

Beyond the Hymnals: Choosing Christian Song for the Lectionary

+ Series A +

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+ Series A (LSB) +

INTRODUCTION

The last 25-50 years have witnessed a tremendous outpouring of original hymns for Lutheran congregations. Of course, our hymnals are a treasure house of Christian song useful for worship. But, despite not being included in current Lutheran worship books, many *other* hymns are also very appropriate when planning Lectionary-based services and these gems should not be forgotten. They are perennial flowers, blooming for every generation, gifts of the Holy Spirit.

It is interesting to note how many of these hymns grew out of a pastoral need. Preparing a sermon, a preacher looked at the assigned readings and was overwhelmed by all the teachings presented. “How am I going to fit all of this into a sermon?” The answer---hymns closely based on the texts to complement the sermon.

The goal of this resource is to sustain awareness and access to this treasure of Christian hymnody and to demonstrate possible uses for the Sundays and festivals of the Church Year. May it be a source of inspiration to pastors, church musicians, worship planners, classroom teachers, composers, and others. These songs may be sung by the congregation, a choir or soloist.

These 211 hymns represent the work of 19 Lutheran hymn writers, ranging from the now sainted to current college students. These suggestions are humbly offered for your consideration...

ASSIGNMENTS

Steve Starke – his own texts, Gracia Grindal, Susan Palo Cherwien, Michael Schultz, Laurie Gauger-Hested, Kurt Reinhardt, Chad Bird, John Reim

Barry Bobb – Jaroslav Vajda, Paul Weber, Herman Stuempfle

Lisa Clark – her own hymns and those of up-and-coming hymnwriters, (Kelly Klages, Tyler Martin, Jacob Moede, Mark Squire)

David Rogner – his own texts as well as texts of his workshop participants (e.g. Jeremiah Schultz, Joshua Teggatz)

PUBLISHED SOURCES (Hymnaries)

Cherwien, Susan P. *O Blessed Spring* AF 1997 [OBS]

Come, Beloved of the Maker AF 2010 [CBM]

Peace, Be Still AF 2017 [PBS]

Living in Wonder AF 2024 [LiW]

Grindal, Gracia *Lectionary Hymn Texts/New Testament, Series A, B, C* WL 2025 [ATOF]
A Treasury of Faith, Old Testament, Series A, tunes by Roy Hopp
A Treasury of Faith, Lectionary Hymns, Series A, tunes by Dan Damon

Reinhardt, Kurt *My Light and My Salvation* Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary/St. Catherine's
ON 2020 [MLMS]

Starke, Stephen P. *O Sing of Christ* CPH 2005 [OSOC]
Marvel at the Mercy CPH 2018 [MATM]

Stuempfle, Herman *The Word Goes Forth* GIA 1993 [WGF]
Redeeming the Time GIA, 1997 [RtT]
Awake Our Hearts to Praise! GIA 2000 [AOH]
Wondrous Love Has Called Us! GIA 2006 [WL]
The Song of Faith Unsilenced GIA 2013 [SoF]

Vajda, Jaroslav J. *Sing Peace, Sing Gift of Peace* CPH 2003 [SP]

Weber, Paul D. *So Great a Cloud of Witnesses* Augsburg Fortress 2022 [SG]

For background on some of these hymn writers, view these Profile videos...

<https://www.cuchicago.edu/academics/centers-of-excellence/center-for-church-music/profiles-in-american-lutheran-church-music/video-interviews/>

FOR A FREE, DOWNLOADABLE PDF OF THIS RESOURCE go to...

<https://www.cuchicago.edu/academics/centers-of-excellence/center-for-church-music/publications/>

FOR A FREE WORD DOCUMENT, EMAIL YOUR REQUEST TO: barrylbobb@aol.com

ABBREVIATIONS USED

AF – Augsburg Fortress

CPH – Concordia Publishing House

CW – *Christian Worship* (NPH 2021)

ELW – *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (AF 2006)

LSB – *Lutheran Service Book* (CPH 2006)

MSM – MorningStar Music

NPH – Northwestern Publishing House

OAD – *One and All, Rejoice* (CPH 2020)

WL-Wayne Leupold Editions

WOV-*With One Voice* (AF 1995)

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Isaiah 2:1-5 Let us walk in the light of the LORD.

Psalms 122 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

Romans 13: (8-10), 11-14 The day is at hand...

Matthew 21:1-11 Jesus' entry into Jerusalem.

OR

Matthew 24:36-44 You do not know the day of the Lord's coming.

Recommended:

"Now the Earth's New Dawn Is Breaking" – Stuenkel (E) [RtT #2]

1 Now the earth's new dawn is breaking;
night's deep shadows fly away.
Christians, with the sun awaking,
greet with joy the birth of day.
Gone be gloom! Away with fear!
Christ, the world's true Sun draws near.
Now he shines with light unending;
brings us life, our death transcending.

2 Rise, awake, prepare to meet him
as bright trumpets rouse the sun.
Run with joyous hearts to hail him;
for the victory he has won.
Dress in garments fit for dawn;

Jesus Christ your Lord put on.
Praise him, Word before creation;
come to earth for our salvation.

3 Sing to Christ the song of freedom;
sing the breaking of all chains!
Sing the anthem of the kingdom
where his peace forever reigns!
Lift your heart, raise high your voice;
with the wakening earth rejoice!
Praise his Name; proclaim his story
till he comes at last in glory!

87 87 77 88

Suggested tune: FREU DICH SEHR (*LSB* 347)

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“O Jesus Christ, Our Shepherd-King” – Klages (G)

1 O Jesus Christ, our Shepherd-king
Who reigns throughout eternity,
We praise you, David’s son and Lord!
Deliver us and set us free.

Refrain

O Son of David, save! We sing,
Hosanna to the King of kings!

2 In Jesse’s town of Bethlehem,
Though small and lowly in our sight,
The greatest King revealed Himself
To shepherds on that starry night.
(Refrain)

3 A promised temple built by God,
A house for David evermore,
Fulfilled at last in Jesus’ flesh:
Immanuel, whom we adore.
(Refrain)

4 Anointed by the prophet’s hand,
The shepherd boy received his call–
And John baptized the humble Christ,
To be the saving Lord of all.
(Refrain)

88 88 88

Suggested tune: ALL EHR UND LOB (*LSB* 500)
For an original tune, contact Kelly Klages.

5 To face Goliath, David went
With only staff and stone in hand;
A greater Champion would arise
To fight the foe at God’s command.
(Refrain)

6 His staff, the cross He bore for us,
The stone, the tomb to seal Him in–
Until He cast it forth, and showed
His triumph over death and sin.
(Refrain)

7 Great Shepherd of our souls, preserve
Your flock, and be our strong defense.
Sing over us your endless love,
Your anthems of deliverance.
(Refrain)

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NOTES

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Isaiah 11:1-10 A shoot from the branch of Jesse.

Psalms 72 Praise be to the Lord God of Israel who has done wondrous things.

Romans 15:4-13 The root of Jesse will come, even to the Gentiles.

Matthew 3:1-12 The ministry of John the Baptist and his message of repentance.

Recommended:

“High upon the Mount of Zion” – Lisa M. Clark (OT, E, G)

1 High upon the mount of Zion,
We will gather to rejoice.
Lifting up the Lamb and Lion,
We will praise Him with one voice.
Ev’ry people, ev’ry nation
Will rise up from pain and death
To proclaim our restoration
With united heart and breath.

2 Swords and spears will not be needed;
We will tend the gardens green,
Working wholly unimpeded
In that paradise serene.
Come, believers, He is coming,
Making ev’ry ill untrue.
Hear the sainted choir humming,
Waiting for the final cue.

87 87 D

Suggested tune: MISSISSIPPI (*LSB 404*)

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NOTES

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Isaiah 35:1-10 Be strong... fear not....

Psalms 146 Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob.

James 5:7-11 Be patient until the coming of the Lord.

Matthew 11:2-15 Go and tell John what you see and hear.

Recommended:

“Be Open, Deafened Ears” – Stuenkel (OT) [SoF, #6]

1 “Be opened, deafened ears,
and hear the Gospel Word!
Your God is near with power to save,
with grace for life restored!”

3 Come, Christ, as once of old,
and by your power heal
our deafened ears, our muted tongues;
your grace again reveal!

2 “Be opened, deafened ears,
and hear the pleas that rise
from those whose lives are filled with pain,
whose need for mercy cries!

SM

Suggested tune: POTSDAM (LSB 414)

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“Are You the Coming One?” – Stuenkel (G) [WGF #22]

1 “Are you the coming one
for whom the ages long?”
“See, pris’ners break their cruel chains
and fill the night with song!”

2 “Are you the coming one
for whom all people seek?”
“The wand’ers lost in alien ways
shall home, redeemed, return!”

3 “Are you the coming one
for whom the suffering sigh?”

“The lame, the sick, the deaf and blind---
I answer when they cry!”

4 “Are you the coming one
for whom the oppressed still wait?”
“The tyrant’s pride at last shall fall;
all crooked ways be straight!”

5 “Are you the coming one
for whom creation cries?”
“The earth, defiled, shall be restored
and life from death arise!”

SM

Suggested tune: FRANCONIA (*LSB 408*)

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NOTES

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Isaiah 7:10-17 A virgin shall conceive and bear a son...Immanuel.

Psalms 24 Lift up your heads, O ye gates...the King of glory may come in.

Romans 1:1-7 You are called to belong to Jesus Christ.

Matthew 1:18-25 The birth of Jesus Christ.

Recommended:

“Jesus, Immanuel” – Vajda (OT, G) [SP, p. 140]

1 Jesus, Immanuel,
Come and among us dwell
As you once came.
Who else but You alone
Would leave a heav’nly throne
And do what You have done
To earn that Name?

2 As You were prophesied,
You took our flesh, defied
Sin, death, and hell.
In ev’ry century
You set the captives free
And prove Yourself to be
Immanuel.

3 For all for whom You care
Your love moves You to bear
One saving Name.
One Friend who died for us,
One Friend who lives for us,
One Friend who prays for us,
Always the same.

664 66 64

Suggested tune: OLIVET (*LSB* 702) or ITALIAN HYMN (*LSB* 864)

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“Good Joseph, Though the Night Is Dark” – Stuempfle (G) [SoF #23]

1 Good Joseph, though the night is dark
and stars no longer shine,
I bid you take a trusting step,
your hand enclosed in mine.
You must not fear to have as bride
pure Mary, undefiled.
The son whom she will shortly bear
is my own Holy Child.

2 He comes to set my people free
from chains of sin and shame;
so when his birthing day is here,
let “Jesus” be his name.

Hid deep within his infant flesh
will be my boundless grace,
and light from all the stars in heav’n
on his small, sleeping face.

3 Through Mary’s child, your son and mine,
all nations I will bless
“Emmanuel! God with us now!”
the ages will confess.
All humbled hearts will welcome him
whom prophets have foretold,
and, though he lies in manger bed,
their Savior will behold.

CMD

Suggested tune: CAROL (*LSB 366*)

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NOTES

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD (Eve)

Isaiah 7:10-14 The virgin will be with child...

Psalms 110:1-4 "You are a priest forever in the order of Melchizedek."

1 John 4:7-16 Love comes from God.

Matthew 1:18-25 The birth of Jesus Christ.

Recommended:

"Child of Adam, Child of Earth" – Lisa M. Clark (OT, E, G)

1 Child of Adam, child of earth,
Jewel of His creation
Object of Your Father's mirth,
Cause for celebration—
What a fall, oh what a crime!
God's own heart was breaking.
Sinners since the dawn of time,
All with grief are aching.

3 Child of Spirit, Child of love,
Heir through Word and water,
Blest adoption from above:
Now a son or daughter.
What a wonder, what a sign!
God's own arms are waiting
With compassion, grace divine,
For your reinstating.

2 Child of promise, David's Son,
Born of Virgin Mary,
He is the Anointed One
For our curse to carry.
What a humble sacrifice!
God's own Child forsaken
As He bears all shame and vice,
Death and hell o'ertaken.

76 76D

Suggested tune: Jonathan Kohrs has prepared a wonderful original tune. Contact him at jkohrs811@gmail.com.

The tune TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM (*LSB* 374) would also work.

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NOTES

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD (Midnight)

Isaiah 9:2-7 For to us a child is born...

Psalms 96 Sing to the Lord a new song.

Titus 2:11-14 For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men.

Luke 2:1-14 (15-20) The birth of Jesus.

Recommended:

“Word Made Flesh to Dwell among Us” – Rogner (G)

1 Word made Flesh to dwell among us,
Grace and truth in human form;
Barn made palace for a monarch,
Swaddling clothes to keep Him warm;
Hay made bed to hold a Savior,
Manger-cradled, heaven-born.

3 Strength made weak to know our nature,
Son made Lamb to banish fears;
Life made new by Love Incarnate,
Hope made real in Infant tears;
Star made guide to draw the nations:
See, the promised Christ appears!

2 Dark made light for frightened shepherds,
Hearing of the wondrous birth;
Pledge made true, the angel tells them:
Promised Child of priceless worth;
Sky made song by angel chorus:
‘Praise to God and peace on earth!’

87 87 87

Suggested tune: Schalk tune from published anthem (2025)---CPH 98-4432 or
PICARDY (*LSB* 621) or REGENT SQUARE (*LSB* 367)

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“My Heart Would Ever Wander” -Starke (G) [MATM #2]

1 My heart would ever wander
To where my Lord was born,
My thoughts return to ponder
That humble stall forlorn:
My faith there finds its treasure,
Its home of pure delight,
My peace beyond all measure
This blessed Christmas night.

2 Palm branches I would scatter
Around the place You lie.
For You alone, Lord, matter;
For You, I live and die.

Come, let my soul be finding
The joy that makes me whole:
Yourself to me, Lord, binding
Here, deep within my soul.

3 Lord, come, each bolt removing;
Unlock my heart and mind.
My longing sighs are proving
The welcome You will find.
Your love my heart obtaining:
You purchased it from sin,
Thus evermore remaining—
Your love, wrapped here within!

7 6 7 6 D

Suggested tune: MITT HJERTE ALLTID VANKER (Traditional Scandinavian) Public domain [MATM #2]
ANGEL'S STORY (*LSB* 527) would also work.

See CPH published anthem 98-4278.

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NOTES

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD (Dawn)

Isaiah 62:10-12 “See, your Savior comes!”

Psalms 98 The LORD has made his salvation known.

Titus 3:4-7 He saved us...because of his mercy.

Luke 2: (1-14) 15-20 The shepherds and the angels.

Recommended:

“I Stand beside Your Manger Here” (Michael Schultz) translation of Gerhardt (G) [CW 334]

1 I stand beside your manger here,
O Jesus, life from heaven.
The gifts I bring as I draw near
are what to me you’ve given:
my spirit, courage, mind, and heart—
take all I am, take ev’ry part;
in mercy, let it please you.

2 Before I ever came to be,
or knew of you, my Savior,
you’d chosen me, been born for me,
that I might have your favor.
Before you formed me by your hand
in grace you had already planned
how I would learn to love you.

3 Death held me in the deepest night
till you, my sunshine beaming,
brought joy and bliss and life and light,
in love, my soul redeeming.
O Sun, your rays so warm and fair
have made my darkness disappear—
Faith’s precious light is shining.

4 One thing I hope; my Savior, hear;
bestow on me this blessing,
that I may ever hold you near,
you as my own possessing.
So let my heart your manger be;
come, holy Child, lie down in me
with all your joyful treasures.

87 87 887

Suggested tune: ES IST GEWISSLICH (LSB 508)

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“What Is This Wonder? Salvation Is Here!” – Clark (OT, Ps, E, G)

1 What is this wonder? Salvation is here!
Who is this Child who strikes evil with fear?
Come see this Babe wrapped in linen and light;
Worship the One who was born this great night.

3 Where will His throne be, this King of the Jews?
When will His reign bestow peace and Good News?
Bow on your knees to your almighty Lord;
Heaven and earth sing their praise in accord.

2 How shall we call Him, this boy in the straw?
Why is He met with such jubilant awe?
Look at this infant who lies in the hay;
He is Immanuel, with us today.

10 10 10 10

Suggested tune: SLANE (*LSB* 861)

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NOTES

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD (Day)

Isaiah 52:7-10 How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news.

Psalms 2 “I have installed my king on Zion.”

Hebrews 1:1-6 (7-12) ...in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son...

John 1:1-14 (15-18) In the beginning was the Word...

Recommended:

“Radiant Child of Glory” – Clark (OT, E, G)

1 Radiant Child of glory,
Here we tell Your story!
In the midnight slumber,
Angels came in number,
Telling ev'ry nation
God has brought salvation!

3 Now the light is spreading;
Happy feet are treading.
Joyous voices telling
Of the gloom's dispelling.
Heirs of heaven's glory,
We can tell our story!

2 In the darkness, pleading,
Prophecies repeating,
Orphans had awaited
Mercy unabated.
See the Father's Pleasure
Loving without measure.

66 66 66

Suggested tune: GOTTES SOHN IST KOMMEN (*LSB* 333)

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NOTES

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

Isaiah 63:7-14 And he became their Savior.

Psalms 111 He sent redemption to his people.

Galatians 4:4-7 In the fullness of time, God sent his Son.

Matthew 2:13-23 The flight to Egypt...slaying of the innocents...Rachel weeping...

Recommended:

“Bethlehem, O House of Bread” – Starke (G) [MATM#11]

1 Bethlehem, O House of Bread,
Stars are shining overhead,
One bright star with heaven's light
Pierces through the dark of night,
Calls the world to come and see,
Marvel at this mystery:
God enfleshed—Immanuel;
God has come with us to dwell!

2 Bethlehem, King David's town,
Greet this Child of great renown:
Mary's son, yet Lord of all,
Born within a humble stall!
Ox and ass their Maker know;
Kneeling shepherds bowing low;
Faith-filled Magi from afar,
Worship Christ, the Morning Star.

3 Bethlehem, what tragedy,
Vile the bloodshed you will see:
Herod plotting to destroy,
Seeks to kill the kingly boy.
Joseph, Mary, Jesus—leave!
Mothers soon for sons will grieve;
Rachel weeping at each door,
For her children are no more.

4 Bethlehem, your royal Son,
Our redemption fully won.
Going forth from Galilee,
Jesus came to Calvary:
There, for human guilt He died,
Godforsaken, crucified;
By His death, our world to save,
By His sinless life He gave.

5 Bethlehem, O have no dread,
Christ has risen from the dead!
Peace He brings to still all fear;
Christ, the Bread of Life is here!
Gives to us His gifts divine:
Flesh and blood in bread and wine!
Christ, true manna for the soul,
Feeds, forgives, and makes us whole.

6 Bethlehem, with one accord,
Laud your ever-loving Lord;
He despised the cross and shame,
So that you might bear His name.
Come, you Christians, one and all,
Raised in Christ from Adam's fall,
Walk in Christ, the living way,
While He leads to endless day!

7 7 7 7 D

Suggested tune: HOLY NIGHT (Amanda Husberg) [MATM #11]

ABERYSTWYTH (LSB 419) will also work.

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“Caesar in His Royal Palace” – Stuempfle (G) [WL #12]

1 Caesar in his royal palace,
ruling nations by the sword,
could not hear a baby’s birth cry
was the voice of Caesar’s Lord.

2 Herod, slaying Bethle’em’s infants,
fought to keep his threatened throne,
feared a child would claim his scepter,
armed with pow’r no king could own.

3 Pilate on the seat of judgment,
wearing Rome’s imperial ring,

placed all empires under sentence
when he crucified earth’s king.

4 Still earth’s rulers, robed in power,
lift the sword and slay the weak.
Still Christ claims love’s final triumph,
rules the kingdom of the meek.

5 Come, O Christ, and judge the nations;
sheathe our swords and bring us peace.
Let the fruits of freedom flourish,
righteousness and truth increase.

87 87

Suggested tune: CROSS OF JESUS (*LSB* 428)

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NOTES

NEW YEAR'S EVE (December 31)

Isaiah 30: (8-14) 15-17 In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength.

Psalms 90:1-12 May the favor of the Lord rest upon us; establish the work of our hands.

Romans 8:31b-39 If God is for us, who can be against us?

Luke 12:35-40 Be watchful! The Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

Recommended:

“The Lord Will Surely Bear You”- Starke (E) [MATM #57]

1 The Lord will surely bear you through each passing year,
And by His mercy spare you from what brings you fear;
For what His Word once gave you, He gladly will fulfill,
To gently lift and save you till your heart is still.

2 For has not God supplied you all you need each day,
Or has He yet denied you when to Him you pray?
Now, come recall with wonder His grace in days gone by:
How brief the clouds and thunder—long the clear blue sky!

3 O lay aside each question pressing on your soul,
Each frightening suggestion you cannot control,
And let no trouble scare you, for help is always near—
The Lord will surely bear you through each passing year.

12 12 13 12

Suggested tune: ARIC (John C. Reim) Contact him at jcreim@usa.net.

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Tune copyright © 2002 John C. Reim

“We Live, O Lord, within Your Grace” – Starke (Ps) [MATM #88]

1 We live, O Lord, within Your grace,
For You have been our dwelling place;
Before the mountains came to be,
You are true God eternally.

2 A thousand years within Your sight
Pass like a watch within the night,
Like yesterday when it is through,
The briefest blink in all You view.

5 So teach us, Lord, to count our days;
Make wise our hearts to seek Your ways,
How long, O Lord, till You return?
How much, O Lord, for You we yearn!

6 Your steadfast love will satisfy
And be our joy until we die.
Though evil days may grieve our soul,
We trust that You will make us whole.

3 You say to children of the earth:
“Return to dust, which gave you birth!”
We grow like grass beneath the sun
But wither when our day is done.

7 Lord, let Your work to us be shown,
Your glory by our children known.
Your favor rest on us each day;
Establish all our work, we pray.

4 The fury of Your wrath dismays!
Your light our secret sin displays!
Our years are measured by our strength,
Yet toil and trouble is their length!

8 O Father, Son, and Spirit, be
Our dwelling place eternally,
And when the mountains are no more,
Your name we ever will adore!

LM

Suggested tune: PILGRIM REST (Stephen R. Johnson) [MATM #88]

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ERHALT UNS, HERR (*LSB* 522) will also work.

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“Now Let Us Come before Him”- Michael Schultz/Kelly translation of Gerhardt (Ps) [CW369]

1 Now let us come before him,
with song and prayer adore him,
who to our life has given
all needed strength from heaven.

your tender mercy sharing
for crosses we are bearing.

2 The stream of years is flowing,
and we are onward going,
from old to new surviving
and by his mercy thriving.

5 Be with the sick and ailing,
their Comforter unfailing;
dispel their grief and sadness,
and give them joy and gladness.

3 Our God his own is shielding
and help to them is yielding,
in all their woe upholds them,
in loving arms enfolds them.

6 Above all else, Lord, send us
your Spirit to attend us,
within our hearts abiding,
to heav’n our footsteps guiding.

4 O heav’nly Father, hear us;
O Lord of love, be near us,

7 O Life, my source of living,
now in your grace be giving
to me and ev’ry Christian
your new year’s benediction.

77 77

Suggested tune: NUN LASST UNS (CW/369---not the same as *LSB* NUN LASST UNS DEN LEIB)
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Stanzas 1-3, 5, 6, Public domain

“What Do We Care of the World’s Condemnation?” – Clark (OT, E, G)

1 What do we care of the world’s condemnation?
What do we fear of the trials to come?
What of the world deserves our trepidation?
Christ our Redeemer has paid our whole sum.

3 When will we keep our lamps ready and burning?
When will we wait for our Lord to appear?
When will we watch for the Kingdom’s returning?
Christ the Almighty’s approaching is near.

2 Why should we flee in the terror of midnight?
Why do we dwell on our troubles below?
Why are we blind to the joy of the daylight?
Christ our salvation has grace to bestow.

11 10 11 10

Suggested tune: For a wonderful new tune by Mark Knickelbein, contact copyrights@cph.org.
MORNING STAR (*LSB* 400) will also work.

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NOTES

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

1 Kings 3:4-15 Solomon asks for wisdom.

Psalms 119:97-104 Your commands make me wiser than my enemies.

Ephesians 1:3-14 In him we were also chosen.

Luke 2:40-52 The boy Jesus in the Temple.

Recommended:

“A Hearing Heart” – Starke (OT) [MATM #28]

1 A hearing heart,
a hearing heart—
this grant, dear Lord, I pray—
that listens to Your Word at dawn,
at noon and end of day,
at noon and end of day.

2 A hearing heart,
a hearing heart
that welcomes You as guest,
a heart not soured by fret or care
instead by You is blessed,
instead by You is blessed.

3 A hearing heart,
a hearing heart,
attentive at Your feet,
well nourished by each living word:
pure milk, like honey sweet,
pure milk, like honey sweet.

4 A hearing heart,
a hearing heart,
through Word and liturgy,
believes Your cross and empty tomb,
which set the captive free,
which set the captive free.

4 4 6 8 6 6

5 A hearing heart,
a hearing heart
receives Your gifts divine:
rich blessings promised in Your Word
with water, bread, and wine,
with water, bread, and wine.

6 A hearing heart,
a hearing heart,
when with Your heart is meshed,
beats strong with mercy, truth, and grace,
enlivened and refreshed,
enlivened and refreshed.

7 A hearing heart,
a hearing heart—
this grant, dear Lord, I pray!
Bring forth the fruits of faith in me,
in all I do and say,
in all I do and say.

Suggested tune: HEARING HEART (Amanda Husberg) [MATM #28]

LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN (*LSB* 412) will also work.

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“What Gift We Have in God’s True Word” – Clark (OT, E, G)

1 What gift we have in God’s true Word,
Its wisdom never failing
That we, His children, may be stirred
The Gospel e’er regaling.
When worldly lies attack the Way
May we with courage ever say:
“His truth is love prevailing!”

2 The wealthy scoff, the learned sneer,
The powerful deride us.
We face it all; we have no fear.
We have the Lord to guide us.
The Word came down to shed His light
To all in need of clearer sight
And taught His truth beside us.

3 The Spirit lives in us today,
A Helper in our telling.
The Savior chased our foes away,
Our foolish doubt dispelling.
The Father hears our ev’ry prayer,
Responding with unending care—
Our judgment far excelling.

87 87 887

Suggested tune: ALLEIN GOTT IN DER HÖH (*LSB* 899)

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NOTES

CIRCUMCISION AND NAME OF JESUS (Jan 1)

Numbers 6:22-27 Aaronic benediction

Psalms 8 How majestic is your name in all the earth!

Galatians 3:23-29 All are one in Christ.

Luke 2:21 They named him Jesus.

Recommended:

“Alleluia! We Praise Your Name” – Starke (Alleluia Response before Gospel) [MATM #87]

Alleluia! We praise Your name,
O Jesus, yesterday the same,
The same both now and ever;
Not one thing in heaven above
Can separate us from Your love,
A love that changes never—
No strife in life,
No dark power
At death's hour
Can remove us
From the love with which You love us.

8 8 7 8 8 7 4 4 4 4 8

Suggested tune: WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET (*LSB* 391)

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“May the Lord” – Starke (OT) [OSOC #51]

1 May the Lord, whose eye of caring
Does not turn from you or sleep,
Now with love beyond comparing,
As the Shepherd of His sheep,
Ever bless you,
Ever bless you,
Ever bless you,
Ever in His kingdom keep.

2 May the Lord, whose sinless dying
Ransomed you and all our race,
Now, with mercies multiplying,
Make His ever-radiant face

Shine upon you,
Shine upon you,
Shine upon you,
Shine on you with boundless grace.

3 May the Lord, whose Word in water
Rescued you from sin's dark ways,
Now, as God's dear son and daughter,
Turn toward you His loving gaze:
Full of favor,
Full of favor,
Full of favor,
Full of peace through all your days.

8 7 8 7 12 7

Suggested tune: HELMSLEY (LSB 336)

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“Your Children of Blessing in Christ, Your Dear Son” – Clark (OT, E, G)

1 Your children of blessing in Christ, Your dear Son,
We thank You, dear Father, for what You’ve begun.
Your promise fulfilled in this innocent Child,
Your promise renewed to a world reconciled.

3 As year after year, we await His return,
We still speak His name, that all people may learn
Of Jesus, the promised Redeemer for all,
The hope of God’s children, whatever befall.

2 The name of our Savior we savor and sing,
Proclaiming this Jesus, Messiah and King.
Salvation has come and is willing to shed
His blood, that all nations may rise from the dead.

11 11 11 11

Suggested tune: ST DENIO (LSB 802)

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NOTES

THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

Isaiah 60:1-6 Arise, shine, for your light has come.

Psalms 72:1-11 (12-15) Kings shall bow down to him.

Ephesians 3:1-12 The mystery of the Incarnation is also for the Gentiles.

Matthew 2:1-12 The Wise Men visit the Holy Family.

Recommended:

“The Silent Stars Shine Down on Us” – Stuenkel (G) [RtT #9]

1 The silent stars shine down on us
with bright but sightless eye,
unmindful of our little earth,
of us who live and die.
Are we but grains of stranded sand
beside a cosmic sea
that lie unvalued and unseen
in such immensity?

