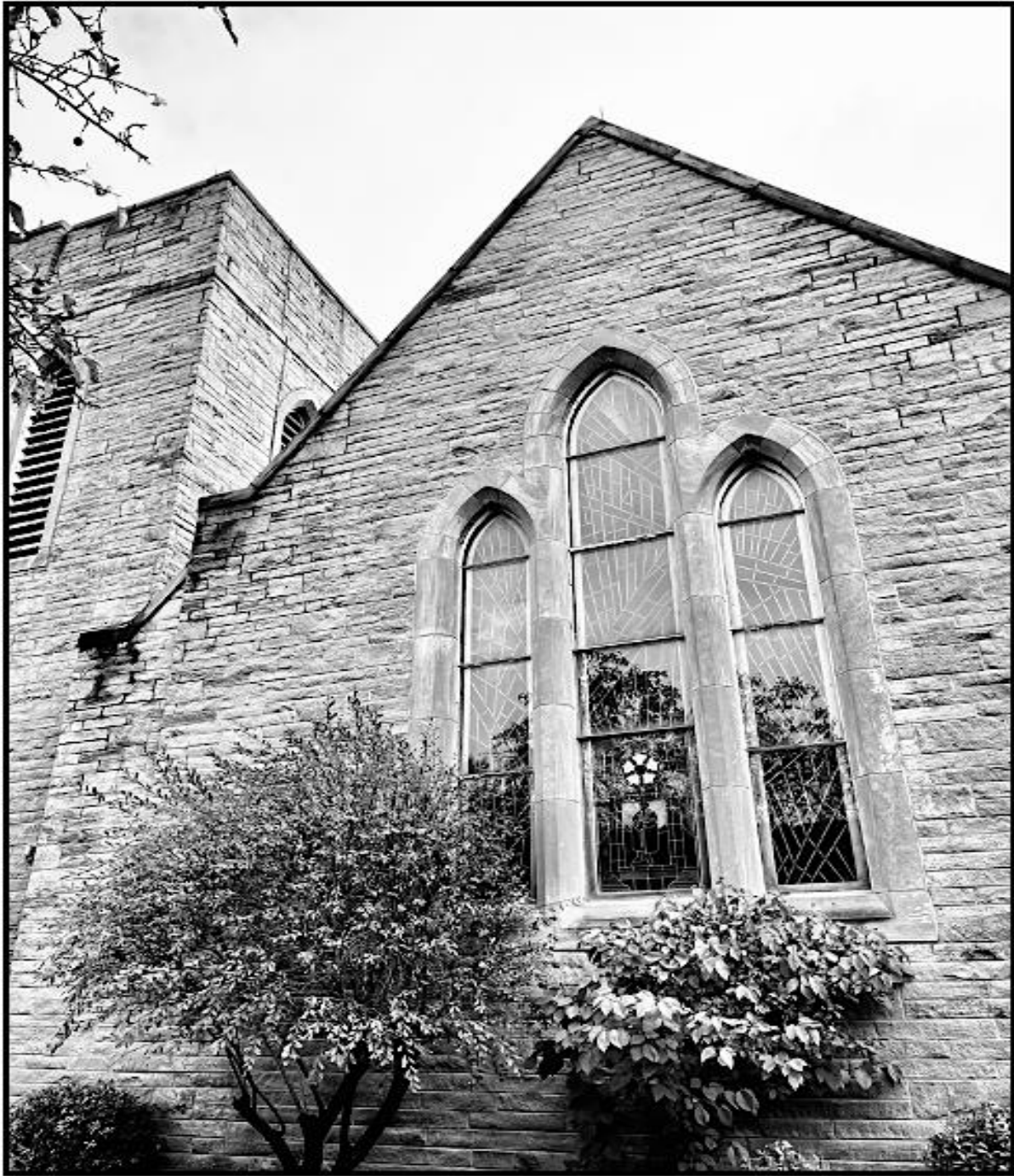


# THE 25TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 19, 2023



Christ Lutheran Church - St. Catharines, Ontario

140 Russell Avenue  
St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 1W1  
Church: 905-685-8294  
[www.christlutheransc.ca](http://www.christlutheransc.ca)

\*\*\*\*\*

**Office Hours:** Tuesday to Friday—9 a.m. – 12 noon  
**Bulletin Announcements:** Please send to [secretary@christlutheransc.ca](mailto:secretary@christlutheransc.ca).  
Deadline for submission is Thursday at 9 a.m.

