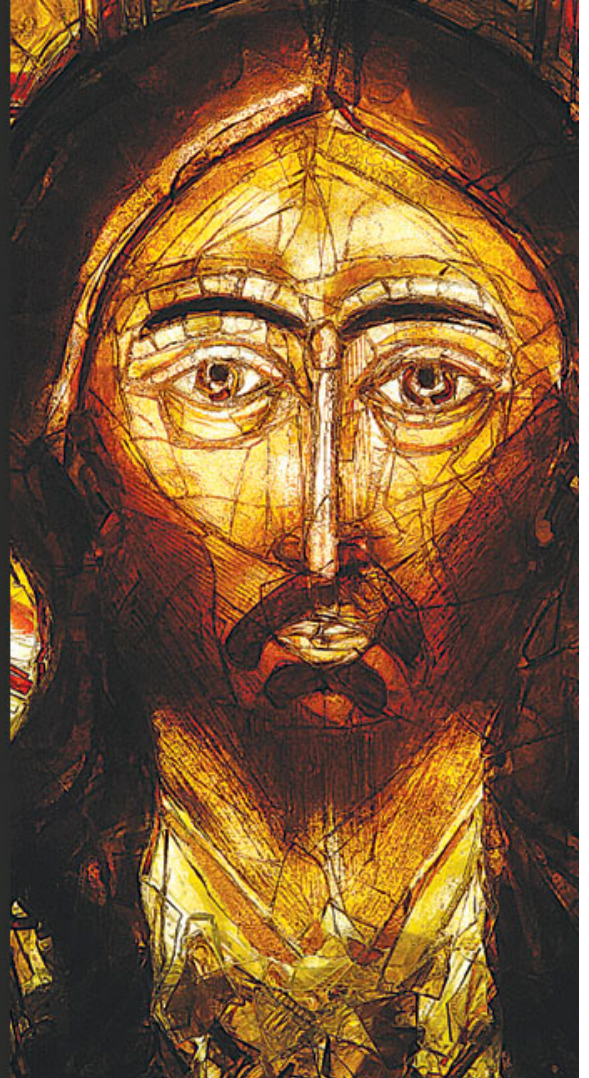


# St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024

WHO DO  
YOU SAY  
THAT I AM?

MARK 8:29



# *WELCOME*

To our Church Family

*We're Glad You're Here!*



## St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

We are so glad that you chose to worship with us today. If you are visiting with us for the first time, please visit our Welcome Center in the North Narthex. As our way of saying thank you, you will receive a St. Paul's Welcome Bag with a coffee cup and information about our church. You may also want to download our new St. Paul's App and visit our website. Information on both is in the Welcome Bag.

For our young worshipers we have children's packets to play and color with during the service. These are on the white stand near the east entrance to our sanctuary.

### *You are welcome at the table!*

If you have been baptized and believe Christ is present in the Eucharist (Holy Communion), you are welcome to join us at the table. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers and return to your seats using the side aisles. If you do not wish to partake in the Sacrament but would like to receive a blessing, please just cross your hands over your chest when you come forward.

Grape juice and Gluten-free wafers are available on request. Grape juice is in the colored glasses in the center of the communion tray. If you are not able to come forward and would like to receive communion, please inform an usher and the pastor will bring communion to you.

### **Altar Flowers**

The **Altar flowers** were given today by Amy & Dave Burkett in memory of Betty McGraw & her 96<sup>th</sup> birthday

The **Throne Flowers** were given by Kathryn Myers in memory of her parents, Mervin & Lois Lutz.

### **Today's Worship Theme**

Three weeks ago we heard Peter's confession of faith as told in John's gospel. This week we hear Mark's version, when Peter says, "You are the Messiah." In John, the stumbling block is Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh, given for the life of the world. In Mark too the scandal has to do with Jesus' words about his own coming death, and here Peter himself stumbles over Jesus' words. But Jesus is anointed (the meaning of *messiah*) in Mark only on the way to the cross (14:3); so we are anointed in baptism with the sign of the cross.