2 Creator of all stars, you came
to grace our transient race.
In Christ you spoke a Word that broke
the silences of space.
Still through that Word you call our hearts
to know that we are known,
to trust we do not walk through time
unvalued and alone.

3 We see the star the wise men saw
and hope again is stirred.
We track the footprints left in time
By your incarnate Word.
We see them climb a lonely hill
where Love is left to die---
the Love that formed the farthest star
and hears the faintest cry.

4 O Christ, the bright and morning Star
whose radiance does not fade,
whose glory filled the universe
before the planets played:
Come, heal our hearts of blinding doubt
till faith shall end in sight.
Shine down upon our darkened earth
and conquer sin's long night.

CMD

Suggested tune: KINGSFOLD (*LSB 444*)

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“High above the Lowly Birth” – Rogner (G)

1 High above the lowly birth,
A star shines out to darkened earth.
Magi read the royal sign
And journey to the Child Divine.
Worldly-wise, they humbly bow
To God's own Wisdom, Human now.

2 Precious gifts the wise men bring:
Rich gold, an off'ring for a King,
Incense for a God adored,
And myrrh to tomb a buried Lord.
Yet what meager gifts they place
Before th'Incarnate Gift of grace!

3 Far we travel, dim our sight,
Not wise, but guided by the Light.
Poor the gifts we give the Son
For such redemption, dearly won.
Shine, Lord Jesus. Light impart,
And reign in each believing heart.

78 78 78

Suggested tune: None; why not compose a new one?

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david.rogner@cuchicago.edu.

“O Blest and Holy Night” – Squire (OT)

1 O blest and holy night,
O warm and gladsome light!
The Lord has ris’n in splendor;
His glory you can see.
All nations bow the knee,
With gold and incense tender.

2 Lift up your eyes and see,
The choirs heavenly,
Hear songs of adoration.
Join in with heartfelt praise;
Your cries of gladness raise,
Throughout the whole creation!

3 O Jesus at your birth,
O Lord of heav’n and earth;
You came in human weakness,
Laid in a manger stall,
Swaddled with linen shawl,
Amid our mortal bleakness.

4 Made known by starry gleam,
Revealed in Jordan’s stream,
You are the promised Savior,
Brought low by cross and pain,
Wrapped in our sin and shame,
Raised in the Father’s favor!

5. We wait expectantly,
For that transcendent day.
May we, dear Lord, in blessing,
Receive your gifts with praise,
Both now and all our days,
And your great love confessing!

667 667

Suggested tune: NUNC DIMITTIS (*LSB* 888)

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pastorsquire@myomnitel.com.

THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

Isaiah 42:1-9 I have put my Spirit upon my chosen servant.

Psalms 29 The voice of the Lord is over the waters.

Romans 6:1-11 All who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death.

Matthew 3:13-17 John baptizes Jesus in the Jordan river.

Recommended:

“Christ, Your Footprints through the Desert” – Stuempfle (G) [AOH #20]

1 Christ, your footprints through the desert
led to Jordan's flowing stream.
There you heard the herald crying
Israel's old, prophetic dream:
“He is coming! He is coming!
He will cleanse the earth with flame!
Sinners, plunge beneath the waters!
Wash away your guilt and shame!”

2 Christ, you heard the stirring summons
as by Jordan's bank you stood;
bathed, though sinless, with your people
in the river's cleansing flood.
High above, the heavens opened;
came the Spirit as a dove;
Spoke a Voice beyond all hearing:
“See my Son, the One I love!”

3 Son of God, the road from Jordan
led at last to Calvary's hill.
There upon the cross forsaken,
you fulfilled the Father's will.
Lamb of God, we see you dying,
sinless, yet for sinners slain.
But where death rose up to triumph,
you began your glorious reign!

4 God, in baptism you have made us
one with Christ, our risen Lord;
freed us, claimed us, cleansed, forgiven
through the water and the Word.
Help us hear your urgent summons,
calling us to serve you now.
Send us forth, your sons and daughters,
with the cross upon our brow.

87 87 D

Suggested tune: EBENEZER (*LSB* 578)

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“Born the Fallen to Deliver” – Rogner (G)

1 Born the fallen to deliver,
Jesus steps into the river
To fulfill all good.
See the Jordan surge around Him,
Hear John pour the water on Him,
Feel the chilling flood.

2 Jesus, rising from the water,
Hears the voice of God the Father
Thunder from above,
Pouring words of affirmation
On the Son, the world's salvation:
“This is My Belov'd!”

3 Sight sublime: the heavens rending!
See the Holy Dove descending
On th'Anointed Son.
Spirit-filled and dedicated,
Christ arises, consecrated
For the task begun.

4 For the saving task completed—
Sin dethroned and death defeated—
Praise to God be sung!
Drowned to sin, we rise victor'ous,
Baptized in the name most glor'ous:
Father, Spirit, Son.

885 885

Suggested tune: None; why not compose a new one?

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NOTES

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Isaiah 49:1-7 I will make you a light for the Gentiles.

Psalms 40:1-11 He put a new song in my mouth...a song of praise to our God.

1 Corinthians 1:1-9 He will keep you strong till the end.

John 1: 29-42a "Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world." Jesus calls his first disciples.

Recommended:

"O Day of Days, the Day I Found" – Vajda (G)[SP, 176

(Possibly as a closing hymn)

1 O day of days, the day I found
The love that had been seeking me;
More than a word, more than a sound,
That Word was God and set me free.

2 O day of days, the day I found
That Word a body on a cross;
No sacrifice of friend has bound
Me to him by so great a loss.

3 O day of days, the day I found
A life to live that's more than me,

A blessing for the world around,
A cause to serve, a way to be.

4 O day of days, the day I found
Your people raised like me to sing;
Now one with them and those beyond
I look for ways to thank our King.

5 Stand by me, Father, Flesh, and Flame:
Embrace, embolden and increase
Your child reborn to bear Your name,
Another messenger of peace.

LM

Suggested tune: WINCHESTER NEW (LSB 405)

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"Behold the Lamb of God!" – Stuenkel (G) [SoF #8]

1 Behold the Lamb of God!
We hear the herald's cry
and see the One whom God has sent
to suffer and to die.

2 Behold the Lamb of God!
He walks where sufferers plead
and daily lays his life upon
the altar of our need.

3 Behold the Lamb of God!
He hangs upon a tree.
He binds himself to pain and death
from sin to set us free.

4 Behold the Lamb of God!
We glimpse his image still
in those who bear oppression's weight,
whom war and famine kill.

5 Behold the Lamb of God!
Through us his form reveal.
Send us among the sick, the poor
to strengthen and to heal.

6 Behold the Lamb of God,
the Christ for sinners slain!
God raised him from the grip of death
eternally to reign!

SM

Suggested tune: SOUTHWELL (*LSB 424*)

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NOTES

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Isaiah 9:1-4 The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

Psalms 27:1-9 (10-14) The LORD is my light and my salvation; who shall I fear?

1 Corinthians 1:10-18 The word of the cross...is the power of God. End your dissensions.

Matthew 4:12-25 I will make you fishers of men...calling of Simon Peter, Andrew, James and John...Jesus heals many in Galilee.

Recommended:

“Creator, Keeper, Caring Lord” – Vajda (G) [SP, 74]

(Actually this hymn is useful for any service where the Gospel reading includes a healing miracle of Jesus.)

1 Creator, Keeper, caring Lord
Of all You deign to make,
Direct us toward Your goal for us
With every breath we take:
In You we live, in You we move---
The ones You chose to love.

2 To faith and hope and love, dear God,
Add one more gift of grace:
Sound health of body, soul, and mind---
Your Spirit's dwelling place;
And should You let the body fail,
Keep mind and spirit well.

3 In wisdom let us guard the gift
Of wholeness You supply.
In mercy turn our ears and hands,
Like You, toward all who cry.
We know who heals our hurts and ills,
We know Your gracious will.

4 Though far from perfect, we revere
Your earthly masterpiece;
The body Jesus shared and gave
To banish all disease,
That all who rise with Him from death
May know the bliss of health.

86 86 86

Suggested tune: BROTHER JAMES' AIR (LW 417, not in LSB)

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“God Is Our Salvation” – Stuempfle (Ps) [SoF #19]

1 God is our salvation,
source of consolation,
so we will not fear.
Evil may surround us,
pain and grief confound us,
yet God’s help is near.
Never shall the promise fail:
“Though a thousand ills o’ertake you,
God will not forsake you!”

2 Those to God belonging,
for God’s presence longing,
hasten to the place
where, with hearts awakened
and with thirst unslakened,

they may seek his face.
When they cry, God will draw nigh,
bringing joy beyond all telling,
strength all help excelling.

3 Wait with expectation;
God will bring salvation.
Hope, though help delay!
God is faithful ever
and will surely answer
all who humbly pray.
Day will dawn, the night be gone.
Courage take, tough doubts assail you!
God will never fail you!

665 665 786

Suggested tune: JESU, MEINE FREUDE (*LSB* 743)

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NOTES

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Micah 6:1-8 With what shall I come before the Lord?

Psalms 15 Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

1 Corinthians 1:18-31 The Word of the cross is the power of God...we preach Christ crucified.

Matthew 5:1-12 The Beatitudes

Recommended:

“My People, Hear What I Am Saying” – Weber (OT) [SG, 50]

1 My people, hear what I am saying---
the goodness I require of you:
proclaim my zeal for peace and justice
to ev'ry child the whole world through.
Be fair to all, show constant love.
Walk humbly with the Lord, your God.

2 Oh, mortal, hear what I am saying---
the goodness I require of you:
love kindness, mercy, and compassion,
discerning what is just and true.
Be fair to all, show constant love.
walk humbly with the Lord, your God.

3 O little Bethlehem in Judah,
of you came forth from labor pains
the One of peace and consolation

who feeds the flock called by my name.
I cast their sins into the sea
and pardon their iniquity.

4 My children, hear what I am saying---
the goodness I require of you:
act justly toward the poor and suff'ring;
then, watch as I make all things new.
Seek justice, steadfast love for all.
Walk onward and fulfill your call!

5 All peoples, see what I accomplish---
my gracious gifts at work in you:
I always walk with you through danger;
I gently guide the good you do.
I rescue you; I set you free
to live with me eternally.

98 98 88

Suggested tunes: Paul Weber has composed a wonderful tune, SPRING LAKES, for this text. Contact him at paul.weber49@gmail.com.

Other possibilities include WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT (LSB 719) or O DASS ICH TAUSEND (LSB 566, 811)

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“God Chose the Foolishness of Christ” – Starke (E) [MATM #31]

1 God chose the foolishness of Christ,
To shame the worldly-wise;
To shame the strong, God chose the weak,
The lowly and despised.

2 God chose the folly of the cross,
That Christ be crucified:
To bear sin’s curse, to die man’s death,
That all be justified.

3 God chose each one of us in Christ
Before the world began,
Adopting us by lavish grace
According to His plan!

4 God chose that water with the Word
Should cleanse us from our sin

Baptized into Christ’s death and life,
His Spirit dwells within.

5 God chose that preaching of the cross—
His wisdom from on high—
Should be the Church’s might pow’r
To grow and multiply.

6 God chose that simple bread and wine
Christ’s Word would thus decree:
“This is My body and My blood,
From sin to set you free.”

7 God chose for us in Christ the best
Our world has ever known;
For all His good and perfect gifts,
We boast in God alone!

CM

Suggested tune: FOOLISHNESS , a wonderful original tune by Christina Roberts. Copyright © 2016
Christina J. Roberts. Contact her at croberts@oursavior-gr.org.

AZMON (*LSB* 528) will also work.

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“How Blessed the Poor of Heart!” – Stuempfle (G) [SoF #26]

1 How blessed the poor of heart!
To them our God shall give
the kingdom where the righteous reign,
the saints securely live.

2 How blessed are those who mourn!
Though sorrow spend the night,
God’s comfort, like the dawning day,
shall make their darkness light.

3 How blessed are all the meek!
Though others scorn their worth,
God honors those with humble hearts;
to them belongs the earth.

4 How blessed are those who yearn
to taste God’s righteousness!
No good does God withhold from them
but fills their emptiness.

5 How blessed are those who reach
in mercy toward their foes!
The God whose goodness knows no bounds
on them the same bestows.

6 How blessed are those who bring
God’s peace where passions flame!
They serve God’s reconciling will;
“God’s Children” is their name.

7 How blessed are those who bear
with Christ the cross of pain!
At last, for all their faithfulness,
God’s kingdom they shall gain.

SM

Suggested tune: ST. THOMAS (*LSB* 331)

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NOTES

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Isaiah 58:3-9a Share the bread with the hungry...bring homeless into your house...your light will break forth like the dawn.

Psalms 112:1-9 A Light dawns in the darkness for the upright.

1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16) We impart a hidden wisdom of God...

Matthew 5:13-20 You are the salt of the earth...light of the world....

Recommended:

“You Search the Depths of God and Man” – Clark (OT, Ps, E, G)

1 You search the depths of God and man;
No secret hides from You, O Spirit.
You know all truth since time began
And send Your Word to those who fear it.
Oh, hear my cry and make me wise!
And let me hear the cry of others.
Lord, melt my heart to live and prize
Your people as my sisters, brothers.

3 You give and keep Your holy Law;
Each letter is preserved forever.
No detail will Your hand withdraw
Until the veil of death You sever.
Oh, call my name and grant me life
To call the names of those still dying
Lord, bring an end to earthly strife,
Your will and mercy satisfying.

2 You pierce the darkness with Your light;
All shadows flee from You, O Savior.
You cleanse me whole and make me right
And work Your love in my behavior.
Oh, dry my tears and help me see
To wipe away the tears of strangers.
You opened wide the door for me;
Lord, help me shelter all from dangers.

89 89 D

Suggested tune: Ask Lisa Clark

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“God’s Spirit Is upon Me” - Starke (OT) [Unpublished]

1 God’s Spirit is upon me,
Anointing me to speak,
To bind the brokenhearted,
Uplift the faint and weak:
“You captives hear the Gospel—
Now in Christ, you are set free;
You shackled and imprisoned,
In Christ is liberty!”

3 Come, rest in Christ, rejoicing—
His mercy is for you!
Exultant sing His praises
And trust His Word is true:
When Christ says, “It is finished,”
All your debt of sin stands paid!
Christ is the Lamb all-worthy,
On whom all sin was laid.

2 Lord, bring to those confounded,
To all whose minds are frayed,
All those ensnared, addicted,
By guilt and shame dismayed:
Your healing grace, Lord Jesus,
Grace to lead them from their maze,
To calm their hearts when panicked,
With peace for all their days.

4 How great that sure salvation,
God gives as helm to wear;
The shield of faith to guard you,
His Word, your sword to bear—
May God the Spirit keep you
Through each battle yet to be;
Safe bring you home to heaven,
To share Christ's victory!

76 76 77 76

Suggested tune: SALLEY GARDENS (CW 709)

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“God Is Light, He Shines Unshadowed” – Starke (G) [OSOC #64]

1 God is light, He shines unshadowed,
High and hidden from our view,
Yet His brilliance is reflected
Through our lives in all we do:
As we walk in light, confessing
By our works the faith within,
We are bound in love together,
Cleansed by Jesus from all sin.

3 “You are light,” declares our Savior,
“Like a city on a hill,
To enlighten those in darkness”—
Jesus, may this be our will!
May Your light be always shining
Through our deeds of faith and love,
So that others, by our witness,
Praise the Father's name above.

2 Praise the Lord for all the faithful
He has nurtured in this place,
Pouring out upon His people
Years of mercy, rich in grace.
Now, in Christ, our faith shines brighter
Than the dawn's resplendent ray,
While His Word of truth still leads us
By its light from day to day.

4 Bring us to that holy city
Built, O Lord, by Your design:
There no sun or moon is needed,
For Your glory makes it shine.
There no curse of sin can harm us;
Gone forever is all night;
There with white-robed saints in heaven
We will ever walk in light.

87 87 D

Suggested tune: HYFRYDOL (LSB 700)

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“God’s Redeemed—Beloved and Holy” – Starke (G) [MATM #45]

1 God’s redeemed—belov’d and holy,
Cleansed by Water with the Word—
We are nourished through the Scriptures,
By its sacred truth matured.
We have tasted God’s rich mercy,
Feasted at His meal divine:
Kingly banquet of Christ’s body
And His blood with bread and wine.

2 Gathered by the Holy Spirit
To this family of love,
We are saints in full communion
With the blessed saints above:
Chosen people, royal priesthood,
Holy nation, now God’s own,
Built on prophets and apostles,
Jesus Christ, our cornerstone.

3 Gospel heralds of salvation,
Called from darkness into light,
We are sent to tell of Jesus,
How God brought us out of night.

We are salt, the Spirit-seasoned,
Meant to halt the world’s decay;
We are light, a shining city
Guiding all to Christ, the way.

4 We are charged to feed the hungry,
Clothe the poor in ev’ry place,
Tend the lonely, sick, imprisoned—
There we see the Savior’s face;
Ever in our ears the echo
Of His words of mystery:
“As you do for these My brothers,
You have also done for Me.”

5 You, O Jesus came as servant,
Even counting Godhead loss:
Died for all—love’s faithful witness
Freely martyred on the cross!
With Your Spirit’s grace and power,
Come, O Lord, our hearts enflame,
Till we join the endless worship
Of Your holy saving name.

87 87 D

Suggested tune: RUSTINGTON (*LSB* 572)

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NOTES

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Deuteronomy 30:15-20 Choose life...loving the Lord your God...obeying his voice...walking in his ways.

Psalms 119: 1-8 Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord.

1 Corinthians 3:1-9 We are God's fellow workers...servants...stop jealousy and quarreling.

Matthew 5:21-37 Be reconciled to one another.

Recommended:

"I Have Called You Holy" – Clark (OT, Ps, E, G)

1 I have called you holy,
Named you My own child.
My pure grace is solely what has made us reconciled.
Rest in Me securely;
Do not fall asleep:
I, who love you, surely gave commandments you must
keep.

2 I will give you pardon
When you doubtless fail.
Do not let this harden you or let your love grow stale.
Once, you were a baby;
Now in Me, you've grown.
All I offer may be used to glorify My throne.

3 Do not hate My people,
Members all made one.
Under ev'ry steeple, I unite you with My Son.
Do not claim to love Me
If you will not live.
No, you are not of Me if you choose to not forgive.

4 I give you My Spirit;
You are made anew.
In My Word, revere it in the things you say and do.
How can you grow weary?
I will give you strength.
In the shadows dreary, I will give you light at length.

65 13 65 13

Suggested tune: Original tune by Jacob Roggow. For a copy, contact him at Jacob.roggow@cune.org.

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"When Training Up a Child" – Michael Schultz (OT) [CW 759]

1 When training up a child
to go a certain way,
long after youth that childhood truth will still hold sway;
and so, in infant hearts,
the gospel seed is sown
that children thus might learn to trust in Christ alone.

2 When Timothy was young,
his mother drew him near—
what she'd been taught is also what her son must hear:

how we had all the sin,
but Christ took all the blame,
how we've been dressed in righteousness in Jesus' name.

3 When God in all his grace
puts children in our care,
the legacy of love will be the words we share
in telling them of Christ
and teaching them his love,
till we and they are home to stay in heav'n above.

66 66 D

Suggested tune: DENBY [*LSB 602*]

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Notes

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18 “Be holy, because I, the LORD your God, am holy.”

Psalms 119:33-40 Teach me, O Lord, your decrees...give me understanding.

1 Corinthians 3:10-23 You yourselves are God’s temple.

Matthew 5:38-48 If someone strikes you on the cheek...

Recommended:

“O Lord, Our God, You Give Us All” – Clark (OT, Ps, E, G)

1 O Lord, our God, You give us all—
Your love, Your grace, Your holy call.
Enable us to live as Christ,
To count as joy all sacrificed.

4 Lord, grant us hands that never tire
Of working Your divine desire
And knees that never fail to bend
And serve a stranger as a friend.

2 Lord, teach our hearts to love Your Law,
To know Your will and humbly draw
A picture of Your mercy true
In all we think and say and do.

5 Lord, we are children of Your name.
Forbid that we would bring it shame
But fill us with Your Spirit’s might
That we reflect Your righteous light.

3 Lord, give us wisdom from above;
The blessings we are singing of
Are brought to life throughout our days
As we attempt to live Your ways.

LM

Suggested tune: MORNING HYMN (*LSB* 868)

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“You, My People, Shall Be Holy” – Starke (OT) [MATM #20]

1 “You, My people, shall be holy!
I AM God, your holy LORD.”
Flawed all human thought and effort—
God must holiness afford!
“Make an ark and tabernacle.”
With His own the LORD would meet:
Veiled within the cloudy pillar,
Throned above the Mercy Seat.

2 At the altar of burnt off’ring,
In the daily sacrifice,
There the LORD forgave His people,
Cov’ring sin, removing vice;
On the Day of the Atonement,
Ent’ring that Most Holy Place,
Cleansing blood the priest would sprinkle
On the ark before God’s face.

3 Christ, incarnate tabernacle—
With the world God deigned to dwell!
Flesh disguised the LORD’s high glory:
Virgin-born Immanuel!
Good that Friday of Atonement,
When on Golgotha’s dread hill,
Christ upon the altar offered
Priceless blood, God’s wrath to still.

4 Christ behind the veil then entered,
Stood before the Father’s throne,
There His sacred lifeblood sprinkling,
Which would ever all atone.

God, the temple curtain tearing,
That division to erase;
God, the veil forever op’ning—
Nothing bars us from His face!

5 Sinners—we in Christ have access
To the holy Three in One!
Saints—before the Father’s presence,
We stand dazzling as His Son!
Christ, our birth-corruption covered;
Blest that washing of rebirth!
Baptized, saved, all filth removing,
As the flood once cleansed the earth!

6 God the Holy Spirit calls us,
Feeds us with the Sacrament—
Bread and wine veil blood and body,
Feeding all, yet never spent;
Daily sanctifies and keeps us,
Lives in us, His holy shrines,
With His fruit each one He graces
To accomplish God’s designs.

7 “You, my people, shall be holy!”
God His holiness bestows!
Royal priests—in Christ a nation
From eternity God chose!
Glory be, O holy Father;
Glory be, O holy Son;
Glory be, O Holy Spirit—
Ever three and ever one!

87 87 D

Suggested original tune: BAROSSA (Copyright © 2013 Phillip Magness) Contact him at
phillipmagness@protonmail.com
BEACH SPRING (LSB 848) will also work.

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NOTES

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Isaiah 49:8-16a For the LORD comforts his people.

Psalms 115: (1-8) 9-18 Trust in the LORD.

1 Corinthians 4:1-13 He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness.

Matthew 6:24-34 Do not worry about tomorrow...

Recommended:

“I Will Not Forget My People” – Clark (OT, Ps, E, G)

1 I will not forget My people:
You are written on My hand.
I will feed and clothe and keep you
Till I bring you to My land.
Though you seem alone and lowly,
You are precious in My sight.
Though the world reviles the holy,
I will bring your love to light.

3 Do not fear each new tomorrow;
I will bring a bright new Day
When all knees will bend to hallow
My own name, to which they pray.
I will clothe you with My blessing;
You will taste the flowing streams
And the fruit of life, confessing
In your Savior, who redeems.

2 As you serve with one another,
Live with patience in My Son.
Use the gifts I give in number
In the works I have begun.
Freely give as I have given,
Speaking grace with truth and joy.
Let all prideful words be driven
To the cross, their pow'r destroy.

87 87 D

Suggested tune: JEFFERSON (*LSB* 338)

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“O God, in Days of Dire Need” – Starke (G) [MATM #56]

1 O God, in days of dire need
When blessings seem so few,
May fear and doubt not supersede
Our faith and hope in You.

4 Your daily faithfulness we trace,
Your saving love—how great!
Your care provides that quiet place
Of calm, where we can wait.

2 Who feeds the sparrows in the trees?
Who robes the lily fair?
Lord, You! You love us more than these—
Can we not trust Your care?

5 Your thoughts are higher than our ways—
So far above our own!
We trust such wisdom for our days
And rest in You alone.

3 A single sparrow does not fall
Unnoticed by Your eye;
Our hairs You number, one and all,
On You, Lord, we rely.

6 For ev'ry change and ev'ry fear
In trouble and distress,
You, God of grace, are always near
To comfort and to bless.

CM

Suggested tune: CONSOLATION (LSB 342)

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“Joyously I’ll Praise My Savior” – Michael Schultz translation of Gerhardt (OT) [CW 611]

1 Joyously I’ll praise my Savior;
for my God I’ll gladly sing,
as I see his loving favor
evident in ev’rything.
In his faithful heart is beating
love that’s pure and wide and long,
love that makes his servants strong.
All I see on earth is fleeting;
God’s amazing love for me
lasts for all eternity.

3 God had seen my sad condition,
gave me sight when I was blind;
he will be my great physician,
healing body, soul, and mind.
When it seems it’s not worth trying—
all my skill gets nothing done—
Jesus helps me carry on.
All I see on earth is dying;
God’s amazing love for me
lasts for all eternity.

2 God, with firm and clear conviction,
gave for me his precious Son,
by whose bloody crucifixion
I from hell have now been won.
O you spring of love prevailing,
depth of which I’ll never know,
current which will ever flow.
All I see on earth is failing;
God’s amazing love for me
lasts for all eternity.

4 Since your love is never-ending,
far beyond what words can say,
up to you my hands extending,
Father, as your child, I pray:
Let your grace to me be given
that I may with all my might
cling to you both day and night
till I see your face in heaven
where my praise and love will be
yours for all eternity.

87 87 877 877

Suggested tune: LASSET UNS MIT JESU ZIEHEN (LSB 685)

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“Christ Sees Me, Everything I Am” – Grindal (E) [ATOF]

1 Christ sees me, everything I am;
there is no hiding place.
He sees my guilt, my sin, and shame,
and covers them with grace.

2 For though I’ve hidden evil deeds
beneath a cloak of prayer
or give lip service to our creeds,
his gaze can lay me bare.

3 True love does not regard the faults
that fill our hearts with shame.

He sees beyond the briars and walls
we build to fend off blame.

4 Christ loves us more than life itself;
he died to set us free,
to rescue us from death and hell,
our well-earned destiny.

5 He sets us on the road toward home
and loves to give us all.

From bright eternities he comes
to love his prodigal.

CM

Suggested tune: DUNDEE (*LSB* 526)

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NOTES

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

Exodus 24:8-18 Moses goes up into the mountain of God...receives the Law, the covenant.

Psalms 2:6-12 I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill. You are my Son, this day have I begotten you.

2 Peter 1:16-21 We were eyewitnesses of his majesty.

Matthew 17:1-9 Jesus is transfigured on the mountaintop.

Recommended:

“Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain” – Vajda (G) [SP, p. 142]

1 Jesus, take us to the mountain,
where, with Peter, James and John,
we are dazzled by Your glory,
light as blinding as the sun.
There prepare us for the night
by the vision of that sight.

2 What do You want us to see there,
that Your close companions saw?
Your divinity revealed there
fills us with the selfsame awe.
Clothed in flesh like ours You go
matched to meet our deadliest Foe.

3 What do You want us to hear there,
that Your dear disciples heard?
Once again the Voice from heaven

says of the Incarnate Word:

“Listen, listen, everyone,
This is My beloved Son!”

4 Take us to that other mountain
where we see You glorified,
where You shouted “It is finished!”
where for all the world You died.
Hear the stunned centurion:
“Truly this was God’s own Son!”

5 We who have beheld Your glory,
risen and ascended Lord,
cannot help but tell the story,
all that we have seen and heard;
say with Peter, James, and John:
“You are God’s beloved Son!”

87 87 77

Suggested tunes: NAAR MIT ÖIE (*LSB* 435; note special connection to stanza 4 of the Vajda text)
 UNSER HERRSCHER (*LSB* 901)
 SILVER SPRING (reproducible from Schalk anthem, MSM -50-2601)

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“The Body of Our Lord” – Bird (G) [unpublished]

1 The body of our Lord,
In his transfiguration,
Shone brightly as the sun,
In full illumination.
In nature one with God,
The Son partakes in love,
Of human flesh that we,
Partake of God above.

3 God’s glory in a cloud,
Once filled the Tent of Meeting;
The God enshrined therein,
All Israel was entreating.
But now the Father’s cloud,
Has filled a human tent—
His own beloved Son,
The glory whom he sent.

2 The prophets had foretold,
His coming Incarnation;
The Word would make our flesh,
His only habitation.
Now what their mouths foretold,
Elijah, Moses, see—
The Son of God made man,
That we God's own might be.

4 The Body of God's Son,
Transfigured on the mountain,
Now clothes the child of God,
Adopted in the Fountain.
When earth's dark grave we leave,
Transfigured we will be;
Christ's glory we will share,
Through all eternity.

67 67 66 66

Suggested tune: WAS FRAG ICH NACH DER WELT (*LSB* 346)

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“This Brightness, Lord! What Shall I Say” – Michael Schultz (G) [CW 392]

1 This brightness, Lord! What shall I say
to see your face outshine the day?
No greater gift could I receive;
I'll stay right here and never leave!

