

**Our Savior Lutheran Church  
Mankato, Minnesota**

**The Fifth Sunday of Easter  
May 7, 2023**

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

**Monthly Memory Verse:**

For sin will have no dominion over you,  
since you are not under law but under grace.  
Romans 6:14

**Weekly Discussion Question:**

How do our sinful desires sometimes try to rule us?

**Confession and Absolution**

**Opening Hymn: “The Son of God Goes Forth to War”**

**LSB 661**

- 1 The Son of God goes forth to war  
A kingly crown to gain.  
His blood-red banner streams afar;  
Who follows in His train?  
Who best can drink His cup of woe,  
Triumphant over pain,  
Who patient bears his cross below—  
He follows in His train.
  
- 2 The martyr first, whose eagle eye  
Could pierce beyond the grave,  
Who saw his master in the sky  
And called on Him to save.  
Like Him, with pardon on His tongue  
In midst of mortal pain,  
He prayed for those who did the wrong—  
Who follows in his train?

3 A glorious band, the chosen few,  
On whom the Spirit came,  
Twelve valiant saints—their hope they knew  
And mocked the cross and flame.  
They met the tyrant’s brandished steel,  
The lion’s gory mane;  
They bowed their necks their death to feel—  
Who follows in their train?

4 A noble army, men and boys,  
The matron and the maid,  
Around the Savior’s throne rejoice,  
In robes of light arrayed.  
They climbed the steep ascent of heav’n  
Through peril, toil, and pain.  
O God, to us may grace be giv’n  
To follow in their train!

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt. Text: Public domain

**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.

*Silence for reflection on God’s Word and for self-examination.*

**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 167*

**Easter Acclamation**

**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!



lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of  
 God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:  
 Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to  
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.  
 This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,  
 for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun His reign.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** A - men.

## First Reading

*Acts 6:1–9; 7:2a, 51–60*

<sup>1</sup>Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. <sup>2</sup>And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables.

<sup>3</sup>Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. <sup>4</sup>But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” <sup>5</sup>And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. <sup>6</sup>These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

<sup>7</sup>And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

<sup>8</sup>And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. <sup>9</sup>Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen. . . .

<sup>2</sup>And Stephen said:

“Brothers and fathers, hear me. . . .

<sup>51</sup>You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. <sup>52</sup>Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, <sup>53</sup>you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it.”

<sup>54</sup>Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. <sup>55</sup>But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup>And he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.” <sup>57</sup>But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. <sup>58</sup>Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup>And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” <sup>60</sup>And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Psalm

*Psalm 146*

<sup>1</sup>Praise the LORD!  
Praise the LORD, O my soul!  
<sup>2</sup>I will praise the LORD as long as I live;  
I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.  
<sup>3</sup>Put not your trust in princes,  
in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.  
<sup>4</sup>When his breath departs he returns to the earth;  
on that very day his plans perish.  
<sup>5</sup>Blessèd is he whose help is the God of Jacob,  
whose hope is in the LORD his God,  
<sup>6</sup>who made heaven and earth,  
the sea, and all that is in them,  
who keeps faith forever;  
<sup>7</sup>who executes justice for the oppressed,  
who gives food to the hungry.  
The LORD sets the prisoners free;  
<sup>8</sup>the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.  
The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;  
the LORD loves the righteous.  
<sup>9</sup>The LORD watches over the sojourners;  
he upholds the widow and the fatherless,  
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.  
<sup>10</sup>The LORD will reign forever,  
your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!

## 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

*1 Peter 2:2–10*

<sup>2</sup>Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation— <sup>3</sup>if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.  
<sup>4</sup>As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, <sup>5</sup>you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup>For it stands in Scripture:

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone,  
a cornerstone chosen and precious,  
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

<sup>7</sup>So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,  
“The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone,”

<sup>8</sup>and

“A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

<sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. <sup>10</sup>Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Anthem: “All Creatures of our God and King”

Handbell Choir

### Alleluia and Verse

LSB 173

**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the Alleluia and Verse. The second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

### Holy Gospel

John 14:1–14

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

**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

The image shows a single staff of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and consists of a few notes. The lyrics are written below the notes.

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. <sup>4</sup>And you know the way to where I am going.” <sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” <sup>6</sup>Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the

life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup>If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

<sup>8</sup>Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” <sup>9</sup>Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father?’ <sup>10</sup>Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works.

<sup>11</sup>Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

<sup>12</sup>“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup>Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup>If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.”

