  
 Full of faith and hope and love,  
 Let us do the Father's bidding,  
 Faithful Lord, with me abide;  
 I shall follow where You guide.
- 2 Let us suffer here with Jesus  
 And with patience bear our cross.  
 Joy will follow all our sadness;  
 Where He is, there is no loss.  
 Though today we sow no laughter,  
 We shall reap celestial joy;  
 All discomforts that annoy  
 Shall give way to mirth hereafter.  
 Jesus, here I share Your woe;  
 Help me there Your joy to know.

- 3 Let us gladly die with Jesus.  
 Since by death He conquered death,  
 He will free us from destruction,  
 Give to us immortal breath.  
 Let us mortify all passion  
 That would lead us into sin;  
 And the grave that shuts us in  
 Shall but prove the gate to heaven.  
 Jesus, here with You I die,  
 There to live with You on high.
- 4 Let us also live with Jesus.  
 He has risen from the dead  
 That to life we may awaken.  
 Jesus, You are now our head.  
 We are Your own living members;  
 Where You live, there we shall be  
 In Your presence constantly,  
 Living there with You forever.  
 Jesus, let me faithful be,  
 Life eternal grant to me.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–81; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.

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## “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

LSB 686

- 1 Come, Thou Fount of ev’ry blessing,  
 Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;  
 Streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
 Call for songs of loudest praise.  
 While the hope of endless glory  
 Fills my heart with joy and love,  
 Teach me ever to adore Thee;  
 May I still Thy goodness prove.
- 2 Here I raise my Ebenezer,  
 Hither by Thy help I’ve come;  
 And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,  
 Safely to arrive at home.  
 Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
 Wand’ring from the fold of God;  
 He, to rescue me from danger,  
 Interposed His precious blood.

- 3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor  
 Daily I'm constrained to be;  
 Let that grace now like a fetter  
 Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee:  
 Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;  
 Prone to leave the God I love.  
 Here's my heart, O take and seal it,  
 Seal it for Thy courts above.
- 4 Oh, that day when freed from sinning,  
 I shall see Thy lovely face;  
 Clothed then in the blood-washed linen,  
 How I'll sing Thy wondrous grace!  
 Come, my Lord, no longer tarry;  
 Take my ransom'd soul away;  
 Send Thine angels soon to carry  
 Me to realms of endless day.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–90, alt. Text: Public domain

## Nunc Dimittis

*LSB 165*

- C** Lord, now You let Your servant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled.  
 My own eyes have seen the salvation which You have prepared in the sight of  
 ev'ry people:  
 A light to reveal You to the nations and the glory of Your people Israel.  
 Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

## Post-Communion Collect

- A** Let us pray.  
 Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to  
 come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true  
 faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may,  
 together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His  
 kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and  
 reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

## Benediction

*LSB 166*

- P** 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.
- C** Amen.

## Closing Hymn: “Lord Jesus Christ, the Church’s Head”

LSB 647

- 1 Lord Jesus Christ, the Church’s head,  
    You are her one foundation;  
In You she trusts, before You bows,  
    And waits for Your salvation.  
Built on this rock secure,  
Your Church shall endure  
    Though all the world decay  
    And all things pass away.  
O hear, O hear us, Jesus!
  
- 2 O Lord, let this Your little flock,  
    Your name alone confessing,  
Continue in Your loving care,  
    True unity possessing.  
Your sacraments, O Lord,  
And Your saving Word  
    To us, Lord, pure retain.  
    Grant that they may remain  
Our only strength and comfort.
  
- 3 Help us to serve You evermore  
    With hearts both pure and lowly;  
And may Your Word, that light divine,  
    Shine on in splendor holy  
That we repentance show,  
In faith ever grow;  
    The pow’r of sin destroy  
    And evils that annoy.  
O make us faithful Christians.
  
- 4 And for Your Gospel let us dare  
    To sacrifice all treasure;  
Teach us to bear Your blessed cross,  
    To find in You all pleasure.  
O grant us steadfastness  
In joy and distress,  
    Lest we, Lord, You forsake.  
    Let us by grace partake  
Of endless joy and gladness.

Text: Johann Mentzer, 1658–1734; tr. William J. Schaefer, 1891–1976, alt.

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