4 Your living Word has let me see
the truth behind the bloody tree,
what makes your face profoundly shine—
you made my sin no longer mine.

2 But Moses and Elijah know
the lengths to which your love must go.
What pleasure fills you Father's voice:
“My precious Son, my perfect choice!”

5 No glory lights the plains below
where trials rise and troubles flow,
and yet I know you'll help me bear
each blessed cross that's waiting there.

3 I quickly learn we cannot stay;
the brightness gone, you lead the way,
advancing down this mountainside
to where you'll soon be crucified.

6 I'll soon exchange this mountain sight
for heaven's everlasting light;
your brightness, Lord, will then be mine,
and then my face, like yours, will shine.

L M

Suggested tune: PROSPECT (CW 392)

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“Ascend the Rugged Mount to See” – Rogner (G)

1 Ascend the rugged mount to see
Transfigured Christ in majesty:
His clothes as lightning, blinding white,
His face the sun in splendor bright.
There Moses and Elijah stand,
As witness to the Father’s plan;
There Peter wishes to remain,
The fleeting vision to sustain.

2 Enveloped, then, in mystic cloud—
The presence of Almighty God—
The three disciples fear and fall
Before the sovereign Lord of all.
His voice, like thunder, soars above:
“This is my Son, the One I love.”
He bids them listen to the Word,
The sole-begotten Son of God.

3 Those blessed three, amazed, dismayed,
Hear Jesus say, “Be not afraid!”
He touches them; they rise and go
But hide for now the truth they know.
May we, of Christ now risen, sing
And boldly name him Lord and King,
Whose pow’r and glory we revere,
Whose touch still bids us: have no fear.

88 88 D (Iambic)

Suggested tune: TREE OF LIFE (*LSB* 561)

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david.rogner@cuchicago.edu.

NOTES

ASH WEDNESDAY

Joel 2:12-19 Return to the Lord, your God.

Psalms 51:1-13 (14-19) Create in me a pure heart, O God.

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 Be reconciled to God...now is the day of salvation.

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 Treasures in heaven.

Recommended:

(This hymn is useful throughout the Lenten season, including midweek services...)

“Remember, Lord, the Times You Called Me” – Vajda (Ps) [SP, p.198]

1 Remember, Lord, the times you called me
to be your follower and friend?
Your words, your cause, your self enthralled me;
you gave my life a source and end.
My first communion and my vow!
How is our friendship now?

2 I dare not claim a special favor
For deeds heroic, much less due.
I need an understanding Savior,
I need a patient friend like you.
I need someone to take me back,
restore the joy I lack.

3 There still are souls and bodies crying
for help and healing, life and peace.
You saved the fruitless tree from dying,
you promised prisoners release.
Like Peter, Saul, and Magdalen,
make me all new again.

4 Forgiving Father, giving Savior,
renewing Spirit, keep your word:
give me a foretaste of forever,
where love and joy are never blurred.
With pride and weakness gone for good
I'll thank you as I should.

98 98 86

ICH WILL DICH LIEBEN (LSB 694)

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“Now, Even Now, Declare a Fast” – Starke (OT) [MATM 4]

1 Now, even now, declare a fast;
Turn, humbly turn—renounce your sin;
Tear not your robe for guilt amassed
But truly rend your heart within!

2 What shall I bring for daily vice,
Proffered before my Maker's eyes?
A contrite heart, the sacrifice
That You, O God, will not despise.

3 Ash, only ash I am, O Lord;
Dust, and to dust I shall return.

Death is my end, my just reward,
Solely the wage for sin I earn.

4 What shall I do? Where ought I go
To gain the grace I dearly want?
Only to Christ, who will bestow
Life from His pure baptismal font.

5 Drown, sinner, drown beneath its wave;
Rise, saint, arise—in Christ made new:
Live out the life your Savior gave,
By words you say and works you do.

LM

Suggested tune: LLEF [MATM #4] Public domain.

ERHALT UNS, HERR (LSB 522) will also work.

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“Lord Jesus Christ, to Us Restore” – Starke (PS) [Unpublished]

1 Lord Jesus Christ, to us restore
The joy of Your salvation;
A sacrifice You do not seek,
Nor want our burnt oblation;
A contrite heart before Your eyes
Is what You, Lord, will not despise—
O Lord, have mercy on us!

2 Create in us clean hearts made new,
With souls Your goodness voicing;
Let us Your joy and gladness hear,
Our broken bones rejoicing;

For though in sin we are conceived,
Yet washed by You, we are received—
O Christ, have mercy on us!

3 Your Spirit, Lord, take not from us,
Nor cast us from Your being,
But teach Your wisdom to our hearts,
That we Your truths are seeing.
Lord, open now our lips to praise;
Do good to Zion all her days—
O Lord, have mercy on us!

87 87 887

Suggested tune: PRENTICE [*The K. Lee Scott Hymnary*, #21/MSM]

Also recommend ALLEIN GOTT IN DER HÖH (LSB 899)

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“Make These Days a Time of Prayer” – Rogner (OT, Ps, G)

1 Make these days a time of prayer;
A consecrated fast declare.
Search the soul and test each part;
Return to God with all your heart.

2 Let your sacrifice now be
A contrite heart, a bended knee.
Pray for wisdom; set your gaze
On heav’nly treasure, holy ways.

3 Speak a broken spirit’s plea:
“Lord, blot out my iniquity.”
Make the cross and cleansing flood
Your certain hope, your highest good.

4 Be not tempted to despair,
But trust the Father’s love and care.
What compassion has he shown
In giving us his only Son!

5 Jesus, Savior, guide us now
As we take on our Lenten vow.
Curb our self-indulgent ways;
Grant us grace these forty days.

78 78

Suggested tune: None; why not compose your own?

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FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

Genesis 3:1-21 The fall of humankind.

Psalms 32:1-7 You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble.

Romans 5:12-19 Sin came into the world through one man...

Matthew 4:1-11 Jesus is tempted in the wilderness by Satan.

Recommended:

“Jesus, Tempted in the Desert” – Stuempfle (G) [WGF #20]

1 Jesus, tempted in the desert,
lonely, hungry, filled with dread:
“Use your pow’r,” the tempter tells him;
“turn these barren rocks to bread!”
“Not alone by bread,” he answers,
“can the human heart be filled.
Only by the Word that calls us
is our deepest hunger stilled!”

2 Jesus, tempted at the temple,
high above its ancient wall:
“Throw yourself from lofty turret;
angels wait to break your fall!”
Jesus shuns such empty marvels,
feats that fickle crowds request:
“God, whose grace protects, preserves us,
we must never vainly test.”

3 Jesus, tempted on the mountain
by the lure of vast domain:
“Fall before me! Be my servant!
Glory, fame, you’re sure to gain!”
Jesus sees the dazzling vision,
turns his eyes another way:
“God alone deserves our homage!
God alone will I obey!”

4 When we face temptation’s power,
lonely, struggling, filled with dread,
Christ, who knew the tempter’s hour,
come and be our living Bread.
By your grace, protect, preserve us
lest we fall, your trust betray.
Yours, above all other voices,
be the Word we hear, obey.

87 87 D

Suggested tune: BEACH SPRING (LSB 848)

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“And Did God Really Say...?” – Starke (OT/G) [Unpublished]

1 “And did God really say...?”

(Should I believe God’s Word?)

Lord, help me when I do not trust
Each truth I’ve heard!

The bread I need each day,

Is food You freely give—

Your wholesome law, Your sweeter grace

By which I live.

2 “You shall not surely die...”

(Does God protect and care?)

Lord, help me not to harm myself

By what I dare!

I on Your Word rely

And in Your love I rest,

So that I not put You, Lord God,

To foolish test.

3 “And you will be like God...”

(For glory ought I pine?)

Lord, help when narcissistic thoughts

Mold me divine!

Lord, You alone I laud

With godly strength and verve;

Not idols, but You living Lord

I love and serve.

66 84 D

Suggested tune: BETHANY MISSION [OSOC #57] Tune by Carl Schalk.

Also suggested is YIGDAL (LSB 564)

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“Our Sinless Parents, Blest in Eden” – Rogner (OT)

1 Our sinless parents, blest in Eden,

Took from the forbidden tree,

Beguiled by Satan’s empty promise:

‘Taste and eat, be wise and free.’

2 Our sinful parents, lost in Eden,

Fled from God, ashamed, afraid,

And hid themselves within the garden,

Cloaked in leaves of sin and shade.

3 Our fallen parents, barred from Eden,

Doomed to pain and mortal dread,

Received the promise of a Savior

Who would crush the serpent’s head.

4 O Greater Adam, born of woman,

By a tree You saved and bless,

Wherein we hide, redeemed, forgiven,

Dressed in robes of righteousness.

97 97

Suggested tune: Jonathan Stahlke has composed a wonderful tune for this text. Contact him at

Jonathan.stahlke@cuchicag.edu.

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david.rogner@cuchicago.edu.

“As Adam Sinned, So We All Sin” – Grindal (OT) [ATOF]

1 As Adam sinned, so we all sin
and disobey our Lord.
We leave the wreckage to our kin,
and death is their reward.

2 Our reaching toward the darkness fills
the world with pain and woe
Our restless yearnings are not stilled
no matter what we do.

3 But heav’n in love reached out to us
and gave a Blessed One
who would restore old Adam’s loss:
God’s own beloved Son.

4 In him is all of Paradise,
in him is life made new.
He put an end to Satan’s lies,
this Son whose life is true.

CM

Suggested tune: SONG 67 (*ELW 745*)

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NOTES

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

Genesis 12:1-9 Abram journeys with Sarah to the land of Canaan. A promise...

Psalms 121 The Lord will keep your going out and coming in from this time forth.

Romans 4:1-8, 13-17 As with Abraham the promise comes by faith.

John 3:1-17 God so loved the world...as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert...

Recommended:

“Unsleeping God, Your Eyes Behold” – Stuenpfe (Ps) [SoF #61]

1 Unsleeping God, your eyes behold
the farthest reach of time and space,
yet not a sparrow falls to earth
beyond the bounds of your embrace.

2 Our lives endure but for a day
before returning to the dust;
but they are yours from birth till death,
and in your providence we trust.

3 We cannot hide our sin and shame
from your all-seeing, sleepless eye.

But justice wears the lens of love;
you hear us when for grace we cry.

4 You watch with grief where children weep;
your eyes are never closed to pain.
Where terror stalks the earth, you see
your Son upon the Cross again.

5 Unsleeping God, behold us still!
Our wayward, wounded lives restore!
Keep watch above this fragile earth
from this time forth, forevermore!

LM

Suggested tune: ST. CRISPIN (LSB 563)

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“Great Teacher, Sent from God” – Stuenpfe (G) [SoF #25]

1 Great Teacher, sent from God,
in whom all truth is found,
help us to listen when you speak
and by your truth be bound.

2 Without your living Word
our spirits waste and die.
We cannot find within ourselves
the life that you supply.

3 “You must be born again!”
Your urgent Word we hear.

Create within our barren hearts
the life we seek, yet fear.

4 Then, by your grace made new,
Christ, send us out to be
the servants of your living Word
whose truth can set us free.

5 As you have taught us, Lord,
now make us apt to teach
and help us, by your Spirit’s pow’r,
to live the Word we preach.

SM

Suggested tune: SOUTHWELL (LSB 424)

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“I Lift My Eyes to See” – Starke (PS) [MATM 55]

1 I lift my eyes to see
The mountains soar and tower—
How strong my Maker’s power!
How sure His help for me!

4 At times of trial and strife
When evil foes assail you,
God’s presence will not fail you—
The LORD preserves your life!

2 God keeps your footsteps true;
His eye is never sleeping,
His Israel ever keeping—
So great His love for you!

5 When you walk out the door,
To where your path may lead you,
God’s blessing will precede you,
Both now and evermore.

3 God guards you by His might;
The burning sunlight shading
And when its glow is fading,
God keeps you safe at night.

6 All laud and glory be
To Father, Son, and Spirit,
Through whom we life inherit—
O blessed Trinity!

67 76

Suggested tune: NO CHILD [MATM #55]

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Tune: Amanda Husberg; Copyright © 2008 Hope Publishing House

“My Help Comes from the Lord” – Rogner (Ps)

1 I faint beneath the blazing sun,
My way unsure, my hopes undone,
But then I hear Him say:
“I am your shade; here in My shadow rest.
I am the help of every soul distressed.”

2 The way is treacherous and steep;
Beside the road lay chasms deep,
But then I hear Him say:
“I will not let you stumble, stray, or fall;
Fear not, for I am sovereign over all.”

3 Confused, I look for what I need
In some false god or errant creed,
But then I hear Him say:
“I formed the earth and heavens by My word;
Remember that your help comes from the Lord.”

4 My eyes grow heavy; on comes night.
I cannot stay awake to fight,
But still I hear Him say:
“My chosen ones do I in safety keep.
I am the Lord; I slumber not, nor sleep.

88 6 10 10

Suggested tune: New tune by Joel Frieberg. Contact him at crf_freibej@cuchicago.edu

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NOTES

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

Exodus 17:1-7 Moses strikes the rock for water at Meribah.

Psalms 95:1-9 Oh, come let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord our maker.

Romans 5:1-8 While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

John 4:5-26 (27-30, 39-42) Jesus and the Samaritan woman at the well.

Recommended:

“As the Deer Runs to the River” – Stuempfle (OT) [WL #45]

1 As the deer runs to the river,
parched and weary from the chase,
we have come from hurt and hurry,
thirsting for your healing grace.
Jesus, Source of living water,
may we drink of you and live!

2 When your Israel crossed the desert
where no stream or spring was seen,
Moses struck the rock, and water
flowed for them, refreshing, clean.
Jesus, Source of living water,
may we drink of you and live!

3 “Come and drink,” Isaiah summoned,
“all who for God’s mercy plead!
God’s forgiveness, like a fountain,
flows to satisfy your need.”
Jesus, Source of living water,
may we drink of you and live!

4 Christ, we come from desert places,
deepest thirst unsatisfied.
Lead us to the waters flowing
from the cross on which you died.
Jesus, Source of living water,
may we drink of you and live!

87 87 87

Suggested tune: PICARDY (LSB 621)

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“Living Water, Clear and Sparkling” – Stuempfle (G) [SoF #34]

1 Living Water, clear and sparkling,
flowing from a deeper spring,
better than the world can offer,
gift that makes our spirits sing!
Living Water, clear and sparkling,
help us drink of you and live!

2 Weary, restless, stressed and striving
for a good we scarcely know,
thirsting still, forever searching
till we find your wellspring’s flow.
Living Water, clear and sparkling,
help us drink of you and live!

3 Christ, who cried, “I thirst!” while dying,
you our human need have known.
Risen Lord, you are the fountain,
source of life beyond our own.
Living Water, clear and sparkling,
help us drink of you and live!

4 Living Water, Christ, we praise you,
for your pure, unfailing grace
flowing through all lands and centuries,
reaching us within this place!
Living Water, clear and sparkling,
help us drink of you and live!

87 87 87

Suggested tune: LAUDA ANIMA (LSB 417)

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“If You Know the Gift of God” – Rogner (G)

1 If you know the Gift of God,
You will ask for Living Water,
 Wellspring from a holy place,
 Crystal stream of purest grace,
Flowing to each famished son and daughter.

2 Thirsting pilgrims at the well,
Helpless, broken, tired, and kneeling,
 Find a Lord who, though He knows
 All the barren paths we chose,
Gives eternal water, life, and healing.

3 Those who draw from Jacob’s well
Thirst again, its source external;
 Those who drink from God’s own Son
 Find a blessed spring begun,
Welling up inside to life eternal.

4 If you know the Gift of God,
You will ask for Living Water:
 Wellspring from a holy place,
 Hope for those reborn by grace,
Life to ev’ry rescued son and daughter.

78 77 10

- Suggested tune: None exists yet; write your own!

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“What Grace Is This” – Gauger (E) [CW 395]

1 What grace is this! My Lord and King
has set His face to suffering.
My God eternal dies to bring
eternal life to me.

2 What grace is this—that very God
would stoop to lift a cross of wood
and walk a road of rock and blood,
a sinner’s road, for me.

3 What grace is this! Though Lord of all,
he yields to Pontius Pilate’s law
and lets the Roman hammers draw
a rush of blood for me.

4 What grace is this! Rude agonies!
With common thieves he hangs and bleeds.
The sinless Son bears each misdeed;
he pays for all, for me.

5 What grace is this! Once wrapped in cloths
and gently laid in manger-trough,
he’s taken, dead, from wretched cross
and wrapped again for me.

6 What grace is this? How can it be?
He wears this raw humility
to lift me to eternity.
Such grace—sweet grace—for me.

Suggested tune: WHAT GRACE (CW 395)

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“Lord, You Come As One Unbidden” – Starke (G) [Unpublished]

1 Lord, You come as One unbidden
Where my secret sins are hidden,
Where I stand ashamed.
Sin, with serpentine constriction,
Long has choked my faith’s conviction—
I Your name defamed.

2 Yet from me You are not turning,
Though my inner life is churning,
Anxious in my strife?
Living water You are giving,
Quenching thirst where sin is living
Its unholy life.

3 Thirsting so for my salvation,
You faced shame and degradation,
Dying on the tree:
“It is finished!” is Your token
That sin’s curse has now been broken—
I from debt stand free!

4 Daily, Lord, I am repenting,
Though sin still is unrelenting,
Parching dry my soul.
Living water to me flowing;
By Your grace my faith regrowing,
Fully cleansed and whole.

88 5 D

Suggested tune: STONELEIGH [MATM 34]

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NOTES

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Isaiah 42:14-21 Hear, you deaf...see, you blind...

Psalms 142 You are my refuge in the land of the living.

Ephesians 5:8-14 Walk as children of the light...Christ will shine on you.

John 9:1-41 OR John 9:1-7, 13-17, 34-39 The man born blind...I am the light of the world.

Recommended:

“His Years Were Days of Endless Night” – Stuenkel (G) [WL #23]

1 His years were days of endless night;
for he was blind from birth.
He never saw the shining stars,
the wonders of the earth.
He only felt a sudden warmth
when t'ward the sun he faced.
The profiles of the ones he loved,
his fingers gently traced.

2 His midnight world was pierced by One
who came as Light from Light.
A stranger's touch unsealed his eyes,
and all the world turned bright!
“Who is this man who gave you sight?”
inquired a Pharisee.
“I only know I once was blind,
and he has made me see!”

3 Lord Christ, we come with eyes made blind
by doubt and deep despair.
We search through midnight worlds of grief
and hope to find you there.
Are you the one whose touch can still
restore our darkened sight,
Or must we walk beneath the sun
and never see the light?

4 You meet us, Christ, in bread and wine,
in water and the Word.
Your healing hand still reaches us
through those who call you Lord.
Come, touch us now, O Risen One,
that, by Love's mystery,
from doubt and darkness we may cry,
“By faith again I see!”

CMD

Suggested tune: KINGSFOLD (LSB 444)

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“Cling Tightly to the Word of God” – Starke (E) [OSOC 53]

1 Cling tightly to the Word of God
And Christ’s disciple be;
For then, beloved, you will know
The truth that sets you free,
The truth that sets you free.

4 Be strong! Stand firm! Come, walk the path
That saints before you trod,
With ready feet to bring good news
Of Christ—the peace of God,
Of Christ—the peace of God.

2 Recall in faith the precious gift
Of your baptismal day,
When you were joined to Jesus’ death
That washed your sins away,
That washed your sins away.

5 Know that His body and His blood
Will feed your hungry soul
Like manna in life’s wilderness,
Until you reach your goal,
Until you reach your goal.

3 For just as God raised up His Son
From death by His great might,
So too, in Christ, we now may live
As children of the light,
As children of the light.

6 Now fix your eyes on Jesus Christ;
“Come, follow Me,” says He;
“Deny yourself, take up your cross—
Come, lose your life for Me,
Come, lose your life for Me.”

86 866

Suggested tune: O COME (Amanda Husberg) [OSOC #53, CW 707]

LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN (*LSB* 389) will also work.

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NOTES

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Ezekiel 37:1-14 Them dry bones...I will raise you from your graves...

Psalms 130 Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.

Romans 8:1-11 He who raised Christ Jesus will also give life you your mortal bodies.

John 11:1-45 (46-53) OR John 11:17-27, 38-53 Lazarus is raised from the dead.

Recommended:

“From Depths of Need I Cry to You” – Stuenkel (PS) [RtT #24]

1 From depths of need I cry to you;
your grace to me impart
and hear beneath the words I lack
my searching, hungering heart.

2 If you should choose to count my sins
or weigh my worthiness,
how could I dare to plead my case
before your righteousness?

3 But you are gracious, God of truth,
beyond my farthest thought.
You seek me out with patient love

before I've turned and sought.

4 As watchers for the morning wait,
so waits my soul for you.
When sunlight wakes the sleeping earth,
my faith and hope renew.

5 Then, gloom and darkness overcome,
I'll greet with joy the dawn
and sing in praise with each new breath
to you, my heart's true Sun.

CM

Suggested tune: DETROIT (LSB 843)

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“Martha, Mary, Waiting, Weeping” – Stuenkel (G) [RtT #23]

1 Martha, Mary, waiting, weeping,
bowed beneath the weight of gloom,
kept their watch where Lazarus, sleeping,
lay within a rock sealed tomb.
Jesus, late in coming, met them,
shed with them compassion's tear.
Martha, sore with sorrow, charged him,
“He'd have lived had you been here!”

2 Jesus spoke to Martha's grieving,
“Resurrection, Life, am I!
All who hear my Word, believing,
live with me, although they die.”

Then to Lazarus' tomb he led them,
called their brother forth by name.
Living, loving, hope exceeding,
freed from death, to Christ he came.

3 Jesus, resurrected, giving
life to all you name your own:
Help us know in hours of grieving
we have not been left alone.
Come, when doubt and fear assail us;
join our journey toward the grave.
There your mercy will not fail us;
there you speak with power to save.

Suggested tune: BEACH SPRING (LSB 848)

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“The Holy Word of God Endures Forever” – Starke (OT) [MATM #22]

1 The holy Word of God endures forever
With living truths the Spirit has revealed.
These are not myths conceived by authors clever;
They never fade like flowers of the field.
No Scripture came by human inspiration;
God breathed His life in each and ev’ry part,
So Christ, the Morning Star of our salvation,
Might dawn with sight for ev’ry blinded heart.

2 Christ Jesus is the content of this writing,
The banner of God’s love for all unfurled,
For through the Word the Father is inviting:
“O wayward one, forsake your rebel world;
No greater gift I have than what I gave you—
My only Son for sin—that you might know
The distance that My grace stretched out to save you
And make your scarlet sins as white as snow.”

3 O Spirit—calling, gathering, uniting—
Come, breathe Your life in all whose hope is lost
And in such lives with power come, igniting
The flames of faith first lit on Pentecost;
To those long dead, the victims of sin’s vi’lence,
To all forgotten casualties of strife,
Now speak to driest bones and break the silence—
Where there is death, now raise enfleshed new life!

4 The Holy Word of God endures forever!
It comes to hearts where sin remains concealed,
And like a two-edged sword, to pierce and sever,
It cuts the heart so that it might be healed.
With Gospel salve renew us, faith’s Begetter;
Write living words, yet not with ink on stone.
But write upon our hearts, that as Christ’s letter
We tell of how God saves by grace alone.

11 10 11 10 D

Suggested tune: CONCORDIA CINCINNATI [MATM #22]

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NOTES

PALM SUNDAY

John 12:12-19 (Processional Gospel) Jesus' entry into Jerusalem.

Isaiah 50:4-9a He who vindicates is near.

Psalms 118:19-29 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

OR

Psalms 31:9-16 Into your hands I commit my spirit.

Philippians 2:5-11 Christ Jesus humbled himself...death on a cross.

Matthew 26:1-27:66 The arrest, death, and burial of Jesus.

OR

Matthew 27:11-66 Jesus' trial and crucifixion.

OR

John 12:20-43 Jesus predicts his death.

Recommended:

“To Hail His Way, Some Run Ahead” – Rogner (G)

1 To hail His way, some run ahead
And on the road their garments spread;
Some make a palm-branch offering,
Then walk behind their humble King.
Yet all cry out to David's Son:
“Hosanna to the Blessed One.”

3 A mournful group, by soldiers led,
Soon walk behind the thorn-crown'd Head.
They climb the hill toward bitter death;
They hear Him cry His final breath.
O glor'ous cry! Blest mystery:
The death of Death; our victory!

2 The very stones might cry aloud
Were one to hush this cheering crowd,
For Jesus, in the Father's name,
Has come these lost ones to reclaim,
To win salvation by a cross,
To save by death, to gain by loss.

88 88 88

Suggested tune: RYBURN (*LSB* 683)

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“Exult Today, Jerusalem” – Starke (PG) [MATM, CW 415]

1 Exult today, Jerusalem!
God comes to set you free!
This royal son of Bethlehem
Fulfills all prophecy.
This greater Jonah of renown

A King, one like that priestly king,
Melchizedek of old,
For Christ, as thorn-crowned King will bring
God's righteousness foretold.

God's love and power displays;
He comes to tear God's temple down
And raise it in three days!

2 With joy, the city resonates!
O Zion's daughter sing!
Lift up your heads, you mighty gates,
And greet your coming King!
He rides no horse with prancing strides,
As kings before Him came,
But on a donkey humbly rides,
His office to proclaim:

3 The Christ! A Prophet greater than
That giver of the Law;
A Priest, not born from Levi's clan,
But born without sin's flaw;

4 Christ's glory is not seen by those
Offended by the cross,
For worldly wisdom never knows
How gain could come from loss;
Yet this the glory of the Christ:
To claim our cross as throne—
His perfect life He sacrificed
That we might be His own!

5 So wave your palms and fill the air
With shouts of joy this day,
The King of glory comes to bear
Your sin and death away!
Hosanna, Lord! Your people save!
O come, Emmanuel,
And by Your cross and shattered grave,
Tear down the gates of hell!

C M D

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KINGSFOLD (LSB 444) will also work.

“Let This Same Mind Be Shown” – Starke (E) [OSOC #59]

1 Let this same mind be shown
Which we in Christ have known:
Who although truly God
Would deign to save us,
Who although truly God
Would deign to save us.

2 Equal with God yet He
Would choose humility;
Freely laid all aside
To be a servant,
Freely laid all aside
To be a servant.

3 Human in ev'ry way
Yet He would still obey;
Humbled Himself to death:
The cross for sinners,
Humbled Himself to death:
The cross for sinners.

4 God raised Him high above,
Bestowed the name of love:
Jesus—before each name
On earth, in heaven,
Jesus—before each name
On earth, in heaven.

5 May ev'ry tongue confess,
May ev'ry knee profess:
Jesus is Christ the Lord—
To God be glory!
Jesus is Christ the Lord—
To God be glory!

6 Let this same mind be shown
Which we in Christ have known:
Who although truly God
Would deign to save us,
Who although truly God
Would deign to save us.

66 65 65

Suggested tune: CAMBRIDGE [OSOC #59]

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“Put On the Mind of Christ” - Cherwien (E) [LIW, p. 35]

1 Put on the mind of Christ:
Conform not to this world,
But seek a servant life of peace
By mind and heart renewed.

2 See through the eyes of Christ,
That mark no fault or foe,
But, open, see the best in all
That love may freely flow.

3. Feel with the heart of Christ,
As deep calls out to deep;

Rejoice with all those who rejoice,
And weep with those who weep.

4 Christ's wholeness underlies
The span of time and space;
Then from that fullness let us live,
Receiving grace on grace.

5 This is our proper praise,
Our worship true and right:
To offer all our earthly days
As living sacrifice.

SM

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SOUTHWELL (*LSB* 424) will also work.

NOTES

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Exodus 24:3-11 Moses throws the blood of the covenant on the people.

Psalms 116:12-19 I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the Lord.

Hebrews 9:11-22 Jesus is the mediator of the new covenant.

Matthew 26:17-30 The institution of the Lord's Supper.

OR

Exodus 12:1-14 The Lord's Passover.

Psalms 116:12-19 I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the Lord.

1 Corinthians 11:23-32 Whoever eats the bread and drinks the cup....

John 13:1-17, 31b-35 A new commandment I give you...

Recommended:

“On the Night He Was Betrayed” – Rogner (G)

1 The Lord of Glory kneels and washes feet
To show His friends a lesson they must learn:
In service is compassion made complete,
And Love will freely give what none can earn.

2 The Friend of Sinners prays that they be one,
Though they will soon deny, betray, and flee;
And yet He bids them love as He has done:
Self-giving, gracious, full, forgiving, free.

3 The Bread of Heaven calls them to the Feast,
His body and His blood, in bread and wine:
A taste of sin forgiven, joy increased,
A life as branches grafted to the Vine.

4 The Man of Sorrows, bathed in bloody sweat,
Implores the Father to be spared the cup,
Then does God's will, and goes to pay the debt:
A life laid down, for sinners lifted up.

