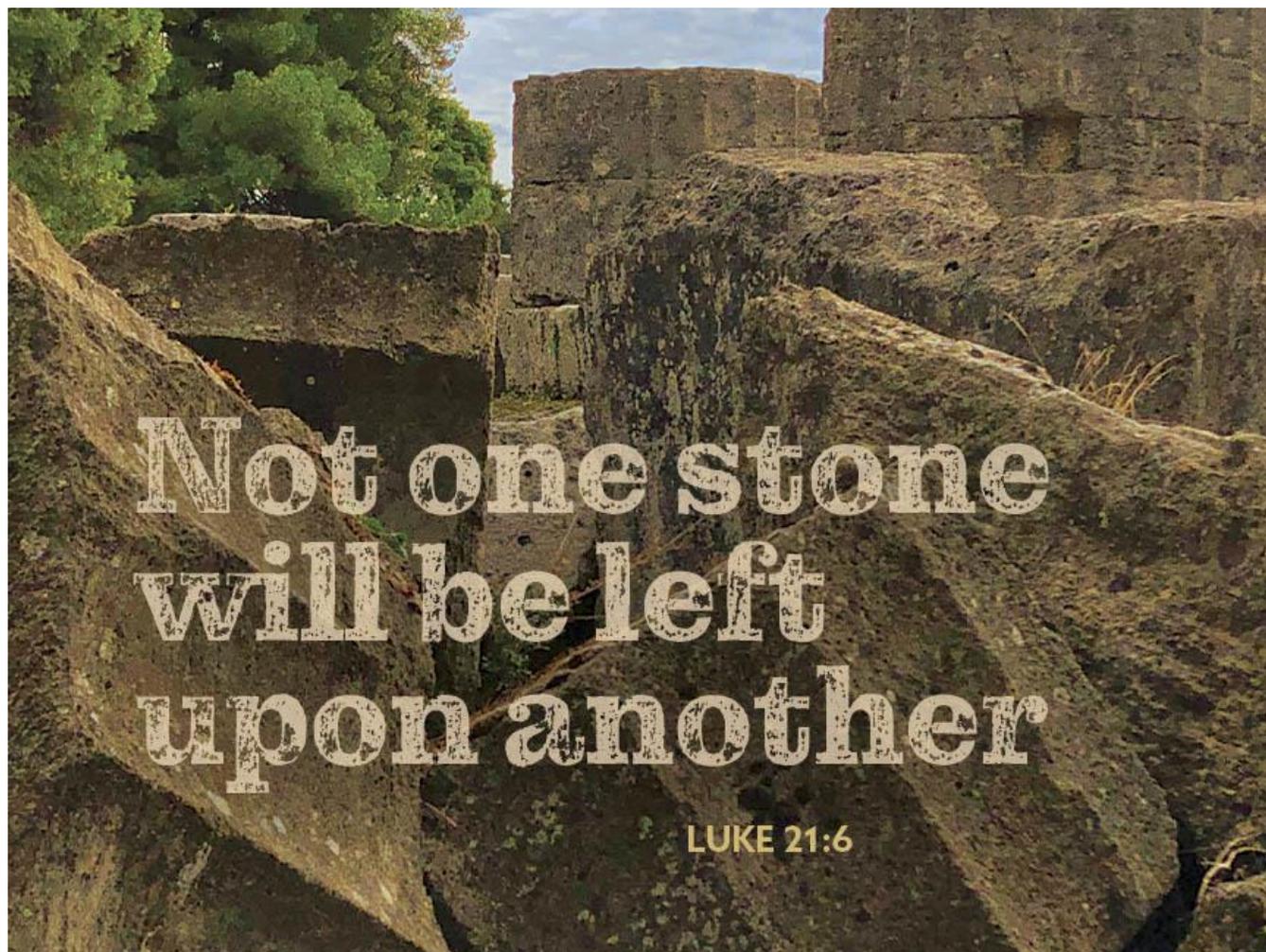


St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
SUNDAY November 16th, 2025



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.

Flowers

Altar Flowers were given today by Susan White in honor of Paul White & Joy Parkinson. Throne Flowers were given today by Sue Reid in memory of Magda.

Today's Worship Focus

The end is near. There is no doubt about it. The warnings are dire. The tone of today's texts is ominous. But the baptized know how to live in the meantime. The baptized are strengthened for the living of these days in word and sacrament. The baptized rally around the invitation of the apostle: "Do not be weary in doing what is right."