### **Readings and Psalm**

#### **Isaiah 50:4-9a**

*The servant is vindicated by God*

#### **Psalm 116:1-9**

I will walk in the presence of the LORD. (*Ps. 116:9*)

#### **James 3:1-12**

*Dangers of the unbridled tongue*

#### **Mark 8:27-38**

*Peter's confession of faith*



*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



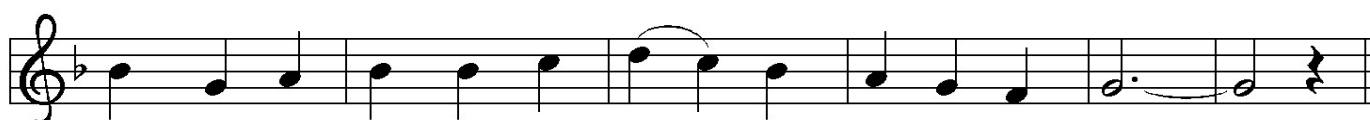
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*

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. al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

### First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a

<sup>4</sup>The Lord GOD has given me  
 the tongue of a teacher,  
 that I may know how to sustain  
 the weary with a word.

Morning by morning he wakens—  
 wakens my ear  
 to listen as those who are taught.

<sup>5</sup>The Lord GOD has opened my ear,  
 and I was not rebellious,  
 I did not turn backward.

<sup>6</sup>I gave my back to those who struck me,  
 and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;  
 I did not hide my face  
 from insult and spitting.

<sup>7</sup>The Lord GOD helps me;  
 therefore I have not been disgraced;  
 therefore I have set my face like flint,

and I know that I shall not be put to shame;  
<sup>8</sup>he who vindicates me is near.  
Who will contend with me?  
Let us stand up together.  
Who are my adversaries?  
Let them confront me.  
<sup>9a</sup>It is the Lord GOD who helps me;  
who will declare me guilty?

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm: Psalm 116:1-9**



I will walk in the pres-ence of the LORD.

<sup>1</sup>I love the LORD, who has <sup>1</sup>heard my voice,  
and listened to my <sup>1</sup>supplication,  
<sup>2</sup>**for the LORD has given <sup>1</sup>ear to me**  
**whenev- <sup>1</sup>er I called.**  
<sup>3</sup>The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave <sup>1</sup>came upon me;  
I came to <sup>1</sup>grief and sorrow.  
<sup>4</sup>**Then I called upon the name <sup>1</sup>of the LORD:**  
**“O LORD, I pray you, <sup>1</sup>save my life.” R**  
<sup>5</sup>Gracious is the <sup>1</sup>LORD and righteous;  
our God is full <sup>1</sup>of compassion.  
<sup>6</sup>**The LORD watches o- <sup>1</sup>ver the innocent;**  
**I was brought low, <sup>1</sup>and God saved me.**  
<sup>7</sup>Turn again to your rest, <sup>1</sup>O my soul.  
for the LORD has dealt <sup>1</sup>well with you.  
<sup>8</sup>**For you have rescued my <sup>1</sup>life from death,**  
**my eyes from tears, and my <sup>1</sup>feet from stumbling;**  
<sup>9</sup>I will walk in the presence <sup>1</sup>of the LORD  
in the land <sup>1</sup>of the living. **R**

**Second Reading: James 3:1-12**

<sup>1</sup>Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. <sup>2</sup>For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. <sup>3</sup>If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. <sup>4</sup>Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are

guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. <sup>5</sup>So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! <sup>6</sup>And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. <sup>7</sup>For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, <sup>8</sup>but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. <sup>9</sup>With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. <sup>10</sup>From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. <sup>11</sup>Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? <sup>12</sup>Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### ALLELUIA VERSE



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

### GOSPEL: Mark 8:27-38

The holy gospel according to Mark, the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>27</sup>Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” <sup>28</sup>And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” <sup>29</sup>He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” <sup>30</sup>And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

<sup>31</sup>Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise

again. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

<sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

*Rev. Mark Kreemer*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

ELW 667

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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**