10 10 10 10

Suggested tune: FARLEY CASTLE (LSB 631) or MANDATUM NOVUM by Jonathan Stahlke. Contact him at Jonathan.stahlke@cuchicago.edu

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“Lord, Let This Cup Pass on from Me” – Martin (G)

1 “Lord, let this cup pass on from Me,”
The Son cries to His Father.
With sweat like blood in agony,
The Lamb awaits His slaughter.
This wretched Man, our sins His own;
God’s will to crush Him now made known.
Behold, the King of Glory!

2 With swords, and clubs, and jingling purse,
A single kiss betrays Him.
His own disciples flee and curse
The Lord who came to save them.
“O Man of Sorrows, prophesy,
Who struck the Christ condemned to die?”
Behold, the King of Glory!

3 “His blood be on us,” jeered the crowd,
One weighed against a nation.
The same who cried “Hosannas” loud,
Now cheering His damnation.
The gruesome cross He bore alone,
A grand procession to His throne.
Behold, the King of Glory!

4 Nails driven through His hands and feet,
The cross His highest station.
Two thieves now flank the mercy seat,
With mocking adoration.
Hell swells with glee at one Man’s death,
As Heaven waits with bated breath.
Behold, the King of Glory!

5 This lifeless body, hanging still,
The God of all creation.
Lord, grant in me the solemn will
To gaze and see salvation,
Assured that on the day I die,
My next breath drawn will be to cry,
“Behold, the King of Glory!”

87 87 887

Suggested tune: AUS TIEFER NOT (LSB 607)

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“The Garden of Gethsemane” – Michael Schultz (G-Matt. 26) [CW 424]

1 The Garden of Gethsemane—
they'd often gathered there,
the Christ and his disciple friends,
the sheep beneath his care.
But when the Shepherd needed them—
“Come, watch and pray with me”—
their heavy hearts and eyes prevailed
in dark Gethsemane.

2 Gethsemane's serenity,
so pleasant in the past,
was shattered by a piercing cry.
Our Savior stood aghast—
to see the curse inside the cup,
to sense what soon would be
unleashed against his sinless soul
beyond Gethsemane.

3 Gethsemane's intensity,
revealed in blood-like sweat,
led Christ to pray, for he would pay
sin's awful crushing debt.

“My Father, find another way
to set the sinner free.
“Your will, not mine, be done,”
He said in sad Gethsemane.

4 Gethsemane's immensity
can still be seen today.
The Father's will was crystal clear:
“There is no other way!
Move on, my Son; your death alone
can save humanity.”
So, bound and destined for the cross,
Christ left Gethsemane.

5 Gethsemane's tranquility
returned again that night;
the conflict moved to Calvary,
where Jesus won the fight.
There is no cup for us to drink,
no curse, no penalty—
to know the lavish love of God,
recall Gethsemane!

CM D

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KINGSFOLD (LSB 444) will also work.

“The Blood of the Lamb” – Gauger (CW 418)

1 The Father sees his children's chains.
From Pharaoh's land they cry in pain.
To rescue them, he makes a way:
the blood of the lamb.

2 The lamb is slain as sun is set—
a perfect lamb, without defect.
They stain their doors with innocence:
the blood of the lamb.

3 As midnight looms, the hour of death,
God seeks the firstborn, steals their breath,
but passes o'er doors drenched in red:
the blood of the lamb.

4 Children of God, we too were slaves:
our master—sin! Our end—the grave!
But freedom came in crimson shades:
the blood of the Lamb.

5 This perfect Lamb is Jesus Christ.
He gave himself as sacrifice.
His life poured out, the final price:
the blood of the Lamb.

6 The blood he spilled, the life he spent,
he gives us now in sacrament.
Eternal life on Christ depends:
the blood of the Lamb.

Recommended tune: BLOOD OF THE LAMB (CW 418)

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“My Beloved Sets for Me” – Starke (E1) [MATM #37]

1 My Belovèd sets for me A banquet from above And over me He stretches forth The banner of His love. <i>Refrain</i> “Come, both great and least,” Calls our great High Priest, “I, with My own flesh and blood, Will feed you at My feast.”	How sweet the taste, how fair the fruit That falls from Calvary! <i>Refrain</i>
2 My delight is in the shade Beneath His holy tree;	3 Yea, my ev’ry fear is gone Within His strong embrace; His loving arms that bore my shame Assure me of His grace. <i>Refrain</i>
	4 We are robed in purest white As Christ’s belovèd bride, Made clean by water and the blood That flowed from Jesus’ side! <i>Refrain</i>

76 86 and refrain

Suggested tune: WELCOME VOICE [MATM #37]

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Tune: Lewis Hartsough, 1828-1919; Public Domain

“Holy, Holy, Holy Lord—Come, You Thirsty” – Starke (E2) [MATM #36]

1 Holy, holy, holy Lord,
By the hosts of heav’n adored,
In Your presence angels bow
With rev’rence due;
Lamb of God, for sinners slain,
In this Holy Meal You deign
To descend and nourish us,
Our faith renew.

Refrain

Come, you thirsty, here drink freely!
Come, you hungry, feast on richest fare!
Here the banquet of salvation
God now spreads for ev’ryone to share!

Do we not His death confess
By this cup which here we bless;
Do we not together share
The blood of Christ? *Refrain*

3 God invites the great and least
Calls the rich and poor to feast,
Bids the well and sick to fill
His wedding hall.

Come, His Supper now begins,
For forgiveness of our sins:
Gift of mercy, Meal of grace—
For one and all. *Refrain*

2 Is not this, the bread we break,
A communion to partake
Of the body of our Lord,
Once sacrificed?

77 74 D with refrain

Suggested tune: BANQUET BIDDING [MATM #36]

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(cont’d)

“O God of Love” – Starke (G2) [Unpublished]

1 O God of love,
How precious Your Name,
LORD God Most High,
Forever the same—
O well-spring source
Of mercy and grace
Directed toward
Our all-rebel race.

2 O God of love,
Repulsed by our sin,
You kindly sought
Our rescue to win:
Love manifest
As grace that would give
Your only Son,
So that we might live.

3 O God of love,
Incarnate by birth,
The Word made flesh,
God with us on earth:
Beneath Your cross
In cruciform shade,
We rest secure,
No longer afraid.

4 O God of love,
In You we abide,
Cleansed by that flood
Which flowed from Your side.
In this is love:
Not our loving You,
But You loved us
And loved the world too.

5 O God of love,
Upraised from the dead,
You call Your Church
To go in Your stead
You send us out
To baptize and teach,
So that each soul
Your mercy may reach.

6 O God of love,
This church and this school,
We pray, dear Lord,
May serve as Your tool:
Grant loving hearts
To all those who teach;
With grace-filled words
Bless pastors who preach.

7 O God of love,
May none Your Word spurn;
Give us glad hearts
To hear and to learn.
Your supper feeds
Each sin-sickened soul;
We taste and see—
Your grace makes us whole!

8 O God of love,
The Father and Son,
And Holy Ghost—
The Three in the One—
All glory be,
Both now, as was then,
And evermore.
Amen and amen!

45 45 D

Suggested tune: MAYFAIR [Unpublished; see below]

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GOOD FRIDAY

Isaiah 52:13-53:12 Surely he has borne our griefs...

Psalms 22 My God, why have you forsaken me?

OR

Psalms 31 In you, O Lord, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame.

Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9 Since we have a great high priest...

John 18:1-19:42 OR John 19:17-30 The passion and death of Jesus Christ.

Recommended:

“Surely He Has Borne Our Grief” – Jeremiah Schultz (G)

1 Surely He has borne our grief,
Carried all our sorrow.
He was blameless, I the thief,
Who refused to follow.
How can I find peace of heart
When I played the murderer's part?
Crushed by my transgression,
Christ felt death's oppression.

2 I esteemed my Savior not,
Spurned His humble visage.
'Gainst my Savior, I have fought,
Scorning His dear image.
He in holy silence wept,
Tender as a lamb who's kept
To be bled and slaughtered.
He Himself He offered.

3 Like a sheep, I went astray,
Heedlessly I wandered.
I can hardly bear to say
All the gifts I squandered.
Why should Christ acknowledge me?
Yet His love has set me free!
He has wrought salvation
From my condemnation.

4 By His stripes I am made whole,
I no longer languish.
Christ has raised my ailing soul,
Death by death was vanquished.
By the Holy Spirit now,
I no longer wonder how—
Death is but a portal.
Christ brings life immortal.

76 76 77 66

Suggested tune: Joel Freiberg has composed a wonderful tune for this text. Contact him at crf_freibej@cuchicago.edu.

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“The Seven Words” – Michael Schultz (G) [CW 436]

1 Their nails were freshly driven,
their hatred clearly shown,
when “Let them be forgiven,”
was heard at heaven’s throne.
Your enemies, O Jesus,
you loved beyond degree,
a love so pure and precious
it even pardoned me.

2 On you, my King, depending,
I’m rid of all my sins!
My final day here ending,
my first in heav’n begins.
As you have truly spoken,
in paradise I’ll be,
with you in bliss unbroken—
you will remember me.

3 A Savior like no other,
all self-concern denied,
you served your grieving mother
while you were crucified.
My sin had made me filthy,
but you, the perfect child,
were designated guilty,
and I am reconciled.

4 Condemned, cut off, forsaken,
outside the Father’s care,
by terror overtaken,
no ear would hear your prayer.

On you God’s wrath was vented,
on you his fury fell,
when, on the cross tormented,
you took my place in hell.

5 My Lord, in death’s dark valley,
both soul and body drained,
one drink would help you rally
what little strength remained
to raise your voice in vict’ry,
to sound your foe’s defeat—
the highest point in hist’ry—
My rescue was complete.

6 Though sin’s most lethal wages
to me, O Christ, were due,
the guilt of all the ages
came crashing down on you.
Most surely, “It is finished”—
my debt is full paid;
my joy is undiminished;
my heart is unafraid.

7 My death will be triumphant
no matter how I die;
Lord Jesus, in that instant
escort my soul on high
into my Father’s keeping,
all blameless and all-blest,
like waking up from sleeping,
his hands my place of rest.

76 76 D

Suggested tune: HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN (*LSB* 449, 450)

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NOTES

EASTER (*Sunrise*)

Exodus 14:10-15:1 Israel is delivered from Pharoah at the Red Sea.

Psalms 118:15-29 The Lord's right hand has done mighty things!

OR

The Song of Moses and Israel (Exodus 15) – *LSB* 925

1 Corinthians 15:1-11 Christ was raised on the third day.

John 20:1-18 The risen Christ appears to Mary Magdalene.

Recommended:

“See Him Rend the Grave Asunder” – Rogner (G)

1 See Him rend the grave asunder!
Christ triumphant greets the day,
Halting those who fear and wonder,
“Who will roll the stone away?”
Gates of death and hell could never
Hold the Father's Holy One;
He has swallowed Death forever,
Risen and Eternal Son!

3 Raise a shout of high thanksgiving!
Ponder what the angel said:
“Wherefore should you seek the living
In the dwellings of the dead?”
Raised with Christ, we live victor'ous,
Rooted not in mortal strife,
But in resurrection glor'ous,
Light eternal, Easter life.

2 Near the tomb, her vigil keeping,
Mary hears the Savior speak:
“Woman, tell me, why this weeping?
Tell me, who is it you seek?”
See how gently Christ entreats us,
Calls by name the anguished soul,
Then with living hope completes us,
Makes the wounded spirit whole.

87 87 D

Suggested tune: REX GLORIAE (*LSB* 494)

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david.rogner@cuchicago.edu.

“This Is the Day that the Lord Has Made” – Klages (Ps)

1 This is the day that the Lord has made!
Jesus is living, our hope is born.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it--
Resurrection morn!

All of us His own.

3 His hands and feet bear the holy wounds
From which His life-giving blood has flowed.
This is the way that the Lord has paid
All that we have owed.

2 The stone the builders have cast away
Has now become the chief cornerstone!
This is the day that the Lord has made

4 I shall not die, but shall surely live!

My life is bound with the Living One.
All praise to our heav'nly Father for
Giving us His Son!

5 You are, O Jesus, the righteous gate;
We enter through with our songs of praise.
This is the day that the Lord has made

Day above all days!

6 Give thanks to God, He is ever good;
His love and mercy will never cease.
Alleluia! For our risen Lord
Keeps us in His peace.

99 95

Suggested tune: Contact Kelly Klages.

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“Sing and Bless the Lord, You People” (*Cantemus Domino*) – Starke (OT) [OSOC #20]

1 Sing and bless the Lord, you people,
He has triumphed gloriously,
For the battle horse and rider
He has hurled into the sea;
With the arm of His great power,
He has crushed the enemy.

2 God, my strength, my song, my Savior,
Holy, robed in majesty,
Who among the gods is like You?

You have set Your people free!
By Your mercy, lead and guide them
To their final victory.

3 Glory be to God the Father,
To the Son, all glory be,
Glory be to God the Spirit,
Three-in-One and One-in-Three;
Glory, as in the beginning,
Now, and for eternity!

87 87 87

Suggested tune: JENNINGS-HOUSTON (*ELW 736*)
REGENT SQUARE (*LSB 367*) will also work.

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NOTES

EASTER (Day)

Acts 10:34-43 We are witnesses...God raised him on the third day.

OR

Jeremiah 31:1-6 I have continued my faithfulness to you.

Psalms 16 For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol or let your holy one see corruption.

Colossians 3:1-4 You have been raised with Christ Jesus.

Matthew 28:1-10 The women at the tomb.

Recommended:

“Glory Gilds the Eastern Sky” – Stuempfle (G) [RtT #30]

1 Glory gilds the eastern sky,
heaven and earth adorning.
Christians, wake and greet your Lord
on this Easter morning.
Christ is risen from the grave!
Death no more can hold him!
Come, today he welcomes all!
Now with joy behold him!

2 Jesus Christ, the Risen One,
wakens all creation.
Stars and planets, earth and sea,
join in celebration.
Hail him, life's victorious Lord,
sin and death subduing!
Praise him for the grace he brings,
joy and hope renewing!

3 Sing, you Christians, rise and sing!
Greet this day with gladness!
Sing of him whose life and light
conquer all the earth's sadness!
Christ is risen! Nevermore
can the grave defeat us.
Through the door he opened wide,
Jesus comes to meet us.

4 Praise with saints who, raised by Christ,
endless life inherit.
Praise the Father! Praise the Son!
Praise with them the Spirit!
Earth and heaven ring with joy,
echoing our voices,
for today the universe,
with the Church rejoices!

76 76 D

Suggested tune: GAUDEAMUS PARITER (LSB 487)

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(cont'd)

“Who Rolled the Stone Away” – Starke (G) [Unpublished]

1 Who rolled the stone away
So early on this day?
Who are these dressed in white?
Who are these bowed in fright?
Why seek your Lord in fear?
Your Jesus is not here!
He’s risen from the dead—
He’s risen as He said!

2 He spoke of what you see,
While still in Galilee,
How He, the Son of Man,
Would fill His Father’s plan:

He would be falsely tried,
Condemned and crucified;
On the third day would rise—
Jesus is death’s demise!

3 Remember Jesus’ word,
Treasure all you have heard;
His words are richly rife
With boundless grace and life;
They are no idle tale,
His truth will never fail.
Look in His empty grave—
Jesus alone can save!

66 66 D

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DENBY (LSB 602) will also work.

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NOTES

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 5:29-42 Despite persecution the apostles continue to teach about Jesus.

Psalms 148 Let them praise the name of the Lord.

1 Peter 1:3-9 We have an inheritance which is imperishable.

John 20:19-31 Jesus appears to many...and to Thomas.

Recommended:

“Sing Praise to God, You Heavens!” – Stuenkel (PS) [WL #1]

1 Sing praise to God, you heavens!
Sing praise, each shining light!
Sing, planets in your orbits;
sing, stars all burning bright!
Sing praise, you winds and tempests,
you driving rain and snow!
Sing, clouds that race and billow
and shadow earth below!

2 Sing praise, O earth, sing praises!
Sing praises, hill and plain,
you mountains thrusting skyward,
you valleys ripe with grain!
Sing praise, each fragrant flower;
your fairest hues display.
Sing praise, you trees of autumn
in glowing, glad array!

3 Sing praises, all you creatures
in whom God takes delight---
you whales that roam the oceans,
you eagles in your flight!
Sing praise, you sheep on hillsides,
you cattle in the stall!
Though wordless, sing your praises
to God who made you all!

4 Sing praises now, God's people;
your gift of speech employ
to praise the Lord, your Maker,
with thankfulness and joy!
Sing with the whole creation;
a cosmic chorus raise:
“To God alone be glory
and everlasting praise!”

76 76 D

Suggested tune: WIE LIEBLICH IST DER MAIEN (LSB 893)

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NOTES

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 2:14a, 36-41 The promise is for you and your children.

Psalms 116:1-14 Gracious is the Lord and righteous; our God is merciful.

1 Peter 1:17-25 You were ransomed with the precious blood of Christ.

Luke 24:13-35 Two men on the way to Emmaus encounter Jesus.

Recommended:

“Hear This Promise Now Come True” – Clark (OT, Ps, E, G)

1 Hear this promise now come true:
Jesus died and rose for you.
You no longer walk alone;
God has claimed you as His own.

3 Hear the tuning trumpet sound;
Let your Christian love abound.
Soon the end of time is due:
Christ will come to make all new.

2 Hear the Word that will remain,
Sharing it, new lives to train.
Stoke your burning hearts inside;
God’s own Spirit is your guide.

77 77

Suggested tune: original tune by Mark Knickelbein. For a copy, contact him at mark.knickelbein@cph.org.

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ORIENTIS PARTIBUS (LSB 469) also works.

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“Word and Water, Filled with Promise” – Michael Schultz (1st Reading) [CW 647]

(When there is a baptism in the service...)

1 Word and water, filled with promise,
grant forgiveness, cleanse, reclaim
in the Father, Son, and Spirit’s
Holy, precious saving name.
Blessings purchased when our Savior
paid the awful ransom price—
all delivered in this washing:
peace and pardon, paradise.

3 *Though our vision may not capture
all that happens at the font,
here the Savior keeps his promise—
those he shepherds shall not want:
ev’ry trace of sin forgiven,
guilt completely washed away,
faith in Jesus firmly planted;
see God’s kingdom come today!*

2 As the water rescued Noah,
ark uplifted on the waves,
so this water, by God’s promise,
also rescues, also saves.
Now by Jesus’ resurrection
we before our God appear
pure and sinless, fully righteous,
with a conscience crystal clear.

4 Let us always, Lord, remember
that the water and the Word
bear your never-failing promise—
our salvation is assured.
Your baptismal benediction
ever shower from above—
all the Spirit’s grace in Jesus,
and, dear Father, all your love.

87 87 D

Recommended tune: SUO GAN (CW 647) Public domain
HYFRYDOL (LSB 700) also works.

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“Day of Arising” – Cherwien (G) [OBS, p. 20]

1 Day of arising, Christ on the roadway, Unknown companion Walks with his own. When they invite him, As fades the first day, And bread is broken, Christ is made known.	3 Lo, I am with you, Jesus has spoken. This is Christ's promise, This is Christ's sign: When the church gathers, When bread is broken, There Christ is with us In bread and wine.
--	--

2 When we are walking, Doubtful and dreading, Blinded by sadness, Slowness of heart, Yet Christ walks with us Ever awaiting Our invitation: Stay, do not part.	4 Christ, our companion, Hope for the journey, Bread of compassion, Open our eyes. Grant us your vision, Set all hearts burning That all creation With you may rise.
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5 5 5 4 D

Suggested tune: BUNESSAN (LSB 789)

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“Dear Jesus, on Your Pilgrim Way” – Michael Schultz (G) [CW 801]

1 Dear Jesus, on your pilgrim way,
Since evening's come, where will you stay?
Come, make my heart your place of rest—
I could not be more richly blest!

2 My dearest Friend, I'm most sincere—
Accept the lodging offered here!
You know that you will always be
A guest so very dear to me.

3 The day is past; it quickly ends
As light withdraws and night descends.

And so, true Light, don't be inclined
To leave this needy soul of mine!

4 Enlighten me to recognize
The narrow path to heaven's prize,
That I might not be led astray
When sin's dark pow'r would have its way!

5 And when I die, Lord Jesus, stay
To make my death a glorious day!
You know I need you desp'rately;
I know you won't abandon me.

LM

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O WALY WALY (LSB 595) will also work.

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NOTES

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 2:42-47 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching.

Psalms 23 The Lord is my shepherd.

1 Peter 2:19-25 You had strayed but now have returned to your Shepherd.

John 10:1-10 I am the door for the sheep.

Recommended:

“My Loving Shepherd Is the Lord” – Starke (PS) [OSOC #96]

1 My loving Shepherd is the Lord.
He richly cares for all my needs—
The greenest pastures He affords
And to the quiet waters leads;
So tender, He restores my soul
Until my spirit is made whole.

Refrain

My loving Shepherd is the Lord,
My Shepherd is the Lord!

2 In paths of righteousness I go,
His faithful promises I share
And though I face both death and foe,
No evil leads me to despair;

For You are with me where I am
To comfort me, Your precious lamb.

Refrain

3 A regal banquet You unfold
Before my enemies' disdain,
Yet as Your chosen I am bold
Your cup of blessing, brimmed, to drain.
Sure love and mercy follow me;
I dwell secure eternally.

Refrain

Irregular Meter

Recommended tune: MARVEL (WOV 636)

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“O Jesus, Good Shepherd” – Starke (G) [OSOC #61]

1 O Jesus, Good Shepherd
You came from the Father
To gather the wandering sheep to Your fold;
O Savior, You gave up
Your life as a ransom,
A price far more precious than silver or gold.

The sheep of Your flock hear
Your voice and they follow
But run from the voice that is strange or untrue.

4 You give life eternal
So they never perish,

2 Your life that You laid down
You willingly offered,
With power to give it and take it again.
All others who beckon
With voices seductive
Are thieves and are robbers who steal from Your pen.

3 O Jesus, Good Shepherd
True gate of the sheepfold,
All sheep that will enter must enter through You;

For no one can snatch Your sheep out of Your hand;
They come in and go out,
They find verdant pastures,
And all this is just as the Father had planned.

5 O Jesus, Good Shepherd,
You came from the Father
To bring life abundant to all who believe;
Still seek out and save all
The lost and the straying,
So they along with us Your life may receive.

6 6 11 D

Suggested tune: ANDREW'S SONG [OSOC #61]

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“My Cup Overflows” – Clark (OT, Ps, E, G)

1 My cup overflows;
My Savior arose
And gives me His life neverending.
What more can I ask
Than joyfully bask
In showers of mercy He's sending?

2 I do not have need.
My Savior will lead;
His voice leads me through joy and sorrow.
What more can I do
Than show what is true,
Enduring till joyous tomorrow?

3 My soul is restored;
My Savior is Lord
And suffered all things for My blessing.
What more can I say
Than point to the Way,
His grace in my actions confessing?

559 559

Suggested tune: Contact Lisa Clark.

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FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60 Seven deacons are chosen...Stephen is the first martyr.

Psalms 146 I will praise the Lord as long as I live.

1 Peter 2:2-10 You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood...a holy nation.

John 14:1-14 I am the way, the truth, and the life.

Recommended:

“God, Who Built This Wondrous Planet” – Vajda (E), [SP 108]

1 God, who built this wondrous planet
And all worlds beyond these bounds,
Crown your work and ours with blessing,
Meet us here on hallowed ground.
With your glory fill this temple,
Here be sought and here be found.

2 Christ, you build a holy structure
That, like you, outlasts the earth;
Chosen, like yourself, you make us
Living stones of priceless worth;
Home, where prodigals returning,
Celebrate with holy mirth.

3 Spirit, make your church a beacon
Beaming hope where hoping wanes,
Daily in these stones creating
Life where death no longer reigns,
And in grateful hearts forgiven
Spark the love the world but feigns.

4 Living Father, living children,
Living servants, living Lord;
Living Savior, living Body,
Living members, living Word;
Living Spirit, living temple:
We adoring, you adored!

87 87 87

Suggested tunes: ASCENDED TRIUMPH (*LSB* 491)
REGENT SQUARE (*LSB* 367)

For a wonderful original tune composed for this text, contact Tom Leeseberg-Lange
tom4813@verizon.net

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“My Friends, Be Not Afraid” – Stuempfle (G) [SoF #37]

1 “My friends, be not afraid
though storms may swirl around.
commit your lives in trust to me,
in whom your peace is found.”

2 “But Lord, our hearts are filled
with sorrow and with dread.
We face a future all unknown,
and cherished hopes have fled.”

3 “My friends, I know your fears;
your sorrows are my own,
for soon I go to bear a cross
abandoned and alone.”

4 “O Christ, we long to trust,
though fears our hearts invade,
and walk the path of pain with you
at peace and unafraid.”

5 “My peace I leave with you!
My God and yours will bring
an Easter dawn beyond your night,
when hope again will sing!”

6 “All praise to you, O Christ,
our Peace, our Hope, our Way!
Come, reign within this troubled world
and turn its night to day!”

SM

Suggested tune: SOUTHWELL (*LSB 424*)

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“With All My Heart I Praise You, Lord” – Michael Schultz (PS) [CW 658]

1 With all my heart I praise you, Lord,
that in your Son you saved me.
You saw in me what you deplored;
my grievous sin enslaved me.
Yet, Lord, you paid the highest price,
Jesus’ atoning sacrifice,
that you might ever own me.
Were I to bless you all my days,
It would be insufficient praise
for kindness you have shown me.

2 When I confess my sin and shame,
peace and forgiveness seeking,
you grant me pardon in your name
before I’ve finished speaking!
In love you listen carefully

to all our sighs of misery,
our ev’ry need addressing.
Our guilt should make you turn away;
instead you turn toward us and say:
“Receive my gracious blessing.”

3 Lord, I rejoice to be your guest,
at your rich table feeding,
there, by your mercy, finding rest
and all my soul is needing.
Let your good Spirit work within
to show that all my wretched sin
has truly been forgiven.
Thus, well prepared, Lord, I believe
that in your supper I receive
life, pardon, peace, and heaven.

87 87 887 887

Suggested tune: AM WASSERFLÜSSEN BABYLON (*LSB 438*)

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“God’s Redeemed—Beloved and Holy” – Starke (E) [MATM #45]

1 God’s redeemed—belov’d and holy,
Cleansed by water with the Word—
We are nourished by the Scriptures,
By its sacred truth matured.
We have tasted God’s rich mercy,
Feasted at His meal divine:
Kingly banquet of Christ’s body
And His blood with bread and wine.

2 Gathered by the Holy Spirit
To this family of love,
We are saints in full communion
With the blessed saints above:
Chosen people, royal priesthood,
Holy nation, now God’s own,
Built on prophets and apostles,
Jesus Christ, our cornerstone.

3 Gospel heralds of salvation,
Called from darkness into light,
We are sent to tell of Jesus,
How God brought us out of night.

We are salt, the Spirit-seasoned,
Meant to halt the world’s decay;
We are light, a shining city
Guiding all to Christ, the way.

4 We are charged to feed the hungry
Clothe the poor in ev’ry place,
Tend the lonely, sick, imprisoned—
There we see the Savior’s face;
Ever in our ears the echo
Of His words of mystery:
“As you do for these My brothers,
You have also done for Me.”

5 You, O Jesus, came as servant,
Even counting Godhead loss:
Died for all, love’s faithful witness
Freely martyred on the cross!
With Your Spirit’s grace and power,
Come, O Lord, our hearts enflame,
Till we join the endless worship
Of Your holy saving name.

87 87 D

Suggested tune: RUSTINGTON (*LSB* 572) or LOVE’S LIGHT (*LSB* 416)

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NOTES

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 17:16-31 Paul preaching a new message in Athens.

Psalms 66:8-20 Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of his praise be heard.

1 Peter 3:13-22 Baptism now saves you.

John 14:15-21 If you love me, keep my commandments.

Recommended:

“In Him, We Live and Move” – Clark (OT, Ps, E, G)

1 In Him, we live and move,
In Him, we have our being.
His life in us will prove
A holy kind of seeing.
We are the dwelling place
Of Him who merits praise;
Set free with boundless grace,
We serve in endless days.

2 In Him, we live His law:
To love our Lord and neighbor.
His mighty strength we draw
To worship in our labor.
We have no cause to fear,
Our future is secure.
Our hope is witnessed clear
In all that we endure.

3 In Him, we live with pain
And meet with grief and sorrow.
We count it greatest gain,
His suffering to borrow.
The world detested Christ;
It hates all who believe
That He was sacrificed,
His mercy to receive.

4 In Him, we cannot die
For we are of the living.
His love will satisfy
All sins that need forgiving.
We wear His holiness
And don His royal trim.
We claim His righteousness
And hide ourselves in Him.

67 67 66 66

Suggested tune: O GOTT, DU FROMMER GOTT (*LSB 731*)

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“When Time Was Full, God Sent His Son” – Starke (1st Lesson) [OSOC #28]

1 When time was full, God sent His Son
To save those under Law;
His destined path Christ did not shun,
But faced death’s hungry maw.
As Life was swallowed up and died,
Creation shook and groaned:
Its Lord and Maker crucified,
Deposed, entombed, disowned.