**Pastor:** Pastor Todd Hoefts (289-362-0113) [pastortoddhoefts@gmail.com](mailto:pastortoddhoefts@gmail.com)  
**Parish Assistant:** Louise Gondosch (905-329-8579) [parish.assistant@christlutheransc.ca](mailto:parish.assistant@christlutheransc.ca)  
**Business Manager:** Karen McCumber [business.manager@christlutheransc.ca](mailto:business.manager@christlutheransc.ca)  
**Secretary:** Pat Kimpel [secretary@christlutheransc.ca](mailto:secretary@christlutheransc.ca)  
**Facebook:** Lisa Gall [www.facebook.com/ChristLutheranChurchSC](http://www.facebook.com/ChristLutheranChurchSC)  
**Bulletin by email:** [chairman.outreach@christlutheransc.ca](mailto:chairman.outreach@christlutheransc.ca)

A recording of Sunday's service will be uploaded to YouTube at:  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpING\\_TKT19c\\_OIBbMqGwLw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpING_TKT19c_OIBbMqGwLw)

\*\*\*\*\*

**Prayer:** O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, being ever mindful of the end of all things and Your just judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You forever hereafter; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**DAILY SCRIPTURE MEDITATIONS:**

Monday: Matt. 24: 1-8                      Wed.: Matt.24: 29-35                      Friday: 11 Thess. 2: 1-12  
Tuesday: Matt. 24: 9-14                      Thurs: Matt. 24: 36-42                      Saturday: Matt. 24: 45-51

**Musician:** Mayumi Munoz  
**Reader:** Vijay Samuel

**EVENTS THIS WEEK:**

Today: 9:00 - 9:50 a.m.: Sunday School, Youth CHAT/Bible Study, Coffee Hour  
10:00 am – Worship – Pentecost 25 – Divine Service Setting 3  
Monday: 10:00 -11:00 a.m. – Luther Manor Bible Study  
7:30 p.m. – Choir Practice  
Tuesday: CHURCH DIRECTORY PICTURES  
9:30 – 11:00 am. – Precious Moments  
7:00 p.m. – Mary Martha (packing “Out of Cold” socks)  
Wednesday: CHURCH DIRECTORT PICTURES  
Thursday: CHURCH DIRECTORY PICTURES  
12:00 pm – Bazaar Set-up  
7:00 p.m. – Women’s Bible Study (see note below)  
Friday: CHURCH DIRECTORY PICTURES  
9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. –Bazaar Set-up (Bring in your donations)  
Saturday: 9:00 am. To 2 p.m. – CHRISTMAS BAZAAR (Everyone invited & welcome!)

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:**

- Every Sunday from 9:00 - 9:50 a.m.
- **TODAY:** We are learning about how God leads Gideon to reduce his army from 32000 to only 300 strong. Reassured by God, Gideon moves forward and God enables them to defeat the Midianite force armed with just trumpets and torches. **Memory Verse: ‘The Lord is my helper, I will not fear.’ Heb 13:6**
- **SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM:** We are so excited to be having a program this year! We encourage parents and grandparents to bring children to Sunday School as we will be starting song and bell practices this Sunday.
- **ADVENT CALENDARS:** Please note that we will be doing our Annual Advent Calendars in Sunday School next week November 26th. This is always an exciting event for children. Friends are welcome to join us!

**YOUTH & CONFIRMAND CHAT:** Starting Today at 9:00 - 9:50 all Youth & Confirmands are invited to **CHAT/Bible Study**. One of our youth leaders Dan Figueroa will be leading today and the next 3 weeks. Grab a coffee, tea or juice and meet in the youth room. If you have some future topic ideas let us know!