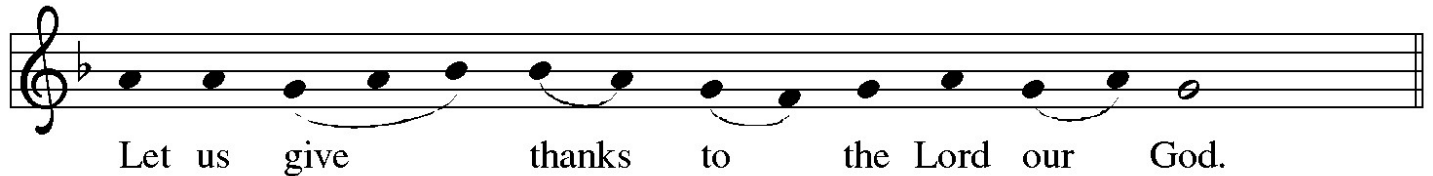
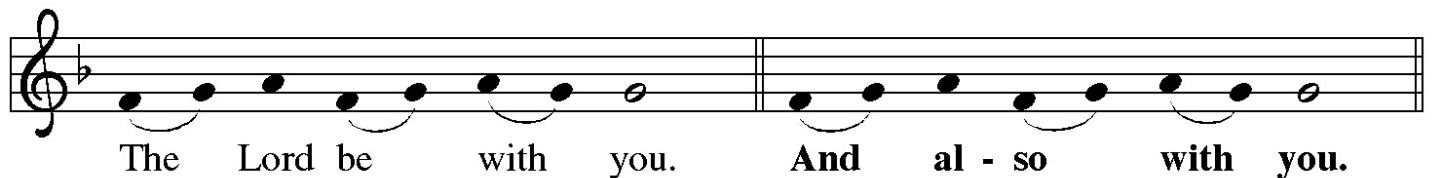
## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

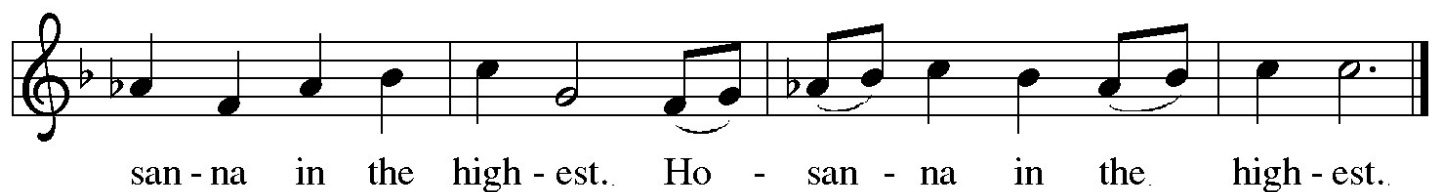
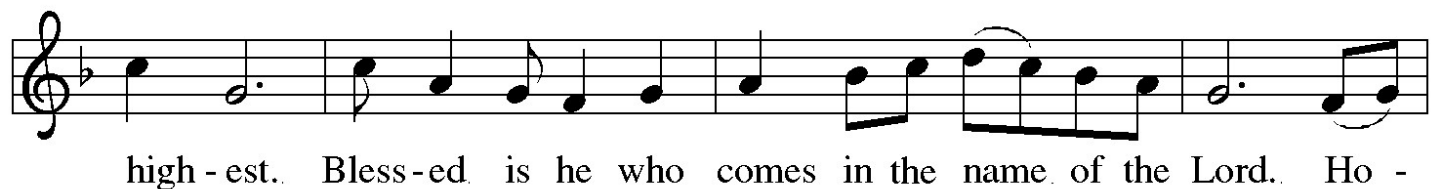




## GREAT THANKSGIVING



It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, .... And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



# EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

## LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes you to this table.

Come, here is your God.

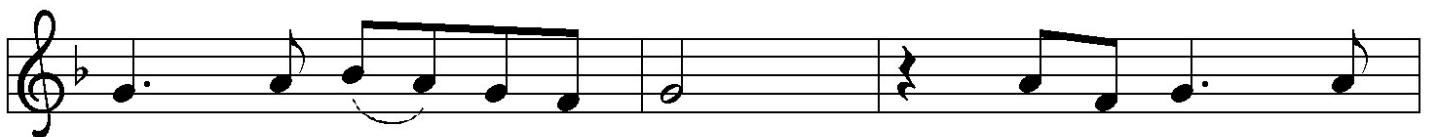
## COMMUNION SONG



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.

**Communion:**

I Come with Joy

ELW 482

## **TABLE BLESSING**

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

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN**

Will You Come and Follow Me

ELW 798

## **BLESSING**

God all mighty, God most merciful ✠ bless you, keep you,  
and give you peace.

**Amen.**

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

**Trumpet Tune in D**

**Sam Batt Owens (1928-1998)**

## **In our prayers today we will remember**

*Rosemary Stephen, Ariane Roberts, Shane Reed, Chrissy Sturtz, Donnie Whitman, Risa Blyer, Michael Jordan, Rick Theiss, Mary Ann Hinton, Mary Martin, Mary Ann Breslin, Amy White, Lindsay Mays, Errett Butler, Theresa Eckleberry, Michael Jordan, Chris Collard, and Bobbee DeGordon.*

## **Chancel Choir to start up for fall**

Wednesday, September 4, at 7:00 was the first rehearsal for the Chancel Choir. The choir meets every Wednesday evening upstairs in the Parish Hall. Please join if interested!