2 This holy Jonah undecayed
Lay still within the whale;
This Lord of Life on death then preyed,
Hell’s titan to impale:

From gaping jaws came forth this King,
With death the casualty!
Colossal foe, where now your sting?
Where, grave, your victory?

3 God’s Valiant One, once sacrificed,
Is high-exalted now,
That at the name of Jesus Christ
Each knee should surely bow;
Each tongue confess and praise the Lamb,
Our resurrected Lord,
The First and Last, the great I AM—
Acclaimed, enthroned, adored!

C M D

Suggested tune: VALIANT ONE [OSOC #28]

Walter Pelz, b. 1926, copyright, © 2005 Walter L. Pelz. Contact him at dawlpelz@cox.net

KINGSFOLD (LSB 444) will also work.

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“Word and Water, Filled with Promise” – Michael Schultz (E) [CW 647] <see Third Sunday of Easter>

NOTES

If you wish to include a hymn for Mother’s Day (May 10, 2026), see end of this document.

THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

Acts 1:1-11 Jesus is taken up to heaven.

Psalms 47 God has gone up with a shout.

Ephesians 1:15-23 The Father has seated Christ at his right hand.

Luke 24:44-53 You are witnesses of these things...I am sending you...

Recommended:

“The Child Who Lay in Mary’s Lap” – Stuempfle (FR, E) [WL #30]

1 The Child who lay in Mary’s lap
now cradles time and space.
The Lord that walked earth’s narrow streets
rules ev’ry land and race!
Ascended Lord, we sing your praise,
our Alleluias raise!

2 The Man who heard the leper’s cry
still hears the faintest prayer.
The Love that welcomed wounded lives
holds worlds within its care.
Ascended Lord, we sing your praise,
our Alleluias raise!

3 The Life once slain upon a cross
has freed us from death’s curse.
The Love we laid within a grave
now fills the universe.
Ascended Lord, we sing your praise,
our Alleluias raise!

4 The Child, the Man, the Life, the Love
that once on earth were bound.
Now reign to make creation whole!
Let hymns of joy resound!
Ascended Lord, we sing your praise,
our Alleluias raise!

86 86 86

Suggested tune: CORONATION (*LSB* 549)

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“Before the Lord to Heav’n Ascends” – Rogner (FR, G)

1 Before the Lord to heav’n ascends,
He lifts His holy hands to bless
The dear apostles, whom He sends
To preach the Word, His truth confess.
Lord, lift Your hands and bless us here!
Increase our faith and calm our fear.

2 Disciples gaze as Christ, their light,
Is taken up before their eyes.
A cloud obscures Him from their sight;
In vain they scan the vacant skies.
When we lose sight, Lord, grant us grace
And give us eyes to see Your face.

3 The wond’ring Galilean men
Find peace in what the angels say:
“This Jesus will return again
As you have seen Him go away.”
Lord, grant us peace, but make us yearn
To see the day of Your return.

4 Returning to Jerusalem,
The joyful apostolic band
Proclaims the gracious reign of Him
Who sits enthroned at God’s right hand.
Grant us the pow’r, Ascended Word,
To speak what we have seen and heard.

88 88 88

Suggested tune: ALL EHR UND LOB (*LSB* 948)

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NOTES

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 1:12-26 The selection of Matthias.

Psalm 68:1-10 May the righteous be glad and rejoice.

1 Peter 4:12-19; 5:6-11 Rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ...Humble yourselves...

John 17:1-11 Jesus prays for himself and for his disciples.

Recommended:

“Jesus Prays, His Eyes Uplifting” - Starke (G) [Unpublished]

1 Jesus prays, His eyes uplifting
To the Father, who is gifting
Glory through the coming strife;
Facing cross and death's dread power,
Christ, the buried Seed would flower
Full with resurrection life.

2 Jesus for us all is praying,
That by grace, we would be staying
In the truth that we have known.

Christ, while in the world no longer,
Asks to keep us ever stronger,
Ever one, as His dear own.

3 Jesus would all people gather
To the arms of His pure Father,
That they endless life may claim.
Christ, the words of God bestowing
So that people might be knowing,
God the Father's holy Name.

887 887

Suggested tune: ALLES IST AN GOTTES SEGEN (*LSB* 620)

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“One in the Savior and Firm for the Test” – Clark (OT, Ps, E, G)

1 One in the Savior and firm for the test,
We trust through our trials the One who gives rest.
Rejoicing in troubles to honor the Son,
United we walk in the path He has run.

2 One in the Father in love to the world,
We serve with the banner of vic'try unfurled.
Embracing our duty of mercy outpoured,
Together, we witness till all is restored.

3 One in the Spirit, all worries now stilled,
We sing out the Gospel till all is fulfilled.
Proclaiming salvation to all who would hear,
Assembled we worship without any fear.

10 11 11 11

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DAY OF PENTECOST

Numbers 11:24-30 The Spirit of the Lord is put upon the 70 elders.

Psalm 25:1-15 Show me your ways, O LORD, teach me your paths; guide me...

Acts 2:1-21 The day of Pentecost...each hear in their own language.

John 7:37-39 The Spirit of Christ will flow through his disciples.

Recommended:

“God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind” – Stuempfle (SR) [AOH #42]

1 God of tempest, God of whirlwind,
as on Pentecost descend!
Drive us out from sheltered comfort!
Past these walls your people send!
Sweep us into costly service
there with Christ to bear the cross,
there with Christ to bear the cross!

2 God of blazing, God of burning,
all that blocks your purpose, purge!
Through your Church, Christ's living Body,
let your flaming Spirit surge!
Where deceit conceals injustice,
kindle us to speak your truth,
kindle us to speak your truth!

3 God of earthquake, God of thunder,
shake us loose from lethargy!
Break the chains of sin asunder;
for earth's healing set us free!
Crumble walls that still divide us;
make us one in Christ our Lord,
make us one in Christ our Lord!

4 God of passion, God unsleeping,
stir in us love's restlessness!
Where the people cry in anguish,
may we share your heart's distress.
Rouse us from content with evil;
claim us for your kingdom's work,
claim us for your kingdom's work!

87 87 877

Suggested tune: CWM RHONDDA (*LSB* 850)

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“As the Deer Runs to the River” – Stuempfle (G) [WL 45] <see Lent 3>

“Before the Savior Went Away” – Rogner (SR, G)

1 Before the Savior went away
He pledged to give His friends
Another Counselor to stay
Among them to the end.
The Twelve then waited for that hour
Of solemn mystery:
The pouring of the Spirit's pow'r
In signs for all to see.

2 On Pentecost the Spirit came
As breath that fills a room,
As sanctifying tongues of flame,
As light to pierce the gloom.
Then Christ was preached, in tongues unlearned,
As risen from the dead;
And stricken hearts, repentant, turned
To Christ, their living Head.

CMD

Suggested tune: ALL SAINTS NEW (*LSB* 661) or KINGSFOLD (*LSB* 444)

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david.rogner@cuchicago.edu.

3 Come now with pow'r divine, I pray;
Renew me, Heav'nly Dove,
That everything I do or say
Might flame with holy love.
O Spirit Blest, instruct my soul;
O Wisdom, guide my heart.
By Your indwelling make me whole,
And perfect peace impart.

“When All Was Naught, You Spoke Your Word” – Moede (OT, SG)

1 When all was naught, You spoke Your Word,
the universe became;
The world obeyed, bowed unto You
and Your most blessed Name.
Your image framed in dusty earth:
mankind, creation's crown.
One speech for all You gave to us—
in Word, Lord, You came down.

2 You saw man's vain attempts to name
himself as God above,
Confused our tongues to keep us safe,
a Father's act of love.
Though we are weak and disobey,
You give Your Word once more;
The Church built on Your Son restores
man's speech forevermore.

3 O Word of God come down from Heav'n,
by You all things were made;
Apart from You all light is dark,
our speech is clouded shade.
The Scriptures always point us to
Messiah, Mighty Word;
In You, O Christ, all life is found,
Your message ever heard.

4 By tongues of flame, apostles spread
good news to all the earth;
Your Spirit filled the voice of man
with long forsaken worth.
We share communion in Your Word,
Your Body now are we;
With all the saints, we worship You,
O blessed Trinity.

5 Your glory, which was once concealed, in Word,
You now reveal;
Christ's sacrifice for all the world,
our sin-stained wounds to heal.
In Holy Word and sacraments,
You grant us unity.

One Church, one Gospel—
Lord, in You, we live eternally!

CMD

Suggested tune: LORD OF LIFE (*LSB* 552)

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“The Lord, His Peace Bestowing” – Starke (2nd Lesson) [MATM 53]

1 The Lord, His peace bestowing,
When risen from the dead,
Appeared to His disciples,
He breathed on them and said:
“Receive the Holy Spirit—
The penitent, forgive;
Warn those whom sin has hardened
That they might turn and live.”

2 On Pentecost, in power,
Again the Spirit came
Upon the twelve apostles
With wind and tongues of flame.
These chosen were anointed
To tell of sin's release:
How Christ, the Lamb long-promised,
Had by His blood made peace.

3 And so to all the nations,
These ones whom Christ had sent,
Spoke words that, by the Spirit,
Were bold and eloquent.
Baptizing and instructing—
Discipling—as Christ said,
While through His Holy Supper
Faith old and new was fed.

4 The Gospel was entrusted
To able, faithful men
Who told the news of Jesus
By word and deed and pen;
The Church around them gathered
And hands on them were laid,
As God the Holy Spirit
Blessed those for whom they prayed.

5 The Lord is still bestowing
His peace upon our race:
The sacraments and Scripture
Are potent Means of Grace!
For Christ in love is seeking
The lost and straying sheep
Through pastors charged to shepherd,
To tend and feed and keep.

6 Lord Jesus, guide and strengthen
The pastors whom you call
To be your faithful shepherds
In churches large and small;
Each perfect gift, dear Father,
Rain down on them in love,
Until Your mercy leads them
To endless peace above.

76 76 D

Suggested tune: SUFFICIENTIA (*LSB* 754)

“Holy Spirit, God Proceeding” – Starke – (G) [MATM #8]

1 Holy Spirit, God proceeding
From the Father and the Son,
For us sinners ever pleading
That God’s will in us be done;
Deep the Spirit’s groans and sighing
When we know not what to pray,
As we carry Jesus’ dying
In these fragile jars of clay.

2 Holy Spirit, God releasing,
Setting captive debtors free,
Sins forgiving, faith increasing,
Through the gifts from Calvary.
Born again, a new creation,
What was old has been removed;
Clothed in garments of salvation
By the King of kings approved.

3 Holy Spirit, God indwelling,
Source of comfort in all strife,
With the love of Christ compelling
All our good throughout our life:

He our heart of flesh transforming,
Gone our hardened heart of stone,
To the world no more conforming,
Patterned after Christ alone.

4 Holy Spirit, God inspiring,
Sanctifying works we do;
Comes, ignites our heart’s desiring
For the noble, right, and true;
With our spirit testifying,
We are God’s adopted heirs:
“Abba, Father,” we are crying;
Christ, the “Amen” to our prayers!

5 Holy Spirit, God eternal
With the Father and the Son,
One in Three, the Lord supernal,
Mighty God, the Three in One!
Saints and angels sing, rejoicing,
Raising hymns with one accord;
We with them our praises voicing—
Holy, Holy, Holy LORD!”

87 87 D

Suggested tune: BLAENWERN [MATM #8] William Penfro Rowlands, (1860-1937) PD

BEACH SPRING (LSB 848) will also work.

THE HOLY TRINITY

Genesis 1:1-2:4a In the beginning...

Psalms 8 O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Acts 2:14a, 22-36 This Jesus whom you crucified...(Peter's sermon)

Matthew 28:16-20 Go therefore and make disciples...

Recommended:

"Source of Light That Bathed Creation" – Stuempfle (OT) [SoF #49]

1 Source of Light that bathed creation
when the brilliant sun was born,
filling earth and sky with splendor
on that first primeval morn:
by a star above a manger
you have sent us Light from Light;
by the dawn of Easter morning
you have conquered death's long night!

2 Source of Life that fills creation
with a million marv'lous forms---
plants that nourish, trees that flourish,
gifts of oceans, forests, farms:
help us, made in your own image,
blessed with gifts of mind and will,
tend the earth and all its creatures
with commitment, love and skill.

3 Source of Hope for all creation,
though we scar what you have made,
blight the earth, deplete its riches,
life that flourished now decayed.
Still your Spirit broods in silence
over all that we destroy,
promise of a new creation
bright with wonder, peace and joy.

4 Source of Joy, you bless creation
with a love that does not fade.
Stars and planets, earth, her creatures---
you rejoice in all you've made!
May we, thankful for your blessings,
lift our voices in your praise,
serving you and your creation
joyfully through all our days!

87 87 D

Suggested tune: HYMN TO JOY (LSB 477)

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“Go, Make Disciples of the World” – Starke (G) [MATM #76]

1 Go, make disciples of the world,
With God’s rich grace outreaching:
Baptizing in God’s triune name;
His love in Christ be teaching.

2 Tell how the Father made our world,
Still loved His marred creation
And by His grace devised a plan
Of rescue and salvation.

3 Tell how the only Son of God
Was born of Virgin Mary,
And to the cross as spotless Lamb,
Our sin and guilt would carry.

4 Tell how the Holy Spirit came
Upon the Church with power:
To call, enlighten, cleanse, and keep
God’s children ev’ry hour.

5 Your going out, your coming in,
From this time forth and ever
Shall be held firmly in God’s love,
From which no ill can sever.

6 To God, the holy Three in One,
In faith we now commend you,
And far beyond our human love
Is God, who will attend you.

87 87

Suggested tune: ICH LIEGE, HERR, IN DEINER HUT (*LSB* 885)

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“Come, Let Us Celebrate the Holy Trinity” – Weber (Has echoes of the Easter 5 Epistle—1 Peter 2:9) [SG, 11]

1 Come, let us celebrate the Holy Trinity!
Come, raise the song that we belong to God, the One in
Three!
Sing, “Holy, holy Lord! Your glory fills all space!
The universe resounds with praise for your abundant
grace!”

2 Once we were lost in sin, but now we are your own;
once we had not received your love, but mercy now is
shown.
We are a spir’itual house built up by your design,
With Christ, our Lord, as cornerstone, in water, word, and
wine.

3 Make firm the high resolve to venture forth as one,
To dare to pray, to work, to serve until our breath is gone!
We are a chosen race! A people set a part!---
called out of darkness to proclaim the wondrous works of
God!

4 Then, let us praise the Lord, whose death has set us free
and join our song with all the saints throughout eternity!
O Holy Trinity, protect us by your might
and lead us onward out of darkness into marv’lous light!

SMD

Suggested tune(s): Paul Weber has composed a wonderful original tune for his text---HERMITAGE.
Contact him at paul.weber49@gmail.com

DIADEMATA (*LSB* 525) also works.

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“Praise to the Father, Whose Word of Creation – Rogner (OT, Ps)

1 Praise to the Father, whose word of creation
Spoke to the darkness and called things to be,
Fashioned the heavens and laid earth’s foundation,
Yet in His mercy was mindful of me.

3 Praise to the Spirit, whose power is breathing
Life-giving faith into vessels of clay,
Granting true wisdom, the peace of believing,
Strength for my steps, and a light for my way.

2 Praise be to Jesus, Divine Incarnation,
Only-begotten and Infinite Son,
Given to death to accomplish salvation,
Risen to life as my victory won.

4 Trinity Blessed, we praise and adore You,
Even as angels extol You above.
“Holy” we cry, as we bow down before You,
God of all majesty, source of all love.

11 10 11 10

Suggested tune: Steve Wenté has composed a wonderful tune---NORTH LASALLE--- for this text. Contact him at stevenwente@gmail.com

Another possible tune is MORNING STAR (*LSB* 400)

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“From the First Word of Creation” – Cherwien (OT) [LIW p. 59]

1 From the first word of creation,
As the works of God unfold,
God’s desire is toward the many—
Varied flock and varied fold—
Bound together by God’s presence
Like a strand of woven gold.

3 Circling us, the Spirit beckons,
Calling us with sighing deep,
That all join with those rejoicing,
That all mourn with those who weep;
And, refining us from hardness,
Healed and whole our hearts will keep.

2 Christ has shown us God’s compassion:
From the heart of God all rise;
Each unique and each beloved,
Yet together intertwined;
Woven in a seamless garment
By the crimson love of Christ.

4 Ring us round with holy union;
Pierce us through with golden fire;
Bind our guarded hearts together;
With Your love our lives inspire,
That, O God, in You abiding,
We embody Your desire.

87 87 87

Suggested tune: REGENT SQUARE (*LSB 367*)

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“I Believe in God the Father” – Reim (PS, G)

1 I believe in God the Father, everlasting, ever true,
Whose compassion, love, and mercy with each dawning day are new.
He created earth and heaven with unrivaled might and pow’r,
Now He gently tends and blesses with the grace to meet each hour.

2 I believe in God-Begotten, timeless Son enthroned above,
Who, when came the time appointed, man became to serve in love.
Jesus, as the Lamb unspotted, has redeemed me by His blood.
He, now risen, lives to raise me to the paradise of God.

3 I believe in God the Spirit, Lord of life and liberty,
Who, through sweetest Gospel message, brought the gift of faith to me.
Graciously He calls and gathers, making all believers one,
saving souls from ev’ry nation. Life eternal has begun.

87 87 D

Suggested tune: GIFT OF FAITH (John Reim---contact him at jcreim@usa.net for copy.)

HYMN TO JOY (*LSB 477*) will also work.

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NOTES

PROPER 3 (May 24-28)

Isaiah 49:8-16a I will keep you and will make you to be a covenant for the people.

Psalms 115: (1-8) 9-18 The LORD remembers us and will bless us.

Romans 1:8-17 For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed.

Matthew 6:24-34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow...

Recommended:

“God Will Not Forget His People” – Clark (OT, Ps, E, G)

1 God will not forget His people.
He will hear and answer true.
He remembers ev’ry promise,
With compassion, sees them through.
He will comfort those in mourning,
Give the pris’ners true release.
He will come with trumpet warning,
Bringing joy and boundless peace.

3 God will not exclude the nations:
He will come to all the earth.
He prepares His many mansions
Gilt with sheen of priceless worth.
He will come again in blessing,
As a king in splendor bright.
He will gather those confessing
That their faith has turned to sight.

2 God will not forsake His children;
He will listen to their call,
Sending mercy neverending,
Offering His love to all.
He will heal the brokenhearted,
Fill the hungry and the weak,
He will finish all He started
To restore the lost and meek.

87 87 D

Suggested tune: RUSTINGTON (*LSB* 572)

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“Why Do You Fear?” – Reim (PS, G)

1 Why do you fear, as though your Shepherd were not near?
Why feel despair, as though He does not care?
The love of God, which daily to His own He shows,
No limit knows. It flows! Hallelujah.

2 Why do you fret, as though your Master could forget?
All you have read will happen as He said.
The Word of God, unbroken, though its foes assail,
Can never fail. It stands! Hallelujah.

3 Why do you doubt, as though sin were not blotted out?
Why suffer pains that come when guilt remains?
The blood of Christ, the flood in which guilt disappeared,
Your sin has cleared. It frees! Hallelujah.

4. Why do you grieve, as though your Savior does not live?
Why downcast sighs, as though He did not rise?
The Son of God has triumphed over death and grave
His sheep to save. He reigns! Hallelujah.

12 10 12 10

Suggested tune: CAROLYN (John Reim---contact him at jcreim@usa.net for copy.)

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NOTES

PROPER 4 (May 29-June 4)

Deuteronomy 11:18-21, 26-28 Fix these words of mine in your hearts...teach them to your children.

Psalms 4 You alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.

Romans 3:21-28 Now a righteousness from God, apart from the Law, has been revealed.

Matthew 7:15-29 Every good tree bears good fruit. The wise and foolish builders.

Recommended:

“Deliver Us, O Lord of Truth” – Stuenkel (G) [RtT #18]

1 Deliver us, O Lord of Truth,
from speech unbacked by deed,
from lives that by their faithlessness
deny our spoken creed.

3 When we with bold, familiar phrase
confess that you are Lord,
you ask for lives whose faithfulness
supports our spoken word.

2 For you have taught that weightless words
are like the shifting sand.
When storm and flood come raging in,
they give no place to stand.

4 Lord, help us build on solid rock
no floods can undermine.
May actions follow words we speak;
let creed with deed combine.

CM

Suggested tune: NUN DANKET ALL (LSB 812)

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“From High Atop the Mount” – Michael Schultz (OT/G) [CW/635]

Fifth

1 From high atop the mount where Moses stands,
thro’ cloud and storm the voice of God is heard:
“I am the LORD, and these are my commands.
In all you do, obey my ev’ry word.”

8 You shall not hate or hurt or harm or kill;
treat all your neighbors as your dearest friends.
I give the gift of life to whom I will,
and I as well determine when it ends.

2 Insert the Commandment under consideration

Sixth

3 Your life, O Christ, is counted as our own;
our guilt was crucified in none but you.
In keeping your commands our love is shown—
now work within us both to will and do.

9 A man shall be united to his wife;
the two I join must not be torn apart.
Make decency the hallmark of your life;
let purity prevail within your heart.

First

4 Your highest love and trust belong to me;
to these no other god has any right.
Not health or wealth or self or family
but I alone shall be your chief delight.

Seventh

10 I will not stand for laziness or greed;
no form of stealing will escape my eyes.
My open hand will give you all you need
so you can help as others’ needs arise.

Second

5 My name shall not be used to curse or swear;
it is for seeking me in troubled days,
for bringing your concerns to me in prayer,
for sounding forth your thankfulness and praise.

Eighth

11 I know precisely what your words intend,
for truth and lie can both alike defame.
Speak well of all and readily defend
your neighbor’s reputation and good name.

Third

6 My living, active Word will give you rest;
do not despise it lest it move away.
Its saving truth will leave you richly blessed;
take to hear and learn it ev’ry day.

Ninth

12 You shall not covet that which others own;
all that is theirs has come to them from me.
Your genuine contentment will be shown
by helping them retain their property.

Fourth

7 Your parents must be honored and obeyed;
dishonor them and you dishonor me.
How well it goes for all who have displayed
Respect for those who hold authority!

Tenth

13 Another’s spouse, employee, trusted friend—
let none of these become your heart’s desire.
Encourage them to faithfully attend
to all that their vocations may require.

10 10 10 10

Suggested tune: SURSUM CORDA (LSB 764)

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“Christ the Vine” – Michael Schultz (G) [CW 709]

1 I long to serve my Savior,
to seek what's good and right,
to trust and never waver,
to walk in truth and light.
But conduct pure and holy
requires a pow'r not mine;
a branch is fruitful only
when anchored in a vine.

2 There came, with grace unsparing,
a vine from heav'n above,
its branches meant for bearing
the fruits of selfless love.

This vine is Christ who offered
his life upon a tree;
for all my sin he suffered
and made a branch of me.

3 And so I'll serve my Savior
with pow'r that he provides,
for he, my blest Redeemer,
within my soul abides.

The fruit of selfless giving
will grow by God's design
as I, the branch, keep living
by faith in Christ the vine.

76 76 D

Suggested tune: SALLEY GARDENS (CW 709)
AURELIA (LSB 644) will also work.

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NOTES

PROPER 5 (June 5-11)

Hosea 5:15-6:6 I desire mercy, not sacrifice.

Psalms 119:65-72 Do good to your servant according to your word, O LORD.

Romans 4:13-25 Like Abraham, God will credit righteousness to those who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead.

Matthew 9:9-13 The calling of Matthew. I have come to call sinners.

Recommended:

“How Shocking Were the People” – Stuenkel (G) [AOH #47]

1 How shocking were the people
who gathered there to eat---
the tax collectors, harlots
and outcasts from the street!
And Jesus sat among them,
a guest, and yet their Host,
his arms outstretched, embracing
the lonely and the lost.

2 The pious scorned their comp'ny
and counted them impure.
They would not risk contagion
by entering such a door!
When Jesus heard their grumbling,
he spoke while at the meal,
"The sick, and not the healthy,
are those I've come to heal!"

3 O Christ, we gather round you
as did those folk of old.
We come, our lives unworthy,
our hearts estranged and cold.
And still you stand among us,
a guest, and yet our Host,
and welcome to the Table
the lonely and the lost.

4 All praise to you for mercy
that covers sin and shame;
for love that sees our secrets,
yet calls us each by name;
for bread and wine that feed us;
for words of peace that heal;
for sharing still with sinners
this holy, joyous meal!

76 76 D

Suggested tune: ANTHER (LSB 684)

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NOTES

PROPER 6 (June 12-18)

Exodus 19:2-8 You will be my treasured possession.

Psalms 100 His faithfulness continues through all generations.

Romans 5:6-15 While we were yet sinners, God delivered us.

Matthew 9:35-10:8 (9-20) Jesus sends out the twelve to heal.

Recommended:

“Rise Up, O Kingdom, You Nation of God” – Clark (OT, Ps, E, G)

1 Rise up, O kingdom, you nation of God;
Go out and travel the pathways untrod.
Certain as royals, go out in the land
Serving your neighbor at Jesus' command.

3 Follow, O sheepfold, in Your Shepherd's care:
Watch as He tends you, no mercy to spare.
Holding compassion for all who are lost,
Lead to the Savior, who paid ev'ry cost.

2 Reach out, O children, you heirs of Love's grace;
Bring in all peoples of each tribe and race.
Brothers and sisters of Jesus, the Son,
Welcome each other, united as one.

10 10 10 10

Suggested tune: SLANE (LSB 861)

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NOTES

PROPER 7 (June 19-25)

Jeremiah 20:7-13 He rescues the life of the needy from the hands of the wicked.

Psalms 91:1-10 (11-16) He will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

Romans 6:12-23 Do not let sin reign in your mortal body.

Matthew 10:5a, 21-33 All men will hate you...stand firm until the end.

Recommended:

“Set Free from Bonds of Sin” – Clark (OT, Ps, E, G)

1 Set free from bonds of sin,
Rise up with joy in grace.
The Law can no more win,
So keep it in its place.
It does not master you,
So use it now in love
That all you say and do
Points to your Lord above.

3 Yes, death is dead and gone,
And life is yours to live,
So see the rising dawn
With ev'ry day to give.
Oh, what is there to fear?
For He who lives within
Will evermore be near.
To guard you from all sin.

2 No act of love or care
Will count to save your soul,
But ev'ry gift you share
Will benefit you whole.
A blessing then to bless
Your neighbors far and wide
In volumes to confess
The One who's at your side.

66 66 D

Suggested tune: DENBY (LSB 602)

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“In God Most High I Safely Dwell” – Starke (PS) [Unpublished]

1 In God Most High, I safely dwell,
In His cool shade, I find my rest
He frees from sin and death and hell,
By them I am no more oppressed;
Delivered from each dreadful snare,
I lie in peace, reposed from care.

*My rock, my refuge is the LORD—
I trust in God, the LORD!*

3 For me His angels God commands,
Protecting me in all my ways;
They bear me up with unseen hands,
From stumbled falls or deep malaise.
All demon traps before me put,
By grace are trampled underfoot.

*My rock, my refuge is the LORD—
I trust in God, the LORD!*

2 My faithful God stands as my shield,
He holds me close beneath His wing,
Though terrors stalk, their worst to wield,
No evil ruin can they bring.
Ten thousand foes may stand beside,
They seek my death, but are denied.

*My rock, my refuge is the LORD—
I trust in God, the LORD!*

4 God's love upholds me as His heir,
From ev'ry harm, He rescues me;
When I cry out to God in prayer,
His sure deliverance I see.
God daily shows me mercy great;
With thankful praise, I celebrate.

*My rock, my refuge is the LORD—
I trust in God, the LORD!*

Irregular Meter

Suggested tune: MARVEL (WOV 636)

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“Brave Hearts Made Bold, God’s Truth Confessed” – Starke (G) [MATM #47]

1 Brave hearts made bold, God’s truth confessed,
Both life and honor daring;
The apostolic faith expressed,
Before the world declaring
That God is one, yet One in Three,
Coequal in their majesty:
God—Father, Son, and Spirit.

2 God’s only Son embraced our shame,
Out tent of flesh assuming;
This guiltless Lord our sin became,
Sin’s wage to death Him dooming:
In Pontius Pilate’s judgment hall,
Bedecked in bloodied, purple pall,
Christ made the good confession.

3 Our full forgiveness Christ has won;
What sinless, selfless dying!
Faith trusts all Jesus Christ has done—
His merit, justifying!
His holy, spotless righteousness,
We here believe and here confess;
No work can gain God’s favor.

4 O Lord, I love Your holy house,
Your glory here is dwelling:
Your Law is preached my heart to rouse,
To censure its rebelling;

Your Gospel words of truth and grace,
All fears within my heart erase—
Glad news of peace, O Jesus!

5 Your steadfast love before my eyes;
Your faithfulness, my blessing!
Your truth I cannot compromise,
Before the world confessing;
For in Your Word and Sacrament,
I find my strength and am content
And taste the joy of heaven.