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



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

## Hymn of the Day: “At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing”

LSB 633

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>1 At the Lamb’s high feast we sing<br/>Praise to our victorious King,<br/>Who has washed us in the tide<br/>Flowing from His piercèd side.<br/>Alleluia!</p> <p>2 Praise we Him, whose love divine<br/>Gives His sacred blood for wine,<br/>Gives His body for the feast—<br/>Christ the victim, Christ the priest.<br/>Alleluia!</p> <p>3 Where the paschal blood is poured,<br/>Death’s dread angel sheathes the sword;<br/>Israel’s hosts triumphant go<br/>Through the wave that drowns the foe.<br/>Alleluia!</p> <p>4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, <math>\triangle</math><br/>Paschal victim, paschal bread;<br/>With sincerity and love<br/>Eat we manna from above. Alleluia!</p> | <p>5 Mighty Victim from the sky,<br/>Hell’s fierce pow’rs beneath You lie;<br/>You have conquered in the fight,<br/>You have brought us life and light.<br/>Alleluia!</p> <p>6 Now no more can death appall,<br/>Now no more the grave enthral;<br/>You have opened paradise,<br/>And Your saints in You shall rise.<br/>Alleluia!</p> <p>7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!<br/>This alone can sin destroy;<br/>From sin’s pow’r, Lord, set us free,<br/>Newborn souls in You to be.<br/>Alleluia!</p> <p>8 Father, who the crown shall give,<br/>Savior, by whose death we live,<br/>Spirit, guide through all our days:<br/>Three in One, Your name we praise.<br/>Alleluia!</p> |
|---|--|



Nicene Creed

**C** I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

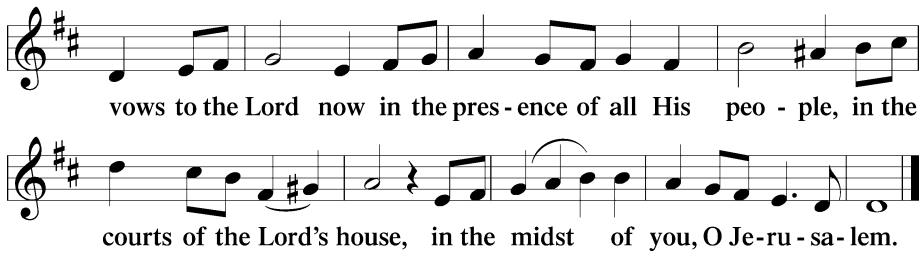
And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life  $\dagger$  of the world to come.  
Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Offertory

LSB 176

**C** What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to  
me? I will of-fer the sac-ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will  
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



vows to the Lord now in the pres - ence of all His peo - ple, in the  
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

## Service of the Sacrament

### Preface

*LSB 177*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

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

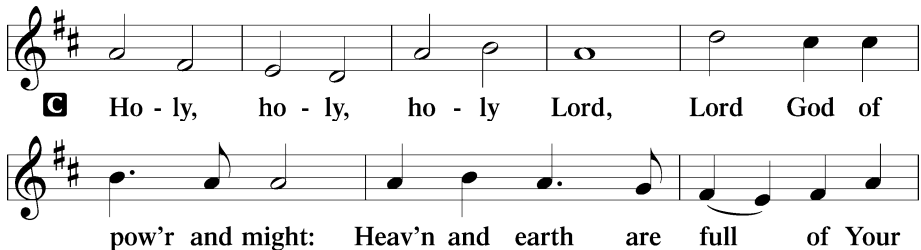
**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

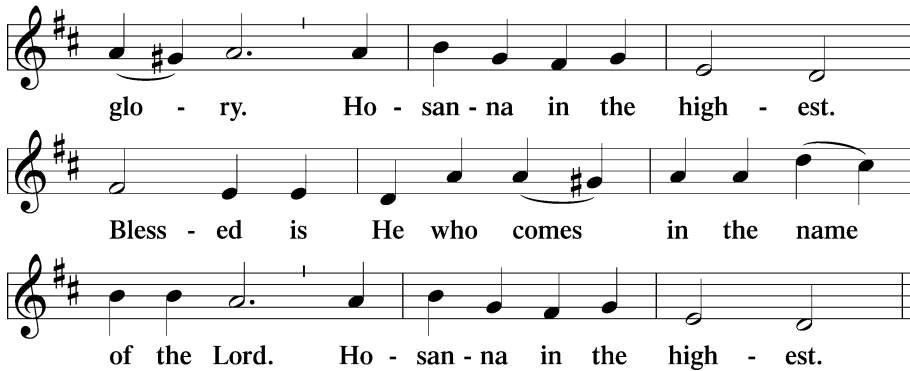
**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, 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 178*



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of  
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Bless - ed is He who comes in the name  
 of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

*LSB 178*

- 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.

## Lord's Prayer

*LSB 179*

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:  
**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.**

## The Words of Our Lord

### Pax Domini

*LSB 180*

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



- C** A - men.

## Agnus Dei

LSB 180



**C** Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world;  
have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the  
sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of  
God, You take a-way the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace.