# CHRIST'S CAFÉ

Hope to see you downstairs

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

for Coffee, Tea & Treats!!

Anyone willing to help serve or bring treats, please contact:

Judy Mason 905-641-7546

**LWML-C Zone/National Events:** You are invited to any or all of the events below.

**LWML-C/Mary Martha Christ Lutheran Events:**

Tuesday, November 21 7:00 pm – Packaging “Warm feet for the Streets” Care Kits for “Out of the Cold”

Saturday, November 25, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm – Christmas Bazaar

Tuesday, December 19, 5:30 pm – Advent/Christmas Potluck (blessing) Dinner & Program



**Photos will be taken:**

- Tuesday, November 21
- Wednesday, November 22
- Thursday, November 23
- Friday, November 24

Please sign up at the back of the church for the day and time that best suits you.

Thank You!!

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY**--We invite you to join us **Thursday, Nov. 23, 7:15 pm** at Lia's (22 Rampart Dr.) as together we watch '*Under Jakob's Ladder*', a story of Pastor Munoz's great grandfather who was a preacher/teacher in a village in Ukraine. Jakob was arrested for saying the Lord's Prayer at a funeral. The story tells of God's provision for him. Please join us

## TREE TRIMMING & DECORATING THE CHURCH

(Decorate the Christmas Trees and Church)

Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup> @ 4:00 p.m.

Dinner of Lasagna, Salads & Desserts to follow!!

*Please sign up for attendance in the narthex  
& for help with the side dishes*

*or email: [secretary@christlutheransc.ca](mailto:secretary@christlutheransc.ca)*



**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, SNYDER - CHRISTMAS CRAFT & BAKE SALE:** Saturday, December 2, 3837 Netherby Road, Stevensville.

# Christmas Bazaar

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 9 A.M. - 2 P.M.

Support for our Community and around the world!:

- *Out of the Cold;*
- *Mobile Closet;*
- *Start Me Up Niagara*
- Canadian Lutheran World Relief
- SOUL Ministries
- Our Sponsored Refugee
- Medical Missions
- Haiti
- Nicaragua
- Lutheran Bible Translators

Featuring :

- Baking
- Deli (meat pies, cabbage rolls, preserves, summer sausage)
- Crafts (& gifts)
- Nearly New Table (many Christmas Items)
- Silent Auction (*see Judy Mason for info*)

Served from the Kitchen: Hot Lunch Featuring both DINE IN & TAKE OUT Options

*Please come and Invite your friends!*



Support our efforts to raise funds for Missions. We greatly appreciate your help!

## PLEASE HELP US ADVERTISE:

- ❖ Please take a poster if you have any area (like in a condo or apartment building) where you could post one, or if you could give one to a friend from another church to post there. (extras in the Narthex)
- ❖ Take invitations and please pass them to your friends.

## DONATIONS:

- ❖ Please consider making donations to the **Bake, Deli, or Craft Tables or Judy's Silent Auction** (see her note about that)
- ❖ The **Bake & Deli Tables** will have the same lovely array of items you are used to finding but come early for best selection.
- ❖ ***We would be pleased to receive your donations any time on the Friday (Nov. 24) up until 8 p.m.***
- ❖ Record books will be at the Tables on Friday, to record what you have made for the Bake & Deli. (requested by Public Health) Please write inside.
- ❖ You may price your own, or we will price it on the Friday after it's brought in--your choice. Thank you in advance.
- ❖ Lorraine is suggesting that the **Craft Table** might also become an area that includes gift items. Do you have something you could contribute for that?
- ❖ Any items you may have for the "**Nearly New**" Tables may be brought in at any time and placed in the back-room downstairs. Please bring only good quality items. We no longer have a white elephant area. These are meant to be things that are, as the name suggests, in nearly new or gently used condition.
- ❖ If you have any questions, please contact Carole or any of our M.M./LWML ladies.