6 In You, Lord Christ, I have no fear,
Nor fear the world’s defaming;
Your hidden, whispered word is clear—
My joy, its clear proclaiming!
Though hostile foes my body kill,
My soul is safe within Your will,
Avowed before Your father.

7 Brave hearts, be bold! God’s truth confess,
Your life and honor daring;
The apostolic faith express,
By word and deed declaring
The love of God in Christ for all,
That all may heed Love’s wedding call
And feast with God forever!

87 87 887

Suggested tune: AUGUSTANA [MATM #47]

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ALLEIN GOTT IN DER HÖH (*LSB* 899) would also work. As would ES IST GEWISSLICH (*LSB* 508).

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“Come to Me, Lord Jesus, Free Me” -Grindal (E) [ATOF]

1 Come to me, Lord Jesus, free me
from the things that do me harm,
things by bind me, tempt me, lead me
far from your protecting arm.
You have come to set me free
from the sin I cannot flee.
By myself I’m bent on sinning;
come and give my sin an ending!

2 Come to me, for I am weary
of the bondage to myself.
All my days seem cold and dreary,
life itself a living hell.

Sin makes me a helpless slave;
I see nothing but my grave
yawning in the dark before me.
Lord, reveal your love, your glory.

3 I would serve you and adore you
for the life you died to give,
so that I might stand before you
freely bound and free to live,
bound to you and your free grace,
where each day my hymn of praise
rises to the highest heaven
for the treasures you have given!

87 87 77 88

Suggested tune: WERDE MUNTER (*LSB* 548)

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NOTES

If you wish to include a hymn for Father’s Day (June 21, 2026), see end of this document.

PROPER 8 (June 26-July 2)

Jeremiah 28:5-9 The prophet who prophesies peace...

Psalms 119:153-160 Defend my cause and redeem me; preserve my life according to your promise.

Romans 7:1-13 The law is holy, and the commandment is holy, righteous and good.

Matthew 10:34-42 I did not come to bring peace, but a sword... Take up your cross and follow me.

Recommended:

“Risen Christ, You Call and Send Us” – Stuempfle (G) [SoF #46]

1 Risen Christ, you call and send us
where your Gospel is unheard.
Help us hear your great commission,
“Go, and preach my saving Word!
I have promised to be with you,
even to the end of time.”

3 Christ, through all the passing centuries
march the saints where you have led,
strengthened by the Spirit’s presence,
by your Word uplifted, fed:
“I have promised to be with you,
even to the end of time.”

2 “Make disciples of all nations!
Serve the poor and seek the lost!
Take my cross upon your shoulder!
Bear with me love’s weight and cost!
I have promised to be with you,
even to the end of time.”

4 Make your church a living witness
in this present, urgent hour,
bearer of your Gospel’s promise,
agent of its truth and pow’r,
trusting you are ever with us,
even to the end of time!

87 87 87

Suggested tune: ASCENDED TRIUMPH (LSB 491)

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“Cling Tightly to the Word of God” -Starke (G) [OSOC #53] [CW 707]

1 Cling tightly to the Word of God
And Christ’s disciple be;
For then, beloved, you will know
The truth that sets you free,
The truth that sets you free.

4 Be strong! Stand firm! Come, walk the path
That saints before you trod,
With ready feet to bring good news
Of Christ—the Peace of God,
Of Christ—the Peace of God.

2 Recall in faith the precious gift
Of your baptismal day,
When you were joined to Jesus’ death
That washed your sins away,
That washed your sins away.

5 Know that His body and His blood
Will feed your hungry soul
Like manna in life’s wilderness,
Until you reach your goal,
Until you reach your goal.

3 For just as God raised up His Son
From death by His great might,
So too, in Christ, we now may live
As children of the light,
As children of the light.

6 Now fix your eyes on Jesus Christ;
“Come, follow Me,” says He;
“Deny yourself, take up your cross—
Come, lose your life for Me,
Come lose your life for Me.”

86 866

Suggested tune: O COME (CW 707)

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LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN (*LSB* 389) would also work.

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NOTES

PROPER 9 (July 3-9)

Zechariah 9:9-12 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

Psalms 145:1-14 He fulfills the desires of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them.

Romans 7:14-25a When I want to do good, evil is right there with me.

Matthew 11:25-30 Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

Recommended:

“The Lord Upholds the Falling” – Clark (OT, Ps, E, G)

1 The Lord upholds the falling
And gives the weary rest,
His boundless mercy calling
His people to be blessed.
This world and all its sorrow
Weighs heavy on this soul
Until the last tomorrow,
Till I for once am whole.

3 The Lord uplifts the fainting
And keeps them in His hand.
Your holy will is painting
The life that You command.
Oh, guide my restless seeking
And lead me in Your ways—
My words and actions speaking
Your truth with endless praise.

2 The Lord preserves the humble,
Protecting them from shame.
Though prone to slip and stumble,
They call upon His name.
O Christ, my sin surrounds me
And haunts my heart and mind!
Your Spirit still astounds me—
In You, my strength I find.

76 76 D

Suggested tune: Original tune by David von Kampen, contact copyrights@cph.org.

AURELIA (LSB 644) will also work.

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“In This Holy, Blest Communion” – Michael Schultz (G) [CW 669]

1 In this holy, blest communion
plain and precious gifts combine:
bread is truly Jesus' body,
blood of Jesus joins with wine.
What a blessing Christ is giving;
what a loving, gracious host,
in his supper well providing
what his people need the most!

2 In this holy, blest communion
Christ and sinners join as one—
they, the Father's ransomed children,
he, the Father's rightful Son.

Here the lofty feeds the lowly,
each his highly cherished guest;
here the guilty taste forgiveness,
here the weary find their rest.

3 In this holy, blest communion
saints are gathered side by side,
joined together, brothers, sisters,
in one body unified,
faith in Jesus, hope of heaven,
love for others all increased
by the fullness of the banquet,
by the richness of the feast.

87 87 D

Suggested tune: SUO GAN (CW 669)

BEACH SPRING (LSB 848) will also work.

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“Come All You Weary unto Me” – K. Reinhardt (G) [MLMS p. 94]

1 Come all you weary unto Me
And I will give you rest,
Come little ones and you will be
Embraced in love and blessed.

2 Come when your heart groans under sin
And I will show you grace,
My nail-scarred hands will take you in
And cleanse all your disgrace.

3 Come when your soul is plagued by care
And I will give you peace,

My mighty arms will lift and bear
And make all worry cease.

4 Come when your days are filled by grief
And I will comfort you,
My tender heart will grant relief
And hope in life renew.

5 Come little children unto Me
And I will give you rest,
Come weary ones and you will be
Embraced in love and blessed.

86 86

Suggested tune: O COME (repeat last line as the tune is 86 866) (CW 707)

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NOTES

PROPER 10 (July 10-16)

Isaiah 55:10-13 As the rain and snow...so my word goes out from my mouth and will not return empty.

Psalms 65 (1-8) 9-13 You crown the year with your bounty.

Romans 8:12-17 We are heirs with God, and co-heirs with Christ.

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 The parable of the sower.

Recommended:

“As the Deer Runs to the River” – Stuempfle (OT) [WL #45] <see Lent 3>

“A Sower Came from Ancient Hills” – Stuempfle (G) [WL #15]

1 A Sower came from ancient hills
and cast good seed abroad;
his field, ten thousand human hearts,
his seed, the Word of God.
And some who listened would not hear;
and some who heard forgot;
but some received in fertile soil
the truth the Sower taught.

2 A Sower walked throughout the land
and, ev'rywhere he trod,
he sowed his life because he was,
himself the Seed of God.
But then, atop a barren hill,
beneath a dark'ning sky,
they threw God's Seed on stony ground
and left it there to die.

3 The Seed was buried deep in death
beneath a blood-red sky,
and deeper still was buried hope
for those who watched him die.
But then, in Joseph's garden fair,
as dawn broke o'er the land,
the Seed, from three days' silent sleep,
awoke at God's command!

4 O Christ, you come among us still,
the Sower and the Seed.
As once you sowed the truth of God
in glowing word and deed,
implant your Word in waiting hearts,
and let it there take hold,
until it bears in fruitful lives
a harvest hundred-fold.

CMD

Suggested tune: KINGSFOLD (*LSB* 444)

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“From the Hand of the Sower Sowing” – Starke (G) [OSOC #71]

1 From the hand of the sower sowing,
Good seed is strewn about;
Some seed drops by the roadside,
There eaten before it can sprout.
Hear now the parable's message:
God's Word is sown today;
Guard well that truth or Satan
Will come and snatch it away.

3 From the hand of the sower sowing,
Good seed is scattered wide;
Some seed grows among thistles,
Is choked there until it has died.
Hear now the parable's message:
God's Word is sown today;
Pull weeds of wealth and worry,
Keep watch, and constantly pray.

2 From the hand of the sower sowing,
Good seed is freely thrown;
Some seed sprouts with a flourish,
But withers before it is grown.
Hear now the parable's message:
God's Word is sown today;
Root deep in Christ, or troubles
Could quickly lead you astray.

4 From the hand of the sower sowing,
Good seed is sown in fields;
Some seed falls on good soil,
It grows and abundantly yields.
Hear now the parable's message:
God's Word is wholesome seed;
Comes to our hearts producing
The faith and the life that we need.

PM Peculiar Meter (96 78 86 77)

Suggested tune: GOOD SEED [OSOC #71] Joe Herl. For a copy and permission to use, contact him at Joseph.Herl@cune.org.

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“Seed That the Sower Sows” - Starke (G) [MATM #21]

1 Seed that the sower sows
Tossed not in careful rows
But broadly cast across the fertile acre;
Seed scattered far and wide,
Seed with its life inside—
A miracle created by our Maker!

4 For in Christ bodily
Dwells the full deity;
From Him we now derive all we are needing.
He is the Church's Head,
Our true and living bread—
His very flesh and blood His Body feeding!

2 God's Word has here been cast,
Sown now as in the past,
Sown into lives by parents, pastors, teachers;
God living seed imparts
Faith, hope, and love in hearts:
God's grace and mercy for His blood-bought creatures.

5 Therefore, dear holy ones,
Belovèd daughters, sons,
Baptized, made new, God's triune name receiving:
Walk in the Lord each day;
Rooted in Christ, the way,
So nothing harms the faith you are believing.

3 Bought at a precious price,
Christ Jesus sacrifice;
For us He faced our death and condemnation.
Christ as the world redeemed,
Our world God so esteemed
That He would give His Son for its salvation!

6 Seed that the sower sows,
Seed to its harvest grows—
Full thirty, sixty, hundredfold maturing!
God's work in us begun
Will work till all is done,
God's fruitful grace His promises assuring.

66 11 D

Suggested tune: 14 MILE [MATM #21] or AMELITH ROAD (Contact Steve Starke at spstarke5678@gmail.com for a copy.)

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OR

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NOTES

PROPER 11 (July 17-23)

Isaiah 44:6-8 Apart from me there is no God.

Psalms 119:57-64 I have promised to obey your words.

Romans 8:18-27 Our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed.

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 The good seed and the weeds...

Recommended:

“Creation Is Groaning and Yearns to Be Free” – Clark (OT, Ps, E, G)

1 Creation is groaning and yearns to be free;
In bondage, it waits for the Lord’s guarantee.
Our sin wreaked its havoc on all that was made;
Our stewardship failed, and the world was betrayed.

4 Yet all of creation has hope for that Day
When nothing will die or will suffer decay.
The freedom we have will make ev’rything new,
Revealing the glory of mercy come true.

2 The Word that spoke life into being came down.
In flesh, He became like His handiwork’s crown.
He took on our death, and He brought us to life,
Thus setting an end to our sorrow and strife.

5 And so as we wait, let our deeds testify:
There will come a day when no creature will cry.
Restoring all things that are placed in our care,
We point toward the place Jesus went to prepare.

3 As children of God, we await with great joy
For Christ to kill death and destruction destroy.
Our bodies will rise, reunite with our souls,
And live on forever in glorified roles.

11 11 11 11

Suggested tune: FOUNDATION (LSB 728)

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“When Will I Walk” – Michael Schultz (E) [CW 837]

1 When will I walk the shining streets of gold
which lie behind the massive gates of pearl,
where saints triumphant live in bliss untold,
and all around the alleluias swirl?

(Refrain)

*My days, O Lord, are trouble-filled and few,
and I’m not home until I’m home with you.*

2 When will I wear the robe of brilliant white
and raise aloft the victor’s branch of palm,

where long-forgotten is the noble fight
and glassy seas betray a perfect calm?

Refrain

3 When will I win what Jesus won for me—
a paradise of restful, wondrous peace,
where day is bright and night will never be,
and joyfulness will evermore increase?

Refrain

10 10 10 10 with refrain

Suggested tune: WHEN WILL I WALK (CW 837)

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“We Wait to See the Glory” – Grindal (E) [ATOF]

1 We wait to see the glory
our Lord will soon reveal,
awaiting every wonder
to see what will appear.

2 When all things will be gathered
together by our Lord,
then we will see the Father
whom none has seen before!

3 Though now we groan and suffer,
we know the coming light

will fill us with great wonder,
and love will fill our sight.

4 Our hope will end in marvels
and dazzle us with love;
before us we’ll see gathered
the saints in joy above.

5 We’ll see the consummation
that Christ has come to bring
to all in his creation
who worship him as king.

76 76

Suggested tune: CHRISTUS, DER IST MEIN LEBEN (*LSB* 742)

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NOTES

PROPER 12 (July 24-30)

Deuteronomy 7:6-9 Know that the Lord your God keeps his covenant to all generations.

Psalms 125 Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion.

Romans 8:28-39 If God is for us, who can be against us?

Matthew 13:44-52 Parables of the hidden treasure, the pearl, and the net.

Recommended:

“God, You Sent Your Son among Us” – Stuenkel (E) [WL #8]

1 God, you sent your Son among us,
Love from Love and Light from Light.
In the myst'ry of his person
you with human flesh unite.
Lord of all and yet a servant,
he reveals your hidden face.
In his living, in his dying,
your eternal love we trace.

2 Christ, you walked our human pathway,
tempted, toiling, scorned, denied.
Pow'rs of evil circled round you,
seized you, mocked you, crucified.
But the grave could not confine you;
sin and death defeated lay!
Love and Light broke forth triumphant
in the dawn of God's new day!

3 What though all earth's hostile powers
threaten us on ev'ry side---
guilt and grave, distress, affliction,
loss by which our faith is tried!
How can evil now destroy us
since with Christ our lives are bound?
By his grace we now are conqu'rors;
in his love our peace is found.

4 Christ, our Life, our Hope, our Center,
Christ, our Strength in ev'ry need,
risen, now you reign in glory;
now for us you intercede.
Nothing from your love can part us,
even death's once mortal sting!
“Alleluia! Alleluia!”
is the song of praise we sing!

87 87 D

Suggested tune: BEACH SPRING (LSB 848)

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“Spirit of God, You Know Our Every Need” – Starke (E) [MATM #64]

1 Spirit of God, You know our ev’ry need;
You hear our cries and for us intercede;
Your signs and groans, too deep for any word,
Before the throne of God are clearly heard.

2 As for God’s saints, all things work as they should;
Both fair and foul are molded for their good:
Foreknown, predestined, called, and justified;
Washed clean in Christ, in Christ are glorified.

3 What shall we say to all that God has done,
Who, in His love, conforms us to His Son?
Shall tribulation, nakedness, or sword
Remove us from the love of Christ our Lord?

4 No! For we conquer in and through His grace;
Not even death can loosen His embrace!
He, our Good Shepherd, we without alarm
Pass through death’s valley cradled in His arm.

5 In life and death, God’s own are dressed in white;
Christ’s righteous robe clads children of the light;
Through death to life, with those from ev’ry land
Who sing His praise with vic’try palm in hand:

6 “Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who once was slain!
Worthy is Christ forevermore to reign!
Blessing and honor, might and glory be—
“Amen!” They sing with joy eternally.

7 They serve the Lamb who sits upon the throne;
Hunger and thirst by them no more are known;
Nothing will cause them pain or want or fear,
As from their eyes God wipes away each tear.

8 Spirit of God, support us now we pray,
Keep us by grace through faith until that day
This earthy temple too is put to bed,
To wait the resurrection of the dead.

10 10 10 10

Suggested tune: ELLERS (*LSB* 917)

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NOTES

PROPER 13 (July 31-August 6)

Isaiah 55:1-5 Come, all you who are thirsty.

Psalms 136:1-9 (23-26) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good....his love endures forever.

Romans 9:1-5 (6-13) The blessings of Israel. Theirs is the adoption, the divine glory, the ancestry...

Matthew 14:13-21 Jesus feeds the 5,000.

Recommended:

“So Small the Gifts We Bring, O Christ” – Stuenkel (G) [AOH #46]

1 So small the gifts we bring, O Christ,
to serve a world in need!

How can our meager offerings
the hungry millions feed?

But as you blessed the loaves and fish
and fed a multitude,
bless now, O Christ, our gifts of love
and multiply their good.

2 How common are the loaf and wine
we offer you today!
The bread was born where grain is ground;
the wine where grapes decay.

But when you bless these gifts of earth,
your people still are fed.

For us, for all you here become
our Wine and living Bread.

3 Refreshed, restored, we leave to serve
the world for which you died.
Send us where hearts are starved for love,
where justice is denied.

O Christ, as you have come to us
in gifts of field and vine,
bless now our lives that they may be
Love's sacrament and sign.

CMD

Suggested tune: KINGSFOLD (LSB 444)

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“Holy, Holy, Holy Lord—Come, You Thirsty” – Starke (OT) [MATM 36]

1 Holy, holy, holy Lord,
By the host of heav'en adored,
In Your presence angels bow
With rev'ence due;
Lamb of God, for sinners slain,
In this holy meal You deign
To descend and nourish us,
Our faith renew.

*Come, you thirsty, here drink freely!
Come, you hungry, feast on richest fare!
Here the banquet of salvation
God now spreads for ev'ryone to share!*

2 Is not this, the bread we break,
A communion to partake
Of the body of our Lord,
Once sacrificed?

Do we not His death confess
By this cup which here we bless;
Do we not together share
The blood of Christ?

Refrain

3 God invites the great and least,
Calls the rich and poor to feast,
Bids the well and sick to fill
His wedding hall.
Come, His Supper now begins,
For forgiveness of our sins;
Gift of mercy, Meal of grace—
For one and all.

Refrain

77 74 D

Suggested tune: BANQUET BIDDING [MATM #36]

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“God’s Promise Is a Solid Rock” -Grindal (E) [ATOF]

1 God’s promise is a solid rock;
it has become our building block;
the oath God swore to Abraham
came true one night in Bethlehem.

2 God’s promise to the patriarchs—
more progeny than all the stars—
come down to us in Christ, our Lord,
the proof of God’s most righteous word.

3 God’s promises in ancient days
were carved in stone to show the way,

which Moses brought from Sinai’s heights
down to the dancing Israelites.

4 God’s promise made the angels sing
when Jesus Christ was born our king.
Descended from King David’s line,
he grafted us to Jesse’s vine.

5 God’s promise now is flesh and blood;
in Christ we live, who is our good,
the place we flourish as we live
in all the glory we’ve received!

LM

Suggested tune: HERR JESU CHRIST, MEINS (LSB 704)

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NOTES

PROPER 14 (August 7-13)

Job 38:4-18 “Where were you when I laid the earth’s foundation?”

Psalms 18:1-6 (7-16) I love you, O LORD, my strength, my rock, my fortress, my deliverer.

Romans 10:5-17 If you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord”, you will be saved.

Matthew 14:22-33 The storm and Peter walking on the water.

Recommended:

“Your Hand, Though Hidden, Guides Us” – Stuempfle (G) [RtT #46]

1 Your hand, though hidden, guides us
by ways unseen, unknown,
through all our restless searching
on paths we think our own.
With silent step you hasten
to meet us where we stray.
Then patiently you lead us
along our pilgrim way.

2 Your hand, though hidden, heals us
as then, in Galilee,
you touched the bound, the burdened
with grace that set them free.

Come now, O Lord, with healing
for grief and pain and sin.
Come, touch our lives with mercy
and make us whole again.

3 Your hand, though hidden, holds us
when all support is gone,
when earth’s best help is futile
and human strength undone.
Then, though the night close round us
and wind and wave assail,
you grasp us in the darkness
with love that does not fail.

76 76 D

Suggested tune: AURELIA (LSB 644)

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“Jesus Is Lord, Him We Confess” – Grindal (E) [ATOF]

1 *Jesus Is Lord!* Him we confess,
incarnate Son of righteousness!
His saving Word is meant for all;
we hear our Shepherd when he calls.

2 *Jesus is Lord!* His Word is near;
we speak it and it casts out fear.
His gifts we cherish and receive
when we confess him and believe.

4 *Jesus is Lord!* We bow our knees
to worship Him, his majesty,
rejoicing as we hear his name
and wonder as it is proclaimed.

5 *Jesus is Lord!* With joy we go
to tell all people they can know
the one who ends all their laments,
the one whom God, our Father, sent.

3 *Jesus is Lord!* The Word we preach,
the Word that we are called to teach;
the Word that even now is near;
the Word that all the world would hear.

6 *Jesus is Lord!* How lovely are
the messengers who travel far
to tell the nations God loves all:
how lovely and how beautiful!

LM

Suggested tune: DUKE STREET (*LSB* 461)

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NOTES

PROPER 15 (August 14-20)

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8 Maintain justice and do what is right.

Psalms 67 May all the peoples praise you, O God.

Romans 11:1-2a, 13-15, 28-32 God has bound all over to disobedience that he may have mercy on all.

Matthew 15:21-28 The faith of the Canaanite woman. "Woman, how great is your faith!"

Recommended:

"Let All the Peoples Praise You, Lord" – Clark (OT, Ps, E, G)

1 Let all the peoples praise You, Lord,
Rejoicing in Your name.
In ev'ry language, be adored,
Your mercy to proclaim.
You gather outcasts unto You,
Into Your house of prayer,
So gather up Your children true,
That all are welcome there.

3 Let us as one be glad and sing;
Each end of earth rejoice
In ev'ry king's triumphant King
With harmony and voice.
Our holy Father, we will bless;
His gracious face will shine.
To His own Spirit, we confess
A unity divine.

2 Let us recall, O loving God,
That we were not Your own
But orphaned foreigners forlorn—
Unfit, unloved, unknown.
In Christ, we are beloved heirs
Who joy to hear Your call.
With open arms, we now embrace
Our brothers, sisters all.

CMD

Suggested tune: KINGSFOLD (*LSB* 444)

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"All the Ways of God Are Justice" – Cherwien (OT) [LIW p. 12]

1 All the ways of God are justice;
God stands not unfeeling by,
But God hears the trampled people,
Hears the world's bewildered cry.
Greatly moved and greatly troubled,
Not far-off, but gently near,
God, the God of all compassion,
Speaks and waits for us to hear.

3 All the ways of God are justice;
Shall we stand unfeeling by?
Do we hear the trampled people,
Hear the world's bewildered cry?
Prayers and sacrifices fester
Without love and love's increase;
Lead the suffering ones to solace,
Lead the warring ones to peace.

2 Hear, O people, God is speaking;
In God's image we were made:
Tender hearts and hands for healing,
Minds to solve, evolve, create.
Written on our hearts is justice,
Written on our brows, God's law:
Acting justly, loving mercy,
Walking humbly with our God.

4 May we glory not in wisdom,
May we glory not in wealth,
But in living lives of mercy,
Loving neighbor as oneself.
May God's teaching drop as rainfall;
May God's speech drop down as dew,
Filling us with lovingkindness,
Making us and all things new.

87 87 D

Suggested tunes: FORGOTTEN LUTHER by Jeff Pannebaker. Contact him at jpannebaker76@gmail.com

or

RUSTINGTON (*LSB* 572)

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NOTES

PROPER 16 (August 21-27)

Isaiah 51:1-6 My justice will become a light to the nations.

Psalms 138 The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me.

Romans 11:33-12:8 Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!

Matthew 16:13-20 Peter's confession of Christ. "Who do you say that I am?"

Recommended:

"The Depths of the Riches We Have in the Lord" – Clark (OT, Ps, E, G)

1 The depths of the riches we have in the Lord—
His wisdom unbounded in mercies outpoured.
His judgments unsearchable in all His ways,
His knowledge will not ever cease to amaze.

3 Give thanks to the Rock, who is mighty to save;
His steadfast endurance emboldens the brave.
Fear not when the world will not dare comprehend,
But lift up your eyes to the truths that transcend.

2 Renewed and transformed by a life given free,
We worship each day so that others may see
The Body of Christ humbly serving as one,
All members in harmony praising the Son.

11 11 11 11

Suggested tune: ST DENIO (LSB 802)

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"I Am the Word of Your Own Hands" – K. Reinhardt (PS) [MLMS p. 58]

1 I am the work of Your own hands;
Forsake me not, I pray.
Though I have failed in Your commands,
Lord, cast me not away!

2 You knit me in my mother's womb,
My life came from Your breath;
Will You now lose me to the tomb,
And give me up to death?

3 You spread Your arms upon the cross
At pains to set me free;

Will Satan gain me to Your loss?
What of Your victory?

4 You sealed me with Your holy name,
Adopted me by grace;
Will I be orphaned by hell's flame
Far from Your glorious face?

5 O Lord, my sin Your wrath demands;
But hear me when I pray,
I am the work of Your own hands;
Forsake me not this day!

CM

Suggested tune: DETROIT (LSB 843)

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NOTES

PROPER 17 (August 28-September 3)

Jeremiah 15:15-21 Your words became a joy to me and the delight of my heart.

Psalms 26 I love the house where you live, O LORD, the place where your glory dwells.

Romans 12:9-21 Be devoted to one another in love.

Matthew 16:21-28 "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."

Recommended:

"Let Us Go and Walk with Christ" – Stuenkel (G) [SoF #32]

1 Let us go and walk with Christ,
by his grace forgiven, freed;
follow him with steadfast step
where his Word and will may lead.

3 Let us go and die with Christ,
shrink from neither pain nor loss;
when the way he calls grows hard,
bear with grace love's daily cross.

2 Let us go and serve with Christ
where he walks among the poor,
reaching out as Christ's own hands,
hearts to heal and hope restore.

4 Let us go and live with Christ,
strengthened, nourished by his Word,
Christ in us and we in him;
Christ our Savior, Friend and Lord.

77 77

Suggested tune: GOTT SEI DANK (LSB 830)

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"Lord, Let Your Light" -Grindal (E) [ATOF]

1 Lord, let your light shine through my deeds
so I can serve my neighbor's needs,
to love all those I meet each day,
both friend and foes along the way.

You gave your all so we could live,
led by your call and all you give.

2 In all I do, Lord, help me share
the life and truth you have prepared.

3 Restrain my wrath, help me do right;
show me the path that leads to light,
the light that shines from your dear face,
a love refined by worlds of grace.

LM

Suggested tune: TALLIS' CANON (LSB 883)

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“God’s Glorious Way Is Hard to See” – Reinhardt (G) [MLMS p. 56]

1 God’s glorious way is hard to see,
He hides it in humility;
The praise of this world leads astray,
For humble is God’s chosen way.

2 A crown of thorns rests on His head,
He’s robed in Roman mocking red,
“Hail Israel’s King,” with scorn they say;
How humble is God’s chosen way.

3 Then burdened down with heavy beam,
He stumbles through the jeering stream,
While mournful women weep and pray;
How humble is God’s chosen way.

4 True hatred nails Him to the tree,
He hangs in tortured agony,
While for His clothes the soldiers play;
How humble is God’s chosen way.

5 Now simple words proclaimed and read
With water, wine and earthly bread,
Bring us the gifts He earned that day;
How humble is God’s chosen way.

6 Dear mothers tend their children’s needs,
And farmers sow their precious seeds;
The Lord works good through our poor clay;
How humble is God’s chosen way.

7 A poor saint suffers on his bed,
He longs to join the faithful dead,
But for some good he still must stay;
How humble is God’s chosen way.

8 The way of life leads through the night,
So faith must lead instead of sight;
The cross seems humble in its day
But truly is God’s glorious way.

LM

Suggested tune: ANGELUS (*LSB* 831)

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“I Cannot Bear the Sorrow” – Clark (G)

1 I cannot bear the sorrow
That seeps into each day.
I fear to see tomorrow
With evil holding sway.
I weary at the waiting,
For mercy to descend—
The place You are creating,
Where longing meets its end.

2 So strengthen me for labor
And taking up my cross
To love and serve my neighbor
And count all else as loss.
With all the weight I carry,
Grant me the eyes to see
I have a sanctuary:
The One upholding me.

76 76 D

Suggested tune: EWING (*LSB* 672)

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See also (OT) 4th Sunday in Lent “Cling Tightly to the Word of God” – Starke [OSOC 53]

NOTES

PROPER 18 (September 4-10)

Ezekiel 33:7-9 Warn the wicked to turn from their ways.

Psalms 32:1-7 Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Romans 13:1-10 Submit to the governing authorities.

Matthew 18:1-20 Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

Recommended:

“O Holy Love, that God Would Give” – Clark (OT, Ps, E, G)

1 O holy love, that God would give
His will to guide us how to live.
Those blest commands: a mercy true
To give us joy in all we do.