## Distribution Hymns:

### “The Church’s One Foundation”

LSB 644

- 1 The Church’s one foundation  
Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
She is His new creation  
By water and the Word.  
From heav’n He came and sought her  
To be His holy bride;  
With His own blood He bought her,  
And for her life He died.
- 2 Elect from ev’ry nation,  
Yet one o’er all the earth;  
Her charter of salvation:  
One Lord, one faith, one birth.  
One holy name she blesses,  
Partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses  
With ev’ry grace endued.
- 3 Though with a scornful wonder  
The world sees her oppressed,  
By schisms rent asunder,  
By heresies distressed,  
Yet saints their watch are keeping;  
Their cry goes up, “How long?”  
And soon the night of weeping  
Shall be the morn of song.
- 4 Through toil and tribulation  
And tumult of her war  
She waits the consummation  
Of peace forevermore  
Till with the vision glorious  
Her longing eyes are blest,  
And the great Church victorious  
Shall be the Church at rest.

- 5 Yet she on earth has union  
With God, the Three in One,  
And mystic sweet communion  
With those whose rest is won.  
O blessèd heav'nly chorus!  
Lord, save us by Your grace  
That we, like saints before us,  
May see You face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900, alt.  
Text: Public domain

## **“Christ the Eternal Lord”**

**LSB 829**

- 1 Christ the eternal Lord,  
Whose promise here we claim,  
Whose gifts of grace are freely poured  
On all who name Your name;  
With thankfulness and praise  
We stand before Your throne,  
Intent to serve You all our days  
And make Your glory known.
- 2 Christ the unchanging Word  
To ev'ry passing age,  
Whose timeless teachings still are heard  
Set forth on Scripture's page;  
Transform our thought and mind,  
Enlighten all who read,  
Within Your Word by faith to find  
The bread of life indeed.
- 3 Christ the redeeming Son,  
Who shares our human birth,  
And by His death salvation won  
For ev'ry child of earth;  
Inspire our hearts, we pray,  
To tell Your love abroad,  
That all may honor Christ today  
And follow Him as Lord.

4 Christ the unfading Light  
Of everlasting day,  
Our Morning Star in splendor bright,  
The Life, the Truth, the Way;  
That light of truth You give  
To servants as to friends,  
Your way to walk, Your life to live,  
Till earth's brief journey ends.

5 Christ the ascended King  
Exalted high above,  
Whose praise unending ages sing,  
Whom yet unseen we love;  
When mortal life is past  
Your voice from heaven's throne  
Shall call Your children home at last  
To know as we are known.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926

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## **“Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds”**

**LSB 465**

- 1 Now all the vault of heav'n resounds  
In praise of love that still abounds:  
“Christ has triumphed! He is living!”  
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!  
Repeat their song of glory here:  
“Christ has triumphed! Christ has triumphed!”  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
  
- 2 Eternal is the gift He brings,  
Therefore our heart with rapture sings:  
“Christ has triumphed! He is living!”  
Now still He comes to give us life  
And by His presence stills all strife.  
Christ has triumphed! He is living!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3 O fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;  
 Set heart and will on things above  
 That we conquer through Your triumph;  
 Grant grace sufficient for life's day  
 That by our lives we truly say:  
 "Christ has triumphed! He is living!"  
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

△ 4 Adoring praises now we bring  
 And with the heav'nly blessed sing:  
 "Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"  
 Be to the Father and our Lord,  
 To Spirit blest, most holy God,  
 All the glory, never ending!  
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876-1947, alt.

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## Thank the Lord

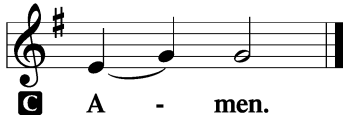
LSB 181

**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what  
 He has done. Let ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re -  
 joyce and proud - ly bear His name. He re-calls His prom-is-  
 es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks -  
 giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Post-Communion Collect

**A** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



## Easter Acclamation

**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

## Benediction

*LSB 183*

**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.



## Closing Hymn: “Saints, See the Cloud of Witnesses”

**LSB 667**

- 1 Saints, see the cloud of witnesses surround us;  
Their lives of faith encourage and astound us.  
Hear how the Master praised their faith so fervent:  
“Well done, My servant!”
- 2 These saints of old received God’s commendation;  
They lived as pilgrim-heirs of His salvation.  
Through faith they conquered flame and sword and gallows,  
God’s name to hallow.
- 3 They call to us, “Your timid footsteps lengthen;  
Throw off sin’s weight, your halting weakness strengthen.  
We kept the faith, we shed our blood, were martyred;  
Our lives we bartered.”



- 4 Come, let us fix our sight on Christ who suffered,  
He faced the cross, His sinless life He offered;  
He scorned the shame, He died, our death enduring,  
Our hope securing.
- 5 Lord, give us faith to walk where You are sending,  
On paths unmarked, eyes blind as to their ending;  
Not knowing where we go, but that You lead us—  
With grace precede us.
- 6 You, Jesus, You alone deserve all glory!  
Our lives unfold, embraced within Your story;  
Past, present, future—You, the same forever—  
You fail us never!

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955

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## Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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