## **Save the Dates for Bell Choir**

Bell choir rehearsals will resume September 25, October 2, and October 9  
in preparation to ring October 13

AND

November 20, December 4, and December 11 in preparation to ring December 15!

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## **Adult Sunday School**

Let's Start at the Beginning!

God saw everything that he made, and indeed, it was very good. (Genesis 1:31)

We will begin our new series this fall with a study of key stories from the book of Genesis. Some of these stories will be more familiar than others, but all will clearly show that God makes and keeps promises that reflect God's abundant love and grace for all creation. The class meets on Sundays at 11:30, beginning September 8th, upper level of Parish Hall. An elevator is available for easy access. Please consider joining us!

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## **Capital Campaign Report**

<b>Remaining Phase One Projects</b>	<b>\$377,000</b>
<b>Funds raised</b>	<b>\$298,334</b>
<b>Remaining funds to be raised</b>	<b>\$ 78,666</b>

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## **Movie Night**

**Sunday September 22<sup>nd</sup> 4:00 pm** *Les Misérables, the Musical*, starring Hugh Jackman, Anne Hathaway, and Russell Crowe. Come and enjoy this wonderful adaptation of the Broadway Musical. There will be pizza, soda, and other snacks.

## Thursday Bible Study

Beginning September 5<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am

During the month of September, we will finish *The Women of the Bible* by Max Lucado.

Starting October 3<sup>rd</sup>, we will begin a new study titled *The Grace of Les Misérables*. Victor Hugo's *Les Misérables* is a truly epic story. Whether you've tackled the 1,400-page 19<sup>th</sup> century novel, witnessed the Broadway musical (and memorized its soundtrack), or seen the several screen adaptations of it, you already know the power of its story.

In the six-week study *The Grace of Les Misérables*, author and pastor Matt Rawle dives into six ideals found in the story—grace, justice, poverty, revolution, love, and hope—each represented by a character in Hugo's story. As these imperfect and relatable characters interact, we can see how these ideals work together (perhaps even in spite of each other) out in the world.

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## The 2024-2025 Concert Series

Dr. Abigail Haake, our Director of Music, is pleased to present this season's artists. Please consider becoming a patron for this upcoming year.

### I WOULD LIKE TO BE A PATRON OF THE 2024-2025 CATHEDRAL CONCERT SERIES

Amount of Gift Included in Offering Envelope

Patron \$50+ \_\_\_\_\_

Beethoven Circle \$150+ \_\_\_\_\_

Bach Circle \$250 + \_\_\_\_\_

Conductor's Circle \$500 and over \_\_\_\_\_

NAME(S) for Concert Programs: \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if you do NOT want to be listed in the program. \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

- **September 29, 2024, 5:00 pm** Singers Companye
- **October 6, 2024, 4:00 pm** James Kibbie, organ
- **November 7, 2024, 7:00 pm** Bowling Green State University Men's Chorus
- **February 23, 2025, 4:00 pm** Minnita Daniel-Cox, soprano
- **March 9, 2025, 4:00 pm** OPUS 216 String Quintet
- **May 17, 2025, 2:00 pm** Canton Symphony Orchestra Chorus



**Singer's Companye, September 29, 5:00 pm**  
Art Show from 3-5 pm prior to concert

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## **Download the St. Paul's Phone APP**

**Go to your Google or Apple app store on your smart phone and download the "My Church" by Pushpay. It is a free download.**

**Open the app and search for St Paul's by typing STPLC APP.**

**Then click on the St Paul's logo—that's it.**

**To take advantage of all the app's features you must create an account. Get notifications and reminders of upcoming events, access our live stream worship and worship bulletins, send prayer requests, and see the church calendar. You can even give electronically.**

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## **Community Pet Blessing Sunday, October 6 at 3pm Holy Trinity Lutheran Church**

**Bring your vaccinated critter and a lawn chair. Holy Trinity is located at Holy Trinity (275 Lincoln Way W, Massillon, OH).**