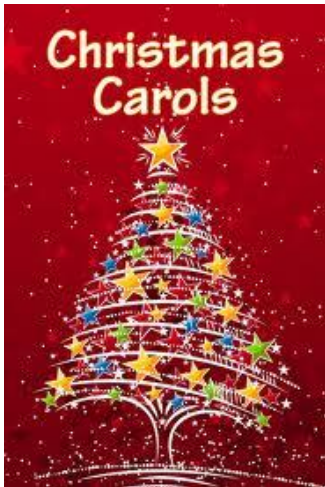
**SILENT AUCTION:** I am collecting items for the upcoming Silent Auction portion of the Bazaar. **Suggestions:**

- ✓ Bottles of Wine,
- ✓ Gift Cards for Restaurants, LCBO, Beer Store, movies etc.
- ✓ Hockey Tickets (ICE DOGS – *if you have season tickets and know there is a game you cannot use, please donate it.*)

**Thank You, Judy Mason**

**CONCORDIA LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY - ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS 2023:**

December 3, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. 470 Glenridge Ave., St. Catharines.. Free-will offering. Parking available at the building for those with limited mobility. Others please park in nearby Brock Lots E or O. *Featuring Scripture readings and hymns, choral music, organ, brass and violin.*



# Christmas Carol Sing-a-Long

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 6:30 PM

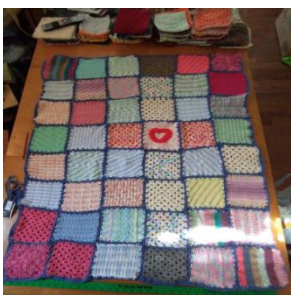
Fellowship to follow

Please bring along a favourite dessert or treat to share.  
Beverages will be provided.

*Everyone Welcome*

<u>Last Sunday Attendance:</u>		<u>Nov. 12th, 2023</u>	<u>Attn: 10 a.m. – 105</u>	<u>SOUL:</u>	
<u>Budget</u>		<u>Weekly Need</u>	<u>Last Sunday</u>	<u>Year To Date</u>	<u>+ or – (--)</u>
Current	297,841.00	5,840.02	2,398.45	232,420.07	(8,143.81)
LCC Missions	17,000.00	333.33	135.00	13,655.00	(75.77)
Property Improvement:			154.00	5,481.00	

**FLOWERS** have been placed on the altar this morning to the Glory of God by the Harmer Family and Sonya Eppinger in loving memory of Helmut Eppinger.



**Granny Squares still needed:** This is an ongoing project we will gratefully accept more completed 6 inch knitted or crocheted Granny Squares in any pattern or colour. We would also appreciate any yarn that you may have, leftover yarn or full balls of yarn. In the narthex there is a white cube with yarn and hooks that you are welcome to take (or donate). There is another basket for completed squares. Once there are enough, we will make a Caring Squares blanket for whoever may be in need of a hug. On behalf of the Caring Squares, if you have any questions, call Lorraine at 905 964 5837)

**USED STAMPS:** Start saving and collecting your used stamps now! They will be gathered at the LWML-C Convention and donated to a charity who will in turn use them to purchase spiritual resources like Bibles.

**NEEDED: Men's shoes and boots.** The Niagara Mobile Closet is in need of men's shoes and boots for the homeless. Please drop off in the box at the back of the church. Thank You!



# “WARM FEET FOR THE STREET”



THE LWML / MARY MARTHA  
are filling warm socks for the “Out of the Cold” program at their  
November meeting.

## Contributions of any of the following would be most appreciated:

- Large, warm socks
- Toothpaste
- Lip balm
- Hand and Foot warmers
- Conditioner (travel size)
- Shampoo (travel size)
- Deodorant
- Bars of soap (travel size)
- Hand Lotion (travel size)
- Plastic Band-aids
- Small packages of Kleenex
- Hats
- Scarves
- Warm Gloves

There’s a box at the back for your donations.