3 O grace divine! That we may love
The Judge who reigns enthroned above.
Forgiven, we can give Him praise
Who makes us blameless all our days.

2 O tragic loss: we do not keep
The law but dwell in evil deep.
And yet the Son we could not be
Did all, paid all, and set us free.

4 O blessing sweet, that we can show
His love to all with us below
And point to Him, His glories shine—
Fulfilling law with love divine

LM

Suggested tune: DEO GRACIAS (*LSB* 413)

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“The Call of God Ordained You” -Starke (OT) [MATM #52]

1 The call of God ordained you
A watchman for the Lord!
Each day God has sustained you
To be His people’s ward,
His counsel to proclaim:
The Law—its condemnation;
The Gospel—its salvation
For all in Jesus’ name.

2 The Lord does not desire
That any die in sin;
Instead He would inspire
True change of heart within,
And so He sends His Word—
That all might be repenting,
Their judgment thus preventing
For wickedness incurred.

3 How unforeseen that power
Christ resurrected showed,
When in the evening hour
His Spirit He bestowed:
“The sins that you forgive,
They truly are forgiven,
On earth and high in heaven.”
Each penitent shall live!

4 “The sins you are retaining
Before the Father’s face
Are debts by those disdaining
My Father’s heart of grace.”

Yet these Christ would receive:
“How often, yes, how often,
I prayed your heart would soften
And you your sin would leave.”

5 The watchman’s voice is crying,
“Turn from your evil way!”
Still some, his call defying,
Resist and disobey.
You died for these, Lord, too!
Your mercy is most shocking;
It seeks to save the mocking
Who know not what they do.

6 The watchman’s sacred duty
Proclaims good news from God;
His feet are rare with beauty
And with the Gospel shod.
God’s spokesman lifts his voice:
“Those marred by sin’s defiling,
God’s grace is reconciling.
Return! Believe! Rejoice!”

7 You, son of man, unswerving,
Have spoken for the Lord.
We, whom you have been serving,
Thank God with one accord!
We say so gratefully:
“Dear watchman, you have led us;
Dear pastor, you have fed us—
To God all glory be!”

76 76 67 76

Suggested tune: VON GOTT WILL ICH NICHT LASSEN (*LSB* 713)

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“O God Most High, Your Saints Below” -Michael Schultz (E) [CW 772]

1 O God Most High, your saints below
appear before your throne.
We pray, good Lord, your favor show
and let your mercy overflow
this land we call our own,
upheld by you alone.

2 Each ruler you have put in place
endow with zeal and might
to govern well without disgrace,

while we as citizens embrace
endeavors good and right,
and live as salt and light.

3 As nations rise and nations fall,
in you our hope shall stand,
for Jesus Christ is King of all
and in his name we humbly call:
Lord, open wide your hand
and bless our native land.

86 88 66

Suggested tune: REPTON (*LSB* 853)

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“O Lord of Nations, Hear Our Prayer” – Gauger (E) [CW 773]

1 O Lord of nations, hear our prayer.
We thank you for this land most fair,
created by your might,
for mountain sunset, lake at dawn,
for woodland bloom and robin song,
for stars that lace the night,

2 For farms and fields of golden grain,
for science and for medicine,
for wealth beyond compare,
for leisure time and work to do—
Lord, all these blessings come from you,
signs of your loving care.

3 Most grateful, gracious God, are we
that in this country we are free
to worship you above.
We gather here to speak your name,
then leave this place to spread your fame
that all may know your love.

4 Forgive us, Lord, when we forget
your gifts to share, your Word to spread
to those who ache and bleed.

Renew our will to help the weak,
to feed the hungry and to speak
your Word to souls in need.

5 And for the leaders you ordained
we pray, O Lord, that they remain
courageous, honest, wise.
O give them guidance, make them strong
to stand for right, to battle wrong,
that freedom's song may rise.

6 When storm and terror strike our land,
remove our fear and help us stand
against our enemies.
Lord, may no wicked men prevail.
May ev'ry plot of treach'ry fail.
May we remain at peace.

7 And when at last all nations fall
and you return as Lord of all
to make the earth anew,
then may we join that shining band
of saints from ev'ry tribe and land
and make our home with you.

886 886

Suggested tune: JOSEPHINE (CW 773)

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NOTES

PROPER 19 (September 11-17)

Genesis 50:15-21 Joseph reassured his brothers. The death of Joseph.

Psalms 103:1-12 As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him.

Romans 14:1-12 Accept those whose faith is weak.

Matthew 18:21-35 How often should I forgive my brother?

Recommended:

“Give Glory, All Creation” – Vajda (PS) [SP, p. 88]

1 Give glory, all creation,
Great seas and stars and blazing sun,
All join in adoration
Before the only holy One!
The God eternal name Him,
The One who rules alone;
The King of kings acclaim Him
Upon a heavenly throne!
No light exists without Him,
No life but by his Word,
So gather, all, about Him,
And own Him God, our Lord!

2 No realm is there so spacious,
No rule demanding greater might;
No one is there so gracious,
Yet just and holy, good and right;
Beyond all comprehension,
Beyond the last surprise,
Comes Love’s divine invention:
This God for creatures dies!
No wonder angels praise Him
And live in constant awe,
Should not all creatures raise Him
An endless Alleluia!

78 78 76 76 76 76

Suggested tune: NUN LOB, MEIN SEEL (LSB 587)

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“Help Us Forgive, Forgiving Lord” – Stuempfle (G) [RtT #50]

1 Help us forgive, forgiving Lord,
the wrong that others do
and, when our hearts are pierced by pain,
to bring the hurt to you.

3 Let grace unlock each prisoned heart,
uncoil each fisted hand
until from hate our hearts are freed,
our hands in love extend.

2 For on the cross you bore for us
the curse, the scorn, the hate
and gave your life to lift from us
sin’s cruel and crushing weight.

4 And then, the broken circle closed,
the broken friendships healed,
Lord, hold us fast within the bonds
by your forgiveness sealed.

CM

Suggested tune: DUNDEE (LSB 526)

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“I Stood Before the Father” – Grindal (G) [ATOF, Lectionary Hymn Texts New Testament, Series A,B,C]

1 I stood before the Father
and knew I could not gather
enough to pay my debt.
I owed him every treasure,
more than a mind could measure,
a sum no one on earth could get.

2 I pleaded, “Lord, have mercy,
be patient, do not curse me,
for I will try to pay.”
No word of mine could save me,
with love my Lord forgave me
and sent me joyful on my way.

3 It was my life I owed him,
the trinkets I could show him
had barely any worth;

he died to be my Savior.
To pay him for his favor
there was no way in heav’n or earth.

4 With blood and tears he bought me,
and by his death he taught me
the way that I should live.
Lord, help me act t’ward others—
my sisters and my brothers—
with kindness ready to forgive.

5 My debt has been forgiven
by Christ, the Lord of heaven,
whose grace has filled my soul.
And only by His Spirit
do I have any merit;
his love and grace have made me whole.

776 778

Suggested tune: O WELT, ICH MUSS DICH LASSEN (*LSB* 396)

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NOTES

PROPER 20 (September 18-24)

Isaiah 55:6-9 Seek the Lord while he may be found.

Psalms 27:1-9 One thing I ask of the Lord...that I may dwell in his house all the days of my life.

Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30 I have been encouraged to speak the word more courageously.

Matthew 20:1-16 Parable of the workers in the vineyard. "The last will be first..."

Recommended:

"God Is Our Salvation" – Stuempfle (Ps) [SoF #19] <see Epiphany 3 A>

NOTES

PROPER 21 (September 25-October 1)

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32 I will judge each according to their ways...turn and live.

Psalms 25:1-10 Show me your ways, O Lord, teach me your paths.

Philippians 2:1-4 (5-13) 14-18 Shine like stars in the universe.

Matthew 21:23-27 (28-32) The authority of Jesus questioned. (Parable of the two sons)

Recommended:

“Shine Like Stars” – Vajda (E) [SP, 206]

(Selected stanzas)

1 See how the galaxies are always there,
Made by the One whose glories they declare,
Signs of a God with might and care to spare;
Shine like those stars!

3 Here by our faith and hope and love we shine,
Revealing by our deeds a power divine,
One almost hears God saying, “You are mine,
You shine like stars!”

2 So we are made to occupy a place
Within a firmament of time and space,
Each one enlightened with a special grace
To shine like stars.

4 There we are set to occupy the height,
To glow the brightest in the darkest night,
That many still may know the world’s true Light,
Shine, shine like stars!

10 10 10 4

Suggested tune: STARS (Copyright © 1993 GIA Publications Inc.; found in their comprehensive collection of Schalk hymntunes---*Thine the Praise*, G-4554, p. 104.)

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“The Joyful Exchange” -Grindal (G) [ATOF]

1 Lord, strip my righteousness away
and dress me in your grace,
for I cannot endure my pride
while looking at your face.

3 The shining robe I need to wear
to stand before your throne
is woven from the seamless love
that took me as your own.

2 For when I look upon your face,
I feel unclothed and bare.
I know that I am dressed in rags
and need a robe to wear.

4 In death you took me as your own;
your rising set me free,
when you gave up your righteousness
to dress and cover me.

CM

Suggested tune: RUGBY [ATOF]

NUN DANKET ALL (*LSB* 812) will also work.

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NOTES

PROPER 22 (October 2-8)

Isaiah 5:1-7 The song of the vineyard.

Psalms 80:7-19 Restore us, O God Almighty; make your face shine upon us, that we may be saved.

Philippians 3:4b-14 I press on toward the goal...

Matthew 21:33-46 Parable of the tenants.

Recommended:

“Draw Near, My People, Hear a Song” – Stuenkel (OT) [RtT #48]

1 Draw near, my people, hear a song
of sun and rain and soil,
of vines deep rooted in the earth,
whose branches climb and coil.

2 With joy I watched the greening leaves,
the clusters on the vine,
and waited for the harvest time
when grapes would promise wine.

3 But though I pruned each branch with care,
and nourished every root,
the vines, for all my husbandry,

bore hard and bitter fruit.

4 Upon a hill I'll plant a vine,
though dark as death the sky,
and from its branches, pruned by pain,
the wine of life supply.

5 My people, branches of my vine,
now spread through every land,
go, bear love's fruit that all may share
the harvest I have planned.

CM

Suggested tune: CONSOLATION (LSB 342)

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“Within the Vineyard of the Lord” – Starke (OT) [OSOC #89]

1 Within the vineyard of the Lord
No righteousness was found;
His holy song of love abhorred,
And bloodshed stained the ground.

2 Both priest and prophet had been killed,
So God would send His Son;
All words of promise He fulfilled—
Such mercy, who could shun?

3 The vineyard's heir deserves respect
As Prophet, Priest, and King:
This stone the builders would reject
Is He of whom we sing.

4 Lord, sanctify our hearts anew
That gladly we aspire
To yield rich fruits of faith for You—
The harvest You desire.

CM

Suggested tune: CONSOLATION (LSB 342)

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“Press On! Press On!” – Starke (E) [OSOC #66]

1 Press on! Press on! The love of Christ
Shall be our clarion call,
Convinced the life He sacrificed
Was sacrificed for all!

2 Christ died for all that those who live
Should leave their selfish ways,
Should live for Him and for Him give
Themselves in thankful praise.

3 Though once we held a fleshly view,
With thoughts by sin debased,
In Christ, we have been born anew,
Our sin has been erased.

4 All this from God, who reconciled
The world as Jesus died

And through this Adam undefiled,
The world He justified.
5 For God made Him who knew no shame
To be the sin for us,
That we, by Jesus’ saving name,
Become God’s righteousness.

6 So now for Christ we make appeal,
As messengers of grace,
Ambassadors with news to heal
Our lost and dying race.

7 Press on! Press on! The love of Christ
Shall be our clarion call,
Convinced the life He sacrificed
Was sacrificed for all!

CM

Suggested tune: ST. PETER (*LSB 524*))

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“God’s Love in Christ Chose” – Starke (E) [Unpublished]

1 God’s love in Christ chose
To ransom our race
From Calvary flows
Twin rivers of grace:
A costly and quenching
Clear snowmelt like stream;
A crimson flood drenching,
This world to redeem!

4 Mount Calvary**, sing,
God’s joy in your heart!
Lost strays and sheep bring—
In Christ, set apart!
He shepherds the frightened,
Held close to His side,
Called, kept, and enlightened,
By Him sanctified.

2 For from Jesus' side
Flowed water and blood,
To cleanse His dear Bride,
To clothe her with good.
This Groom, raised and living,
Spreads food most divine:
His flesh and blood giving
In bread and in wine!

3 Thus what you count gain
Now count it as loss;
Trust fully Christ's reign,
Throned high on that cross:
"With sin I AM vested,
In shame do I die,
Your death is here bested,
'It's finished,' My cry."

5 The sight of God scans
Beyond our small scope—
"For You I have plans:
A future and hope;
Still seek Me and find Me
With all of your heart;
To you I will bind Me
And never depart!"

6 So press toward the prize,
Press on, one and all;
On Christ fix your eyes,
His high, upward call.
In hope each day living,
God's Spirit-filled heir,
Mouths filled with thanksgiving,
His praises, declare!

** (Mount Calvary was the parish name of this anniversary hymn. Stanza 4, line 1, could read: "Rejoice, Christians, sing"; or parish name may be placed at that point as well: "Immanuel, sing"; "St. John Luth'ran sing"; "O Zion, now sing" etc.)

55 55 65 65

Suggested tune: LAUDATE DOMINUM (*LSB* 665) or HANOVER (*LSB* 804)

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NOTES

PROPER 23 (October 9-15)

Isaiah 25:6-9 The Lord will make a great feast for all nations.

Psalms 23 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.

Philippians 4:4-13 Rejoice in the Lord always...whatever is true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, commendable...

Matthew 22:1-14 A king and his wedding feast...many are called but few are chosen.

Recommended:

“Rejoice in the Lord!” – Stuempfle (E) [SoF #45]

1 Rejoice in the Lord! Be thankful always,
for Christ is your strength through all of your days.
Now risen and reigning, his love never ends.
With each day's awakening, new mercies he sends.

2 Rejoice in the Lord, the giver of peace!
His Word stills the waves and makes winds to cease.
Though storm clouds may gather, your heart fill with fear,
Christ will not forsake you but always is near.

3 Rejoice in the Lord! Let joy fill your hearts.
Sing praise and give thanks for grace Christ imparts.
Be anxious for nothing; on him cast your cares.
He hears all your sorrows; your burdens he shares.

4 Rejoice in the Lord! Though dark grows the night,
the morning will dawn, for Christ is your Light.
He conquered death's darkness! He broke death's strong
chains!
Ascended, yet with us, forever he reigns!

10 10 11 11

Suggested tune: HANOVER (LSB 804)

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“Of All God's Gifts” – Vajda (G), [SP, 182]

1 Of all God's gifts, the best is yet to come:
A feast befitting God's new heaven and earth,
A celebration only God could plan:
The marriage of the Lamb and cherished Bride!

2 What comfort for despairing prodigals?
Is there a chance of coming home again?
Look at the outstretched hand, the yearning love,
The cross, the triumph over death and hell!

3 God sees the outcasts, orphans, and the lost,
Invites them all to fill the banquet hall;
The poor become the kingdom's royal heirs,
Their names recorded in the Book of Life.

4 Come, join those loved ones who have gone before,
Remember where we heard this call of God;
What we have now, God wants the world to have:
The gifts of life and love and peace and joy!

10 10 10 10

Suggested tune: OLD 124TH, abbr. (LSB 637)

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“The Lord Prepares a Banquet on This Mountain” – Starke (OT) [MATM #7]

1 The Lord prepares a banquet on this mountain,
A feast of richest food and finest wine,
That all who thirst may drink from mercy's fountain,
That all who hunger here may freely dine:
For Jesus wore our pall of sin with gladness;
The veil is torn—the sacrifice complete.
Now Christ has risen, swallowing death's sadness—
This is our God, whose life is death's defeat!

2 God's saints and sages yearned for this salvation,
To share the triumph of His saving grace:
When God would wipe away all sin from ev'ry nation,
When He would dry all tears from ev'ry face.

What joy was theirs, who heard these words astounding:
“He is not here; He's risen from the dead!”
Loud alleluias from His tomb resounding,
Tell us our death we need no longer dread.

3 Still at our graves in silence we assemble,
We know that what is sown will one day rise;
Yet overcome by loss and grief we tremble,
Sin's awful wage once more before our eyes:
Here is the question—let us never fear it—
“Can these bones live...though sight and sense deny?”
Christ is God's “Yes!” and will through His own Spirit,
To lifeless clay, breathe life that cannot die.

11 10 11 10 D

Suggested tune: RED HILL ROAD (ELW 760)

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“Whatever Each Day Brings” – Starke (E) [MATM # 59]

1 Whatever each day brings,
I live contentedly—
The secret? I can do all things
Through Christ who strengthens me!

2 To serve where I am placed
My daily joy shall be!
For as I serve I know I'm graced
By Christ who strengthens me.

3 When troubles bring me low,
In all adversity,
Yet still one thing I surely know:
That Christ will strengthen me.

4 I boast when I am weak,
That ev'ryone may see
God's grace in action as a I speak
Of Christ who strengthens me.

5 Yes, when I suffer loss
Within the ministry,
I look to Christ upon the cross:
His mercy strengthens me.

6 Lord Jesus, You we praise;
Your grace we gladly sing!
All that we are to You we raise—
Accept our offering.

SM

Suggested tune: POTSDAM (*LSB* 414)

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“Behold, the Marriage Feast Awaits” – Reinhardt (G) [MLMS pg. 42]

1 Behold, the marriage feast awaits!
Make haste to enter though His gates;
His love is true, His love is strong;
Rejoicing come with bridal song.

3 Your bridegroom claims you as His own,
Flesh of His flesh, bone of His bone;
He clasps you to His longing heart,
His gracious life-blood to impart.

2 His tender voice calls you to sup,
His love-marked hands hold out the cup;
Your Lord endowed with ev’ry grace
Here sets His pledge before your face.

4 O love unknown, O joy complete,
As He unveils His wounded feet,
Embracing you as His true Bride
Created from His wounded side.

LM

Suggested tune: WAREHAM (*LSB* 866)

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NOTES

PROPER 24 (October 16-22)

Isaiah 45:1-7 I call you by your name...I am the LORD.

Psalms 96:1-9 (10-13) Worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness.

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 We know that God has chosen you...we remember your work of faith and labor of love.

Matthew 22:15-22 A question about Caesar and paying taxes.

Recommended:

“Come, Sing a New Song!” – Stuenkel (Ps) [SoF #14]

1 Come, sing a new song! Let praises abound
where God’s people meet the whole world around!
From each land and continent, by each race and tongue,
though myriad their voices, God’s praises be sung!

3 Go, sing a new song! The Gospel proclaim!
The Savior has come! Christ Jesus his name!
Sin’s bondage is broken and shattered death’s door,
for Jesus is risen to reign evermore!

2 Come, sing a new song! With each breaking dawn
new mercies appear; night’s shadows are gone!
Though day brings new duties, new ventures to dare,
Christ goes on before you, new crosses to share.

4 Go, sing a new song! The world waits to hear
of justice and truth, the conquest of fear!
Let hope be your beacon, God’s presence your peace
till earth shall rejoice and God’s Kingdom increase!

10 10 11 11

Suggested tune: HANOVER (LSB 804)

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“All Ministries of Steel, Imperial Swords”-Grindal (OT) [ATOF]

1 All ministries of steel, imperial swords,
cannot perform their ends, unless the Lord,
in ways we cannot understand or know,
work through the light and darkness, weal or woe,
work through the light and darkness, weal or woe.

2 Like doors of bronze that shatter, all will break
before the progress of our Lord who makes
all work together, treasures open up
even when first it seems there is no hope,
even when first it seems there is no hope.

3 God’s own dread purposes will be fulfilled,
both wise and foolish rulers do God’s will.
We cannot fathom, cannot understand

all of the mysteries hidden in God’s hand,
all of the mysteries hidden in God’s hand

4 All we can pray is, “Lord, your will be done,”
and falling on the mercies of your Son,
cry, “God have mercy,” as you work for good,
for who can stand against the will of God,
for who can stand against the will of God?

5 Here in the kingdoms ruled by might and steel,
We trust the promise you are working still.
Help us to live by faith and not by sight,
trusting the unknown mysteries of your might,
trusting the unknown mysteries of your might!

10 10 10 10 10

Suggested tune: BARLOW [ATOF, p. 116]

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NOTES

PROPER 25 (October 23-29)

Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18 “Be holy because I, the LORD, your God am holy.”

Psalms 1 Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked.

1 Thessalonians 2:1-13 You received the word of God, which you heard from us and accepted it.

Matthew 22:34-46 The greatest commandment.

Recommended:

“Quenched by the Water Living” – Clark (OT, Ps, E, G)

1 Quenched by the Water living,
Grafted into the Vine,
Nourished with roots life-giving,
Bearing the fruit divine,

3 May this love serve our neighbor,
Blessed to reach out in love.
That in our daily labor,
We confess God above.

2 May we fulfill God’s tending,
Planted where He ordains,
Filled with a love unending,
Following where He trains.

4 Patient in fear or danger,
Reaching out to the least,
May we attend the stranger,
Bringing them to the feast.

76 76

Suggested tune: Original tune by Mark Knickelbein. For a copy, contact him at mark.knickelbein@cph.org. For permission to use, contact copyrights@cph.org.

CHRISTUS, DER IST MEIN LEBEN (*LSB* 742) will also work.

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“You, My People, Shall Be Holy” – Starke (OT) [MATM #20] (See Seventh Sunday after Epiphany)

“Jesus, Help Us Speak” -Grindal (E) [ATOF]

1 Jesus, help us speak
words the troubled seek,
truth to those who need to hear it.
Fill us with your gentle Spirit
as we point the way
in each word we say.

for the baby she is bearing.
So the world can live,
help us gently give.

2 Test our hearts to prove
they are filled with love
like a nursing mother caring

3 Give us tender hearts,
cleanse our inward parts,
so that we can join together
one in you and with our Father.
Give us with your peace,
love that will not cease.

55 88 55

Suggested tune: SEELENBRÄUTIGAM (*LSB* 718)

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PROPER 26 (October 30-November 5)

Micah 3:5-12 I am filled with power to declare to Israel his sin.

Psalms 43 Send forth your light and your truth, let them guide me.

1 Thessalonians 4:1-12 It is God's will that you be sanctified.

Matthew 23:1-12 The greatest among you will be your servant.

Recommended:

"Take Refuge, Believer, and Trust in Your Lord" – Clark (OT, Ps, E, G)

1 Take Refuge, believer, and trust in Your Lord
When leaders betray you and love is abhorred.
The God of all justice has given You grace
And vows to avenge those who suffer disgrace.

3 Stand firm, weary Christian, and rest in God's hand.
No evil can pry you from His great command.
Though others may turn and walk boldly away,
Your Lord will sustain you until the Last Day.

2 Keep heart, dear disciple; the Lord has come near.
The world will surround you, but peace—do not fear.
The ones who don't know Him will know not the Word,
But speak it with patience, that they may be stirred.

11 11 11 11

Suggested tune: ST DENIO (LSB 802)

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"God's Redeemed—Beloved and Holy" – Starke (G) [MATM #45] (see Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany)

NOTES

REFORMATION DAY (October 31)

Revelation 14:6-7 An eternal Gospel to every nation.

Psalms 46 The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Romans 3:19-28 But now a righteousness from God has been manifested.

John 8:31-36 Hold to my teaching...the truth shall make you free.

OR

Matthew 11:12-19 He who has ear, let him hear.

Recommended:

“God’s Only Son, the Word Alone” – Weber (Reformation themes) [SG, 23]

1 God’s only Son, the Word alone, true source of
revelation,
unveils the gracious will of God for us and all creation.
The Scriptures make the message clear
that those in Christ need never fear
sin, death, and condemnation.

2 By grace alone Christ took on flesh to die for our
salvation,
and through the cross and empty grave brings forth a
reformation.

For we are baptized, we are fed
to feed the hungry daily bread
and share God’s affirmation.

3 By faith alone the righteous live in ev’ry generation.

Dispelling gloom, reviving hope, they join in acclamation:
to God, who gave an only Son,
the Christ, whose Spirit makes us one,
All praise and adoration!

4 So let this hymn of unity in joyous celebration
Inspire__ deeds of harmony and reconciliation,
for vengeance, hatred, bigotry
reveal that we are not yet free,
but need God’s restoration.

5 O God, transform us in this time of loss and resignation
to be your church, alive and bold in joyful proclamation.
Your Word alone, your grace alone,
create, sustain our faith alone
with hope and consolation.

87 87 887

Suggested tunes: Paul Weber wrote an original tune, HICKORY, which is very fine and can be enhanced with brass quintet, flute, organ, and choir. Contact him at paul.weber49@gmail.com.

Other Reformation tunes also work well---ES IST DAS HEIL (*LSB* 555), NUN FREUT EUCH (*LSB* 556)

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“Jesus, Author of Salvation” – Rogner (Reformation themes)

1 Jesus, Author of Salvation,
Love to all the world made known,
By Your death and resurrection
Death was conquered, sin atoned.
At Your cross I stand forgiven,
Justified by grace alone.

3 At Your Table I am nourished,
At the font was made Your own;
Through Your Church I grow and flourish
As the living seed is sown.
In Your House I pray and worship,
Grounded in God’s Word alone.

2 Humbly, then, I trust God’s promise,
Through no merit of my own,
Raised to life the day the angel
Came to roll away the stone.
At Your empty tomb I marvel,
Heir to heav’n through faith alone.

4 Oh, what heav’nly joy awaits me,
Joined with saints around Your throne!
Till that day, I gladly labor
That Your love in me be shown.
In Your world I find my calling,
Living here to Christ alone.

87 87 87

Suggested tune: DORNACKER by Robert Hobby. Copyright © 2018 Birnamwood. MSM anthem 50-4420.
Another possible tune is ASCENDED TRIUMPH (*LSB* 491)

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“No Longer Carved in Hardened Stone” - Cherwien (Reformation themes) [LIW p. 31]

1 No longer carved in hardened stone
God’s teachings shall be written,
But in our hearts God shall be known
As we to truth are bidden:
Christ calls us not to guilt or shame,
But life abundant in God’s name,
And all our sin forgiven.

3 Where we have missed the mark, God waits
And patient, leaves us never;
With open arms and loving grace,
God hopes in us forever;
To right relation Christ compels—
With God, with neighbor, and with self:
Our godly life together.

2 “Be still and know that I am God,”
God’s voice invites and calls us;
And we are freed, though rough and flawed,
From lures that would enthrall us,
For Christ the Word of God abides
Within our hearts, our shield and guide,
Bestowing peace and solace.

4 May we abide within God’s word,
All fear and doubt releasing,
And live Christ’s life of servanthood,
In trust and hope increasing.
Christ is the life, the truth, the way,
And in this truth we are set free,
For life and love unceasing.

87 87 887

Suggested tune: ES IST DAS HEIL (*LSB* 555)

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“O Lord, Take Pity Once You’ve Seen” – Michael Schultz trans. of Luther [CW 865]

1 O Lord, take pity once you’ve seen
what’s leaving us so shaken:
your saints are few and far between---
we feel we’ve been forsaken.
So many call your Word untrue,
refusing to believe in you—
they have us far outnumbered.

3 Therefore God says, “I won’t delay!
My people’s hopes are waning.
Their sighs disclose their great dismay;
I’ve heard their sad complaining.
My healing Word will work as planned,
will bring relief, will make them stand,
will strengthen and uphold them.”

2 May God root out all those who teach
religion that is twisted,
who say with bold, defiant speech:
“We cannot be resisted.
For we alone have right and might;
our views are welcomed with delight.
To whom must we now answer?”

4 Dear Lord, the godless gather round,
the guides whose teachings suit them.
Within your Church, let there be found
the courage to refute them.
Preserve your Word and keep it pure,
and thus we shall remain secure
from evils that surround us!

87 87 887

Suggested tune: ES IST DAS HEIL (LSB 555)

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“The Holy Word of God Endures Forever” – Starke (G) [MATM #22] <see Fifth Sunday in Lent>

NOTES

ALL SAINTS' DAY (November 1)

Revelation 7: (2-8) 9-17 The 144,000...*ethnoi*...salvation belongs to our God...who are these?

Psalms 149 The LORD takes delight in his people.

1 John 3:1-3 We know that when he appears, we shall be like him.

Matthew 5:1-12 Blessed are the...

Recommended:

“Lord, Hear Our Prayer” – Weber [SP, 42]

(Could be sung as a part of the Prayer of the Church, perhaps following the reading of the names of members who have passed in the last year.)

1 Lord, hear our prayer: we need your care;
Lighten the pain and grief we share.
Welcome our loved ones who have died
to Life's unending paradise.

2 They are a sign of your design:
their lives reveal your love divine.
Help us to follow in their way---
Your truth to seek, your word obey.