## Thank you to those serving today:

<b>Presiding</b>	<b>Rev. Mark Kreemer</b>
<b>Director of Music</b>	<b>Dr. Abigail Haake</b>
<b>Lector</b>	<b>Heidi Hall</b>
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	<b>Scott Larson</b>
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	<b>Dennis Morgan &amp; Kathryn Myers</b>
<b>Greeter</b>	<b>Rob Pritchett</b>
<b>Sacristy</b>	<b>Sue Ambrosic</b>
<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Dave Dourm, Russ Poling, Phil Halco, &amp; Tracie Schmolt</b>
<b>Soundboard</b>	<b>Jim Johnson</b>
<b>Video/Live-Stream</b>	<b>John Stanko</b>

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**GATHERING HYMN**                      Lift High the Cross                      ELW 660  
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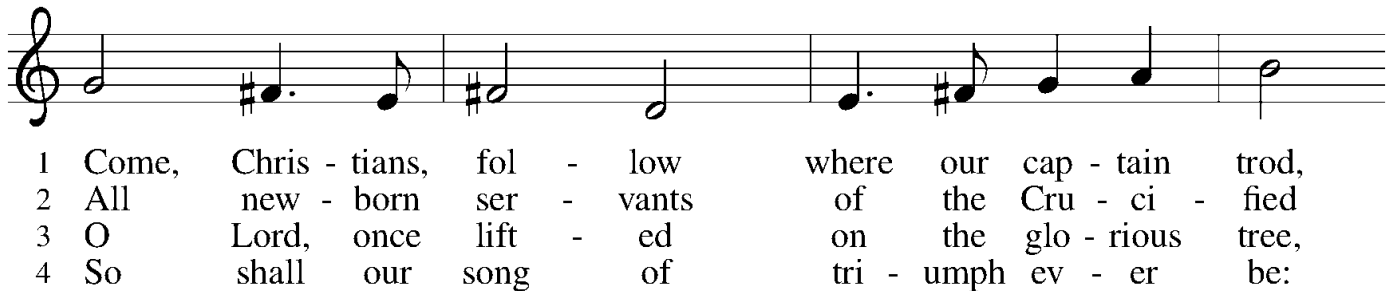
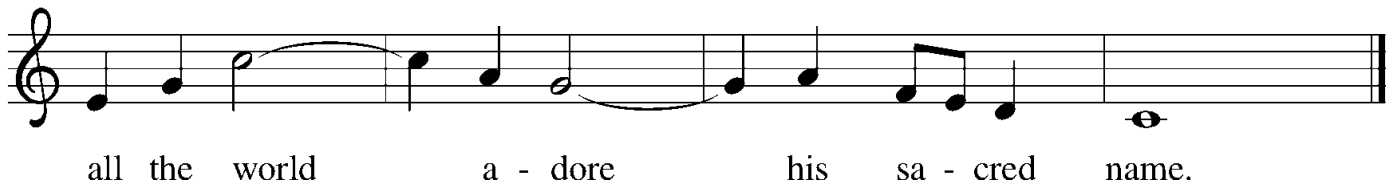
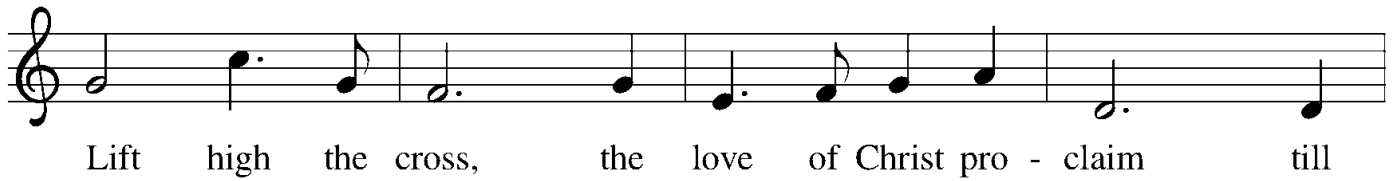
**HYMN OF THE DAY**                      Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said                      ELW 667  
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**Communion:**                      I Come With Joy                      ELW 482  
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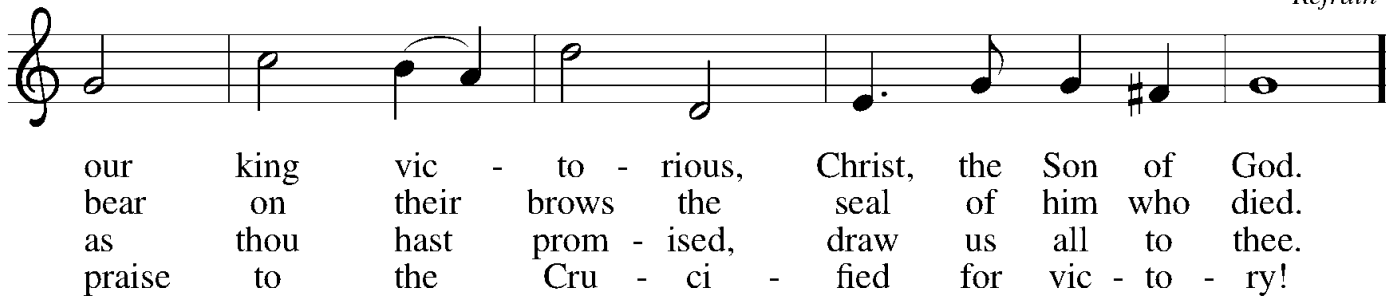
**SENDING HYMN**                      Will You Come and Follow Me                      ELW 798  
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# Lift High the Cross