Readings and Psalm

Malachi 4:1-2a

A day of blistering heat for the arrogant; a day of healing sun for the righteous.

Psalm 98

In righteousness will the LORD judge the world. (Ps. 98:9)

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Do not be idle, but do what is right for the sake of Christ.

Luke 21:5-19

Jesus speaks of wars, endurance, betrayal, and suffering for his sake.

Today's Hymns from The Tower
The Westminster Strike
Welcome and Announcements

Church Carillon

Prelude: Minuet in G Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)
 Thomas Haake, violin

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Faithful God,

you have shown us the ways of your heart, yet we stray from your paths. We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression and do not embrace the freedom of your faithful promises. We ignore our neighbors. We exploit the earth. We reject your abundance, trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love. Repair our relationships, restore what we have broken, renew our hearts, and bring us to new life. Amen.

Hear the good news:

God the Faithful One loves you, † in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven, and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less ELW 596

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

the world and those who | dwell therein.

**⁸ Let the rivers | clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to | judge
the earth.**

⁹ The LORD will judge the | world with righteousness
and the peo- | ples with equity. **R**

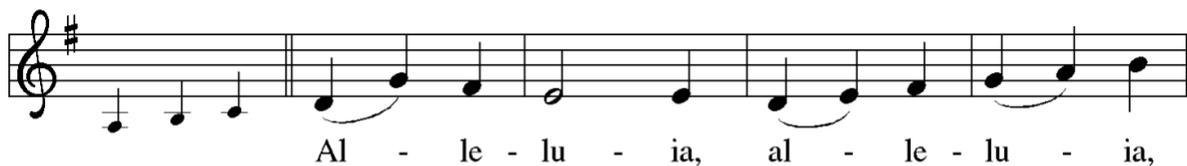
Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

⁶ Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother or sister living irresponsibly and not according to the tradition that they received from us. ⁷ For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not irresponsible when we were with you, ⁸ and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day so that we might not burden any of you. ⁹ This was not because we do not have that right but in order to give you an example to imitate. ¹⁰ For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work should not eat. ¹¹ For we hear that some of you are living irresponsibly, mere busybodies, not doing any work. ¹² Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

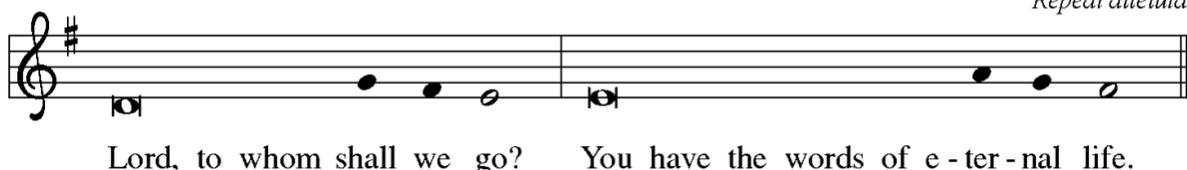


Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,



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: Luke 21:5-19

The holy gospel according to Luke, the 21st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁵ When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, ⁶“As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.”

⁷ They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” ⁸ And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them.

⁹ “When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” ¹⁰ Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; ¹¹ there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

¹² “But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. ¹³ This will give you an opportunity to testify. ¹⁴ So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, ¹⁵ for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶ You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷ You will be hated by all because of my name. ¹⁸ But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹ By your endurance you will gain your souls.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Mark Kreemer

HYMN OF THE DAY: If You But Trust in God to Guide You ELW 769

APOSTLE'S 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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

After each petition the following response is given:

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Offertory Anthem:

Ave Maria

Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

Lexi Johnson, soprano

Hail Mary, full of grace, Hail, Hail, the Lord. The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, thy womb Jesus. Hail Mary, Mother of God, Pray, pray for us sinners, Now and at the hour of our death,

OFFERTORY



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right



spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take



not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of



your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of healing and hope, you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things. Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts. Nourish us with the abundance of your feast and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior, now and forever. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The preface of the day is chanted by the presiding minister.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the

name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

**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

There is a place for you at the table of God.

Come, receive the food that does not perish, a taste of life eternal.



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.

COMMUNION HYMN: Panis Angelicus- César Franck (1822-1890)

Ms. Johnson, soprano

May the Bread of Angels become bread for mankind; The Bread of Heaven puts all foreshadowings to an end; Oh, thing miraculous! The body of the Lord will nourish the poor, the servile, and the humble.

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.

God of field and flower, wheat and grape, you have nourished us with the bread of heaven that gives life to the world. Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son, send us out to gather your good gifts for all who hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN: When Peace Like a River ELW 785

BLESSING

The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you, God the Son save you, and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead.