3 Be ever near to calm our fear;
Guard ev'ryone we hold so dear,
Strengthen our love, our faith renew;
Bind each to each and all to you.

4 Praise to the Spirit, Fire of Love;
praise to Christ Jesus, Son of God,
praise to the One who gave us breath---
Our Hope, our Joy in life and death.

LM

Suggested tune: Paul Weber has composed a wonderful tune, REUNION, to accompany this text.

Contact him at paul.weber49@gmail.com

Another possibility is ST CRISPIN (LSB 563).

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“How Blessed the Poor of Heart!” – Stuempfle (G) [SoF #26] <see Epiphany 4>

“Let All the Saints on Earth Rejoice” – Rogner (FR, G)

1 Let all the saints on earth rejoice
In concert with the saints above,
Who praise the Lamb in purer voice
And glory in His perfect love.
Once mournful, hungry, poor, despised,
These Blest now dwell in heaven's light.
In bliss they see—with ransomed eyes—
What once was dimmed by mortal sight.

2 Their earthly trials now are past, And God has wiped
away each tear.
The Lamb has brought His sheep at last
To verdant pasture, waters clear.
The glor'ous white-robed company
Of ev'ry nation, tribe, and tongue
Ascribe to Christ the victory
And bid Salvation's song be sung.

3 All praise to God and to the Lamb,
Creator and Redeemer blest,
The Triune God, O great I AM,
Whom saints in heav'n and earth confess.
When tears of grief must mute our song,
Remind us of the vict'ry won
For those now part of heaven's throng,
Whose perfect life has but begun.

87 87 87

Suggested tune: Michael Costello has written a wonderful tune for this text. Contact him at
mcostello@graceriverforest.org

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david.rogner@cuchicago.edu.

“How Great a Cloud of Witnesses” – Cherwien (1ST READING) [LIW p. 28]

1 How great a cloud of witnesses
Surrounds us on our way,
Whose faith looked to the future good
That fear cannot allay;
With Christlike mind and holy trust
Their banner they unfurled,
Devoted to the heart of love
That might embrace the world.

3 From age to age, from bay to hill,
New generations rise,
And new horizons beckon still
To newer minds and eyes;
Yet Christ shall call and Christ shall plead
To every passing crowd,
Until each one is Christ indeed:
The great and saintly cloud.

2 Like trees by living water sown
And rooted deep in Christ,
In their expanding shade we grow
Compassionate and wise;
From prophets to the infant church
In ever-widening scope:
From them our memories become
The mentors of our hope.

Now in this time, O God of love,
We raise our song to you,
To Christ and Holy Spirit blest
We raise our lives anew;
As once our forebears in the faith
Their banner here unfurled,
May we too raise a heart of love
That might embrace the world.

CMD

Suggested tune: SPRING HILL NEW [LiW pp. 64-65] by David Cherwien.
KINGSFOLD (LSB 444) will also work.

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“We Praise the Christ for Martyred Saints” – Gauger- (1st READING) [CW 894]

1 We praise the Christ for martyred saints
who die, his name confessing.

We sing with joy, we sing with pain
this hymn of blood and blessing.

For his dear Word they lose their lives
and leave the world that scorns them.

He blesses their last sacrifice:
with gleaming gold he crowns them,
with robes of white adorns them.

2 In Stephen’s shadow they are slain,
these martyrs for the Savior,
cut down by bullet, bomb, or blade,
by Satan’s burning anger.

But see the vict’ry in their death:
refusing to deny him,
they call out Christ in their last breath,
and he is there beside them
companion in their dying.

3 No, death, you cannot silence them!
Their ashes tell the story
of Christ’s death in Jerusalem:
his love and blood and glory.
No grave can bury saving faith
or stop the Church from growing.

Upon the cross we keep our gaze,
while martyr blood is flowing,
The Church’s song is soaring!

4 We trust you, Lord, to shield us now
from those who strike with terror
because your cross has marked our brow,
because we call you Savior.
Though churches burn and buildings fall,

our hearts will not be shaken,
for you are Christ, the King of all!
In you we sleep and waken:
our souls cannot be taken.

5 And if the devil, full of hate,
would tempt us to deny you,
Lord, make us strong to shout your name,
to stand and glorify you!
O make us conquer’rs in the fight
give us a faith unbending.
Then greet us in the dying light,
your wounded hands extending,
and grant us life unending.

87 87 87 877

Suggested tune: MARTYRED SAINTS (CW 894) or CHRIST, UNSER HERR (LSB 406)

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NOTES

PROPER 27 (November 6-12)

Amos 5:18-24 The coming of the Day of the Lord. “Let justice roll like a river!”

Psalms 70 You are my helper and my deliverer; do not tarry.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 All Christians, dead and living, will be raised to eternal life.

Matthew 25:1-13 The parable of the ten virgins.

Recommended:

“For the Triumph of Your Justice” – Stuenkel (OT) [WL #74]

1 For the triumph of your justice,
where oppressors stalk the earth,
for the poor, the persecuted,
children blighted from their birth,
we, your people, lift our voices:
God of mercy, hear our prayer!

2 For the bridging of division
where deep chasms separate,
for your reconciling power,
crumbling walls of fear and hate,
we, your people, lift our voices:
God of mercy, hear our prayer!

87 87 87

Suggested tune: REGENT SQUARE (LSB 367)

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“Come Quickly, Lord!” – Starke (G) [Unpublished]

1 Come quickly, Lord! O Bridegroom, we are yearning;
Your holy Bride with joy awaits that Day!
By Your great grace, our lamps are brightly burning,
Lighting this shadowed world, we watch and pray.

2 Your mercy, Lord, this advent is delaying;
Your Word still shines that blinded hearts may see.
You send Your Church to serve with love, while saying,
“All that you do for these you do for Me.”

11 10 11 10

Suggested tune: RHYS [Hymnary.org]

3 For the healing of the nations,
for new victories of peace,
for the end of acts of violence
in our homes and on our streets,
we, your people, lift our voices:
“God of mercy, hear our prayer!”

4 God, this world, your good creation,
human pride and greed have scarred.
Come, forgive, renew, direct us
till your kingdom is restored!
We, your people, lift our voices:
God of mercy, hear our prayer!

3 Lord, make us strong to lift all those despairing,
To speak good news where hope is overrun.
We marvel that despite our faulty caring,
Your kingdom comes, Your gracious will is done!

4 Lord Jesus Christ, once on the cross outpouring
Your precious blood to cleanse our sin and shame,
O Lamb once slain, we join with saints adoring—
“All praise and glory to Your saving Name!” Amen.

MORNING STAR (LSB 400) will also work.

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“To Him Who Has Loved Us” -Starke (G) [Unpublished]

1 To Him who has loved us
Christ Jesus, our Savior,
Who is and who was and is coming again,
The Father’s Apostle,
The LORD’s faithful Witness,
To Him be all glory forever! Amen.

2 Come share in Christ’s sufferings
As soldiers in battle,
Not tangled or weighted with worldly pursuits;
As athletes competing,
The victory gaining;
As hard-working farmers who share harvest fruits.

3 Be stewards, the trusted
Disciples of Jesus,
To manage God’s message of mercy and grace;
Believers, a priesthood
Who gladly will offer
Themselves as God’s servants to serve in His place.

4 When serving our Master
Who strengthens our callings
With cross-centered gifts of His grace He has won,

Whatever vocation,
We say of our service:
“Unworthy, we only our duty have done.”

5 Take up Gospel armor:
God’s truth as belt girding;
Christ’s righteousness, breastplate; peace swiftly declare;
Faith’s shield to defend you;
Salvation, your helmet;
God’s Word as your sword, always ready through prayer:

6 Be anxious for nothing,
In ev’rything joyful,
With thankful requests trusting all God has planned;
God’s peace will then guard you
Beyond understanding—
Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord is at hand!

7 With lamps brightly burning
And oil in abundance,
We watch for the Bridegroom soon coming again,
At midnight or midday,
With joy we shall greet Him—
Our loving Redeemer, God’s Yes and Amen!

6 6 11 D

Suggested tune: GRACE CLARKSVILLE

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Tune: Jonathan Rudy, b. 1988, copyright © 2024. All rights reserved. Contact him at cantor@glctn.org

“The Day Is Quickly Coming” – Clark (G or E)

1 The Day is quickly coming
When all will be remade.
The joyful sounds of Zion
Will rise and never fade.

The King will greet His people;
His kingdom will not end,
But all will be united
When Jesus will descend.

2 The nations all together,
All creatures great and small,
Will glorify the Father
And listen to His call.
No more will there be weeping;
No more will there be pain.
Nor more will death hold power—
But love will still remain.

3 So stay awake, believers,
And tell the world to wait
For Christ, our true Redeemer,
To open wide the gate.
No enemy will threaten,
For none will still be there,
But earth will join with heaven
In goodness ev'rywhere.

76 76 D

Suggested tune: LLANGLOFFAN (*LSB* 513)

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NOTES

PROPER 28 (November 13-19)

Zephaniah 1:7-16 The day of the Lord is near...a day of wrath and mourning.

Psalms 90:1-12 May the favor of the Lord our God rest upon us.

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 The Lord will come like a thief in the night...you are children of the light.

Matthew 25:14-30 The men given various talents...well done, good and faithful servant.

Recommended:

“How Small Our Span of Life, O God” – Stuenkel (PS) [WGF #60]

1 How small our span of life, O God,
our years from birth till death:
a single beat within the heart,
the catching of a breath,
a drop within the ocean's deep,
a grain upon the shore,
a flash of light before we sleep
to see the sun no more.

2 And yet our speck of life is spanned
by your infinity;
our tick of time on earth is caught
in your eternity.
While suns and stars spin endlessly
through depths of cosmic space,
while aeons roll and ages pass,
you hold us in your grace.

3 O Christ, you left eternity
to plunge in time's swift stream,
to share the shortness of our span,
our mortal lives redeem.
You filled your cross-closed years with love;
you loved us to the end
and touch us with your risen life
that ours may time transcend.

4 We thank you, God, for kindling faith
that lights our transient years,
illuminating our pilgrimage
through mists of doubt and fears;
for hope that seeks a life beyond
the swiftly passing days;
for love, both human and divine,
that lifts our hearts to praise.

CMD

Suggested tune: KINGSFOLD (*LSB* 444)

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“Just Like a Prairie Fire, God's Wrath” – Grindal (OT) [ATOF]

1 Just like a prairie fire, God's wrath
sweeps over towns and plains,
destroying all things in its path
till only ash remains.

2 Cruel tyrants, famines, floods, and wars
have wearied us with earth.
Thick darkness blots the twinkling stars,
and gold has lost its worth.

3 There's nothing we can do to change
the force of God's fierce will,
but trust the promise, wild and strange,
that Jesus will fulfill.

4 For he will lead us through the fire
and shield us in the flame—
to make us fit to stand before
our Father in his name.

CM

Suggested tune: BENZIE [ATOF, p. 124]

ST. ANNE (LSB 733) will also work.

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“The King Will Come at Age’s End” -Gauger (E) [CW 489]

1 The King will come at age’s end
the trumpets trill, the heavens rend
unveiling new Jerusalem.
Alleluia!

2 The Book of Life will name its names,
each bought by cross’s bitter pain,
each inked in blood and sealed in flame.
Alleluia!

3 All-glorious on his gleaming throne,
The King will claim his saints, his own

and with them dwell and make a home.
Alleluia!

4 And nights of tears, though late and long,
will disappear in splendid dawn,
and deeps of death will all be gone.
Alleluia!

5 Amen, amen! Lord Jesus, come!
My Savior fair, come bear me home,
for you are King of kings alone!
Alleluia!

88 84

Suggested tune: AGE’S END (CW 489)

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“Whatever Gifts We Have Received” – Starke [MATM #68]

1 Whatever gifts we have received,
Our talents, great or small,
We seek to use with faithfulness
To serve You, Lord of all.

2 Our futures hold bright days ahead
As we depart this place;
We leave as stewards managing
Your varied gifts of grace.

3 We stand commissioned by You, Lord!
You came as Servant King;
Your throne a cross; You reigned in love;
You served by suffering.

4 How resolute, O faithful Lord,
To do Your Father’s will!
Grant us the gifts to likewise serve
With zeal and love and skill.

5 We walk a path You have prepared,
Our faith alive with love,
Sure footsteps guided by Your Word,
Eyes fixed on You above.

6 So as we speak or as we serve
With strength by You supplied,
Our sole desire, Lord Jesus Christ—
Your name be glorified!

CM

Suggested tune: DAMASCUS ROAD (*LSB* 591)

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NOTES

PROPER 29 (November 20-26)

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 I will seek the lost...bring back the strayed...fat sheep and lean sheep.

Psalms 95:1-7a For he is our God and we are the sheep of his pasture.

1 Corinthians 15:20-28 As in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.

Matthew 25: 31-46 Come, you blessed of my Father...I was hungry...thirsty...naked...a stranger...sick...in prison.

Recommended:

“O Christ, You Walked among the Poor” – Stuenkel (G) [SoF #39]

1 O Christ, you walked among the poor;
though Lord, a servant's garb you wore.
You healed the blind, the deaf, the lame
and lifted hearts bowed low by shame.
The lost, the lonely, Lord, you sought,
and then this Word of truth you taught:
“If any minister to these,
they also minister to me!”

2 Still, Christ, you walk on streets of pain.
You hear the people cry again
for eyes that see, for hearts that care,
for hands whose touch is answered prayer.
Each day you come among us, Lord,
and speak your clear, compelling Word:
“If you will minister to them,
you also minister to me!”

3 Where age impairs or childhood pleads,
where any cry for mercy's deeds,
make us your living Body there,
your love to show, your peace to share.
Empow'r us by your Spirit, Lord.
conform our lives to match your Word:
“As now you minister to them,
you also minister to me!”

4 O Christ, our king, your cross a throne,
a wreath of thorns your royal crown,
you rule in deep humility;
your kingdom's law is charity,
Your love our lives for service claims;
your Word this promise still proclaims:
“Whoever ministers to them
has also ministered to me!”

LMD

Suggested tune: O GROSSER GOTT (*LSB* 538)

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“Return to Dwell among Us” – Squire (G)

1 Return to dwell among us, O Jesus, Lord, our King!
Come quickly and be gracious, with haste salvation bring.
As judgment fast approaches, the end is drawing nigh.
The world is yet disastrous, and groans from death's dark
sting.

2 These days are marked with grieving; false prophets lead
astray.
With wonders are deceiving and seek to steal away
The faithful from salvation, the chosen from the feast.
And some, who once believing, depart the narrow way.

3. Through pain and tribulation the faithful will endure.
The tempter's machination no longer will obscure
The Word of God proclaiming salvation, life, and peace,
A coming, new creation and resurrection pure.

His reign is never ending as prophets have foretold.
The Alpha and Omega, He is the first and last
Our imperfections mending, no blessings does withhold!

4. He comes in clouds descending, and every eye behold

76 76 D

Suggested tune: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG (LSB 515)

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pastorsquire@myomnitel.com.

“The Clouds and Darkness of November” – Grindal (OT) [ATOF]

1 The clouds and darkness of November
have scattered me about.
My faith is weak, like flick'ring embers
that flame and then die out,
as I am filled with doubt.

2 Come, Lord, my Shepherd, safely lead me
into a pleasant place
where I can rest with one who feeds me.

For when I see your face,
my heart is filled with praise.

3 We'll live in green and pleasant pastures,
where we can safely rest
beside the clear and sparkling waters
as your beloved guest,
with all of heaven's blest.

96 966

Suggested tune: KALKASKA [ATOF, p. 125]

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“O Come and Sing to God the Lord” The *Venite* -Starke (PS) [OSOC # 116]

1 O come and sing to God the Lord!
Let ev’ry note and ev’ry chord
The rock of our salvation sing,
Our thanks into His presence bring!

2 Come shout and make a joyful noise,
With songs of praise let us rejoice.
The Lord is great, a God whose worth
Exceeds all rulers of the earth.

3 The dark ravine, the deep abyss,
The mountain heights, they all are His;

He made the sea and with His hand
He formed the contours of the land!

4 Come kneel and worship, bowing down
Before this Lord of such renown.
Our Maker and our God is He
And His beloved flock are we!

5 To God the Father, God the Son,
To God the Spirit—Three in One—
Sing glory, honor, praise again
Both now and evermore! Amen.

LM

Suggested tune: MORNING HYMN (LSB 868)

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“He Lives! He Lives! – Starke (E) [OSOC #24]

Refrain:

He lives! He lives!—The Lamb who once was slain!
He lives! Our Lord now raised to life again!

3 That which is sown in weakness and with tears
Is raised in glory when our Lord appears! *Refrain*

1 For as in Adam, death we all derive;
So too in Christ shall all be made alive! *Refrain*

4 Then shall the truth long-promised come to be:
All death is swallowed up in victory! *Refrain*

2 Christ is the firstfruits and the guarantee:
A harvest clothed with immortality! *Refrain*

5 So may His conquest all our doubts destroy,
For Jesus lives—our resurrection joy! *Refrain*

10 10 and refrain

Tune: CRUCIFER (LSB 837)

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“May Our Lord Soon Bring That Day” – Starke (G) [MATM # 80]

1 May our Lord soon bring that day
He is yet adjourning
And as judge to us then say
At His bright returning:
“Come ye, by My Father blest,
Take what you inherit;
Enter heaven’s endless rest,
Made for you to share it.

3 I was sick, in need of care,
To My ills you tended;
When I was imprisoned, there
You My shame befriended.
Thus I say assuredly:
What you did for others,
These good things You did for Me
Through My lowly brothers.”

2 “For you heard My hungry cry
And in love You fed Me;
When my throat was parched and dry,
To a drink you led Me;
I, a stranger, nonetheless
In your home you brought Me;
I, in wretched nakedness
Till you clothing bought Me;

4 Thus good Christians, one and all,
Let us with compassion
Heed our gen’rous Master’s call
And in zealous fashion
Labor on, through acts of love,
Tender mercy spreading,
Serve our King who reigns above,
In His footsteps treading.

76 76 D

Suggested tune: TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM (*LSB* 374)

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“See, He Comes, the King of Glory” – Gauger (G) [CW 494]

1 See, he comes, the King of Glory,
angels blazing round his throne,
wielding wrath to those who spurned him,
bearing blessings for his own.
Do not dread that day, dear Christian!
Do not fear his fearsome face,
for the judge is our dear Savior;
we are guarded by his grace.

3 See, he comes, the King of Glory,
with a kingdom to award.
We have not deserved or earned it;
it’s his gift, not our reward.
All our works are but an off’ring
of our gratitude and praise.
We serve not so God will save us;
we serve God because we’re saved.

2 See, he comes, the King of glory,
naming deeds we did for him:
feeding, clothing, sharing, caring,
visiting, inviting in.
We may ask, "When did we do this—
show you, Lord, such courtesy?"
He will say, "The least, the lowly—
serving them was serving me."

4 Till he comes, the King of glory,
angels blazing round his throne,
we will turn our eyes to heaven,
tune our ears to trumpet's tone.
But we won't neglect our neighbors
Needing comfort, shelter, love.
Kindnesses for friends and strangers
serve our Savior-King above.

87 87 D

Suggested tune: SEE, HE COMES (CW 494) or HYFRYDOL (LSB 700)

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“Lord, All Praise for Saints Before Us” – Starke (G) [OSOC #82]

1 Lord, all praise for saints before us
Who, by faith, have run life’s race,
Now their blessed lives bear witness
Of Your all-sustaining grace:
Help us, Lord, Your baptized children
To their cross-shaped steps retrace.

2 In these days of tribulation,
False messiahs spread their lies,
Tempting the elect to falter,
Fear, and faithless compromise;
Yet our hope, O Christ, is anchored
In Your Word that makes us wise.

3 Son of Man, when You in glory
Shall return as Judge decreed,
Faith will be revealed by actions

That have met our neighbor’s need:
Alms and prayers and works of kindness,
Done in love for You indeed.

4 Lord, Your meal of thanks is foretaste
Of that endless feast above;
May we, as your gathered people,
Wise and watchful, ready prove:
Serving You, our heav’nly Bridegroom,
Till You call us home in love.

5 Father, fountainhead of mercy,
Source of love, so broad, so deep;
Son of God, Your mercy charges:
“Feed My lambs and feed My sheep;”
Spirit, by Your mercy, call, en-
lighten, sanctify, and keep!

87 87 87

Suggested tune: CONCORDIA by Nancy Raabe. Copyright © 2025. For a copy and permission to use, contact her at nancyraabe@gmail.com.

FORTUNATUS NEW (*LSB* 454) or REGENT SQUARE (*LSB* 367) will also work.

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NOTES

HOLY CROSS DAY (September 14th)

Numbers 21:4-9 The bronze snake is lifted up.

Psalm 40:1-11 Be pleased, O LORD, to save me.

1 Corinthians 1:18-25 The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing...

John 12:20-33 When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all men to myself.

Recommended:

“On a Cross Uplifted High” – Rogner (Holy Cross Themes)

1 On a cross uplifted high
You were raised, O Christ, to die;
Draw us, Savior, there to see
Our salvation, full and free.
Foolish, to the worldly-wise,
Is the cross before our eyes,
But for us by faith it shines,
God’s great wisdom, pow’r divine.

3 Send us out, Lord, undeterred;
Make us doers of Your word,
Gladly taking up our cross,
Finding gain in ev’ry loss.
When we faint with doubt or fear,
May Your cross to us appear:
Sign of vict’ry, glorious sight,
Source of hope and guiding light.

2 In this sign You meet us, Lord,
At the font, with water poured,
When Your holy cross is marked
On each forehead, on each heart.
Daily, that imprinted sign
So conforms the heart and mind
To the Pattern from above,
Image of God’s perfect love.

77 77 D

Suggested tune: Jonathan Kohrs has written a wonderful tune for this text. See CPH anthem (2020) 98-4343.

Another possible tune is ST. GEORGE’S, WINDSOR (*LSB* 394)

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(cont’d)

“Covenantal Cross of Splendor” – Joshua Tegatz (Holy Cross Themes)

1 Covenantal cross of splendor,
Gleaming portal of God’s heart,
Sign of grace for the offender,
Canvas of love’s highest art.
Fullness of His words of old,
Key of promises foretold.

2 Satan bruised the second Adam,
Nailed Him to the cursed tree.
But the Lamb of God, victorious,
Crushed the serpent’s jubilee.
Second tree of plenteous fruit,
Symbol of our substitute.

3 Through the promised seed of Abram,
Heaven’s gates stand open wide,
Heralding sublime adoption
To all who by faith abide.
Portal of our Promised Land,
Token of God’s loving hand.

4 Jesus Christ, foretold Messiah,
Broken in humility,
Took our sin upon His shoulders,
Answered our most desperate plea.
Cross of reconciling love!
Site of favor from above.

5 Covenantal cross of splendor,
Gleaming portal of God’s heart,
Sign of grace for the offender,
Canvas of love’s highest art.
Final word of saving grace,
On our heads the cross we trace.

87 87 77

David Gilson has composed an original tune for this text. Contact him at dgilson@hcross.com.
UNSER HERRSCHER (*LSB* 901) or ALL SAINTS (*LSB* 485) also work.

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NOTES

ORDINATION/INSTALLATION

Recommended:

“Lord of Truth, Speak through Your Servant” – Clark (A Prayer for the Installation of Pastor Matthew Clark at Ascension Lutheran Church, St. Louis, Missouri, on October 6, 2013)

1 Lord of truth, speak through Your servant;
Send Your Word as You intend.
Make our thoughts and ways more fervent;
May Your grace on us descend.
Grant the seed and guide the sower;
Fill our hearts with fertile ground.
O Creator, faithful Grower,
May our fruit of love abound.

2 Lord of life, throughout the ages,
Give Your humble teachers aid.
As they share Your sacred pages,
Let their strength in You not fade.
Through each time and ev’ry season,
Help them speak Your truth in love,
Spreading far and wide the reason
For our hope in things above.

3 Lord of love, God of the nations,
You have given us Your Word.
Let us witness from our stations
What we now have seen and heard.
As we pray for faithful preaching,
Let our praise to You ascend.
To all corners You are reaching
With a peace that will not end.

4 Glory to our loving Father,
Keep Your servants firm and true.
Glory to the Holy Spirit,
Fill us with Your life anew.
Glory to the Son, our Savior,
Word made flesh and holy Priest:
You have won Your Father’s favor
For the greatest and the least.

87 87 D

Suggested tune: BEACH SPRING (*LSB* 848)

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NOTES

DEDICATION/ANNIVERSARY

Recommended:

“As Stone on Living Stone Is Set” – Clark [OAR #260] (In thankfulness to God for 100 years of granting His grace through Hope Ev. Lutheran Church, St. Louis, Missouri)

1 As stone on living stone is set
For worship on this ground,
Hold fast onto the Cornerstone,
The one foundation sound.
Held firm through generations
With God’s own power shored.
In ages past, for years to come,
Our hope is in the Lord.

2 Now we approach this holy place
With confidence secure;
The Lamb of God has cleansed our hearts
And made our spirits pure.
The sacrifice completed,
His holy blood outpoured.
O people, come and marvel here
What love Christ will afford.

3 When steeples fall and bells are mute
And temple stones thrown down,
We waver not but trust in Him
Who wears th’eternal crown.
The Church awaits with longing
For all to be restored.

Though ruins lie about our feet,
Our King is still adored.

4 Bear witness to the nations, then.
The Day is drawing near.
In full assurance, spread the Word.
In love, serve without fear.
Though persecution threatens,
The Word of God abhorred,
The faithful One is coming soon
And gives His sure reward.

5 No church or temple will be seen
When saints and angels meet.
The Church Triumphant will bow down
And worship at Christ’s feet.
Prepare all hearts and voices
To praise in joyful chord:
“In ages past and evermore,
Our hope is in the Lord!”

86 86 66 86

Suggested tune: Kevin Hildebrand has written a wonderful tune, NEOSHO/OAR #260, for this text.
Contact him at kevin.hildebrand@ctsfw.edu

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NOTES

CHRISTIAN FAMILY (Mother's Day, Father's Day)

(Although Mother's Day and Father's Day are not a part of the Church's calendar, still the service offers an opportunity to lift up in prayer and song the Christian vocation of parenthood and the blessings of the Christian family.)

Recommended:

"How Certain Is the House that Stands" – Rogner (For Karen and Warren Clausing, on their 50th wedding anniversary)

1 How certain is the house that stands
Upon the rock of Christ alone,
With timbers formed of God's commands,
His precepts in each beam and stone,
Each room a loving Gospel-space,
The roof a hov'ring Spirit-grace.

3 How blest the years when children grow,
The house of faith a home secure,
Where joys can shout and tears can flow,
Where love forgives and hopes endure,
Where children learn and parents teach,
Where God is served in act and speech.

2 How great the day when man and wife
Are joined in Christ, becoming one,
And pledge to live a faithful life
And serve the Lord in all things done,
With prayers their Christ-built home may be
The dwelling of a family.

4 How gracious is the God of years,
Who crowns our lives with faithfulness.
Another generation hears
The call to faith and blessedness.
Our children's children grow in grace,
The Christian home their dwelling place.

88 88 88

Suggested tune: Jonathan Stahlke has written a wonderful tune---CLAUSING--- for this text. Contact him at jonathan.stalke@cuchicago.edu

Another possible tune is ALL EHR UND LOB (LSB 500)

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"Gather Your Children, Dear Savior, in Peace" – Vajda [SP, 82]

1 Gather your children, dear Savior, in peace,
And draw us to you with your passionate pleas;
Still seek us and call us to come and be blessed.
To find in your arms, Lord, safety, comfort and rest.

3 Love be our banner, forgiveness our theme,
Compassion our nature, your vision our dream;
Who knows what the Spirit of God yet can do,
What joy may be tasted, or what promise come true?

2 Knowing you, loving you, naming you Lord,
We cluster around you and grow by your Word,
One day to remember these moments so rare,
Of caring and closeness, just because you are there.

4 Host at our table in our house and yours,
Here bind us together with love that endures;
Like parents, like children, let this be our fame:
That, blest, we bless many, to the praise of your name.

10 11 11 12

Suggested tune: SLANE (LSB 861)

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“Faithful God, Our Ground of Being” – Rogner

1 Faithful God, our Ground of Being,
Source of strength from youth to age,
Patient, watchful, overseeing
All our earthly pilgrimage,
Lead us forward, gracious Friend,
Guide us to our journey’s end.

2 In our mothers’ arms You held us,
Nurtured us with loving care,
While we stammered, weak and helpless,
Of Your mercy unaware.
Day by day You bade us grow
In the grace that You bestow.

3 Grown in stature, strong and willing,
We took up each daily task,
In our deeds Your call fulfilling,
Blessed with more than we could ask.
Long we labor, great our joy
At the Master’s work employed.

4 When we feel our strength diminish,
Weakened limbs and dimming eyes,
Help us then our race to finish,
Straining toward the heav’nly prize.
Precious Savior, hold us fast,
God our hope from first to last..

87 87 77

Suggested original tune: GROUND OF BEING by Joel Freiberg. Contact: crf_freibej@cuchicago.edu
UNSER HERRSCHER (LSB 901) will also work.

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