*Refrain*



Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956

Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

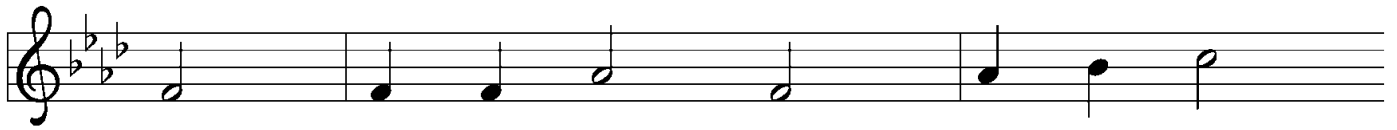
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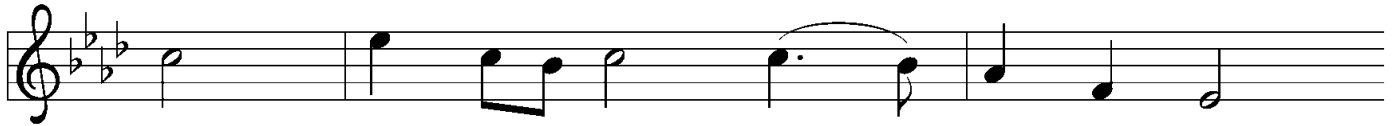
## Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said



1 "Take up your cross," the Sav - ior said,  
 2 Take up your cross; let not its weight  
 3 Take up your cross, nor heed the shame,  
 4 Take up your cross and fol - low Christ,



"if you would my dis - ci - ple be;  
 per - vade your soul with vain a - larm;  
 nor let your fool - ish heart re - bel;  
 nor think till death to lay it down;



for - sake the past, and come this day,  
 his strength shall bear your spir - it up,  
 for you the Lord en - dured the cross  
 for those who hum - bly bear the cross

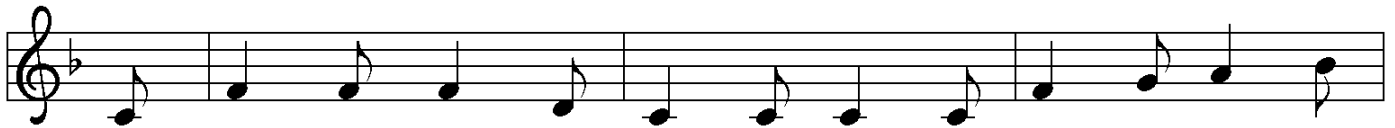


and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me."  
 sus - tain your heart, and nerve your arm.  
 to save your soul from death and hell.  
 one day will wear the glo - rious crown.

Text: Charles W. Everest, 1814–1877, alt.

Music: BOURBON, W. Hauser, *Hesperian Harp*, 1848

# I Come with Joy



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and  
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are  
3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion  
4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er  
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in  
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in  
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and  
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -  
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.  
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.  
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.  
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.  
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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# Will You Come and Follow Me

## *The Summons*



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call  
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call  
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call  
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call  
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't  
 your name? Will you care for cruel and  
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners  
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -  
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?  
 kind and nev - er be the same?  
 free and nev - er be the same?  
 side and nev - er be the same?  
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my  
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -  
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as  
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the  
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be  
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer  
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I  
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and  
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"  
 pray'r in you and you in me?"  
 mean in you and you in me?"  
 sound in you and you in me?"  
 grow in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949  
 Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional  
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