The holy Trinity bless you ✠ and grant you a faithful and courageous heart now and forever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the harvest.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Proclamation on Ein' feste Burg

Rebecca Groom te Velde (b. 1956)

In our prayers today we will remember

Eric Gerber, Cindy Lash, Judy Hall, Bonnie & Dave Dourm, Nancy Lint, Tom Fry, Carol Sargent, Kenneth & Jean Dexter, Anna Langenfeld, Matthew Cottle, Arthur Barrett, Olivia Harrington, Darlene Lewis, Cindy Nash, Karen & Paul Daily, Rick Theiss, Richard Geson.

Music Notes

Lexi Johnson is a vocalist, private voice teacher, and musical director based in Canton, Ohio. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Music with a focus in voice from the University of Akron in 2020, studying under Dr. Laurie Lashbrook after training with Dr. Katherine Rohrer at The Ohio State University. While completing her degree, she provided music instruction to immigrant and refugee families through Ethiopian Tewahedo Social Services in Columbus. During the pandemic, Lexi collaborated on remote freelance projects with musicians around the world. She has since returned to the North Canton Playhouse, performing, teaching, and directing in a community she has called home since 2004.

Her directing credits span youth, community, and high school theater, including *Alice by Heart* (2025), *Mamma Mia!* (2025), *Anastasia* (2024, 2025), *Little Shop of Horrors* (2024), *Finding Nemo Jr.* (2024), and *Something Rotten* (2023). As a performer, she specializes in sacred and classical repertoire, with highlights including *Carmina Burana*, *The Marriage of Figaro* (excerpts), and *Fauré's Requiem*.

Handbell Choir

Save the dates! Rehearsals are **November 12, 19, & December 3** in preparation to play in worship on **December 7** AND participate in the **Candlelight Walk (December 7, 5-7 PM)**. Please let Abby know if you plan to ring so that she can have music ready for you!



Mark your calendars for the Community Candlelight Walk:
December 7, 5-7 pm. Continuous music from our adult choir, bell choir,
and vocal and instrumental soloists.

Tickets Available for Madrigal Feaste



\$20 for adults, \$10 for children 10 and under. Light meal from charcuterie board and dessert in the Parish Hall to accompany the magnificent singers from Firestone CLC.

Wednesday Advent Services 7:00 PM

Each Wednesday we will explore someone from the Lineage of Jesus.

December 3 rd	Christ Lutheran	Rev. Mark Kreemer
December 10	St. Jacob Lutheran	Rev. Ash Welch
December 17	Holy Trinity Lutheran	Rev. Jeff Goggins

Adult Sunday School

If we live by the Spirit, let us be guided by the Spirit. (Galatians 5:25)

Our study of the Holy Spirit continues as we consider the fruit of the Spirit. This is the evidence of our lives; that we truly belong to Jesus Christ and are directed and empowered by the Spirit to show. Please join us as we gather at 11:30 each Sunday morning on the top floor of Parish Hall. An elevator is available for easy access.

Thursday Morning Bible Study

Beginning November 6th

10:00 am

Enough Revised Edition: Discovering Joy through Simplicity and Generosity

Money has great power in our lives. Used wisely, it is one key to accomplishing our goals, providing for our needs, and fulfilling our life purpose. In recent years, many of us ignored the wisdom of the past when it came to managing and spending our money. Credit card debt soared, savings rates plummeted, and our home equity became something to be tapped into and spent rather than a source of security in retirement. We felt an insatiable desire for more. And we found ourselves spending

tomorrow's money today in order to have what we hoped would satisfy. The result of all of this was not greater happiness and satisfaction, but greater stress and anxiety.

Enough is an invitation to rediscover the Bible's wisdom when it comes to prudent financial practices. In these pages are found the keys to experiencing contentment, overcoming fear, and discovering joy through simplicity and generosity. This book could change your life, by changing your relationship with money.

Capital Campaign Report

With joy and gratitude, we celebrate the completion of our new entrance and bathrooms—made possible by your faithful generosity. What a gift it is to see these improvements already serving our community!

Yet our work of caring for God's house is not finished. Three pressing needs lie ahead: a \$125,000 replacement of the Parish Hall heating and cooling system, repairs to the Parish Hall window wells, and fixing a boiler leak in the Education Building. Through your continued giving, we can preserve this sacred space as a place of safety, welcome, and comfort for all who come through our doors. Together, we are ensuring that our church remains a living witness to God's grace for generations to come.

CHRISTMAS BASKETS COLLECTING NONPERISHABLES

Welfare and Social Committee will collect nonperishable food and miscellaneous items for our Community Meal families for Christmas. These items will be distributed at our Community Meal on Friday, December 12.

We will begin collecting in October. Please place your donations in the box located at the side entrance of the church.

If you have questions, please contact Barb Palmer at 330-244-1602

October 19	Tea and coffee
October 26	Peanut butter and jelly
November 2	Canned soups and pork n beans
November 9	Cereal and mixes (cake, brownies, muffins)
November 16	Canned fruits and vegetables
November 23	Spaghetti sauce, pasta, instant potatoes
November 30	Paper products (paper towels, toilet paper)
December 7	Bar soap, toothpaste, toothbrush

Thank you for your generosity! Barb Palmer

Angel Tree Gift Tags

Angel Tree gift tags will be available in the Portico on November 16th. The tags will have suggested gift ideas for children and families in need this Christmas Season. Please return your unwrapped gift to the church by December 7th, you may also drop them at the Salvation Army. Parents and children will then get to pick a gift for their loved one and wrap it themselves.

Assisted Hearing Devices Available

Four assisted listening devices are available at the sound system table in the back of the sanctuary at the beginning of worship. Please see Jim Johnson or John Stanko if you need assistance with these devices.



You can also use your smartphone to access the system. Go to your app store and download the **WaveCAST** app. Then connect to the sanctuary Wi-Fi: **Network:** sound media **Password:** Sound127

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.



Community Social Media Pages

Facebook & Instagram, Search "*Massillon Lutheran Churches*"

Facebook

"St Paul's Lutheran Church in Massillon"
or *"Cathedral Concerts at St Paul's"*

Thank you to those serving today:

Presiding Minister	Rev. Mark Kreemer
Director of Music	Dr. Abigail Haake
Assisting Minister	Kathryn Myers
Lector	Patty Long
Greeters	Rob Pritchett
Communion Assistants	Jackie Pritchett & Gary Collard
Sacristan	Barb Palmer & Brooke Duplain
Ushers	Chuck Green, Dick Longworth Chuck Richards, Mike Skelly
Soundboard	Jim Johnson
Video/Live-Stream	John Stanko

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GATHERING HYMN: My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less ELW 596
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HYMN OF THE DAY: If You But Trust in God to Guide You ELW 769
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SENDING HYMN: When Peace Like a River ELW 785
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My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less



- 1 My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je-sus' blood and righ-teous-ness;
- 2 Whendark-ness veils his love-ly face, I rest on his un - chang-ing grace;
- 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus - tain me in the rag - ing flood;
- 4 When he shall come with trum-pet sound, oh, may I then in him be found,



no mer-it of my own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
in ev-'ry high and storm - y gale my an - chor holds with-in the veil.
when all sup-ports are washed a-way, he then is all my hope and stay.
clothed in his righ-teous-ness a-lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

Refrain



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is



sink - ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt.

Music: THE SOLID ROCK, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

If You But Trust in God to Guide You



1 If you but trust in God to guide you with gen - tle
2 What gain is there in anx - ious weep - ing, in help - less
3 The Lord our rest - less hearts is hold - ing, in peace and
4 Sing, pray, and keep God's ways un - swerv - ing, of - fer your



hand through all your ways, you'll find that God is there be -
an - ger and dis - tress? If you are in your Sav - ior's
qui - et - ness con - tent. We rest in God's good will un -
ser - vice faith - ful - ly. Trust heav - en's word; though un - de -



side you when cross - es come, in try - ing days. Trust then in
keep - ing, in sor - row will he love you less? For Christ who
fold - ing, what wis - dom from on high has sent. God, who has
serv - ing, you'll find God's prom - ise true to be. This is our



God's un - chang - ing love; build on the rock that will not move.
took for you a cross will bring you safe through ev - 'ry loss.
cho - sen us by grace, knows ver - y well the fears we face.
con - fi - dence in - deed: God nev - er fails in time of need.

Text: Georg Neumark, 1621–1681; tr. composite
Music: WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT, Georg Neumark
Text © 1978, 2006 Augsburg Fortress

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When Peace, like a River

It Is Well with My Soul



1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when
 2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let
 3 He lives—oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; my
 4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the



sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast
 this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my
 sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I
 clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the



taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
 help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
 bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
 Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.



It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828-1888

Music: VILLE DU HAVRE, Philip P. Bliss, 1838-1876