For more information, please contact Wendy Hyatt or Paytra Schurmann-Smith



## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX GIFT

Operation Christmas Child has become a Holiday tradition for many of us here at Christ Church. The love and care put into every shoebox gift has changed the lives of children worldwide, and I think we can say it has changed us as well. Together, let’s continue to make these children an important part of our Christmas celebration by extending Christ’s love and compassion.

([www.samaritanspurse.ca](http://www.samaritanspurse.ca))

### HOW TO PACK YOUR SHOEBOX

1. Pick up a designated shoebox from the narthex.
2. Decide on the category and age. Girl/Boy 2-4; 5-9; 10-14
3. Fill the box, mark it and put an elastic around it.
4. Enclose a \$10.00 cheque (made out to Christ Lutheran) to cover postage to send your box and put it in the offering basket – designated “Samaritan’s Purse” – CLC will tax receipt your donation and mail donations to Samaritan’s Purse as a lump sum.
5. Drop your box off at the Church by Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>.

### SUGGESTED GIFTS

- Toys: slinky, yo-yo, kazoos, animals, stickers, dolls, balls, cars
- School Supplies: pens, paper, stamps, markers, calculators, pencil crayons & sharpener, colouring books
- Hygiene Items: soap, toothbrush, comb, washcloth, **NO** toothpaste or shampoo
- Other: hard candy only, sunglasses, ball caps, socks, flip flops, watches, hairclips, T-shirts, underwear, small picture books, flashlights, batteries

Please **DO NOT** include: used items, war related items, medicines, cosmetics, breakable items, perishable foods or liquids (shampoo, etc.), gum

## ***Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow!***



We received an email from the immigration office in Rome on Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> that **Kareem, Hamida, Ameer, and Asser will arrive at the Toronto Airport on Thursday, November 23 at 5:00 P.M.**

### ***Kareem's "BIG HOPE" is becoming reality!***

God has answered our prayers over the past 3 years on his time schedule, and as frustrated as we were at times God is always faithful, and we thank Him for his great love.

Ameer celebrated his 6<sup>th</sup> Birthday on November 15<sup>th</sup> in Greece with a chocolate cake. He was one very happy little boy. Asser will celebrate his 4<sup>th</sup> birthday on January 9<sup>th</sup> here in Canada. These little boys are about to experience a lot of firsts in their lives: a plane ride and airport experience, a car ride which most of our children have experienced since birth, a very different and unique climate, a new language to learn, so many and exciting experiences for them, even milk that come in bags!!!!

Needless to say the committee has sprung into action to make the final preparations for their arrival. The donations of furniture have been placed in the rooms. Members have donated the funds to purchase the new mattresses as required by the government. So many of you have stepped forward to assist in many different ways and have given donations in kind. We are so thankful to everyone. Ivy has continued to make lists and checking them off. Sue and Lorraine have gone out grocery shopping to have some food in the kitchen for Hamida to prepare for her family. I am sure we have forgotten something, but God is so good.

With their final arrival coming so quickly we haven't been able to put food lists in the bulletin. Some people have donated items and some we have purchased. We thank God for giving us the wisdom to rent accommodation for the family starting November 1<sup>st</sup>. We thank the council of Christ Lutheran for giving us the freedom to go out and obtain rental accommodation not knowing the exact time of their arrival. We cannot thank God enough for leading us through this whole process.

There is still much to do to have the family settled in Canada: appointments at Service Canada, and Service Ontario, a bank account to be set up for them, bus passes for the family to use the bus system here in St. Catharines, showing them where best to shop to get the best value, language tests to be arranged for Kareem and Hamida, language training for them, having Ameer enrolled in school, and many other things. We will need your continued financial donations so that we can fulfill our promise to the government to look after this family financially over the next year. And of course we need to continue to hold and keep Kareem, Hamida, Ameer, and Asser in prayer.

***God's Blessings, and Thank You, from your Committee,***

***Ivy, Sue, Lorraine, Howard, Tim, and Pastor John, and our dear Erna McBride.***

***"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Gideon's Adventure

G Y J J E R D L P N E U F I G H T Z E B A A L H  
Z Q D B P C P X U G F V V X H C H M T C L S E R  
I A N N D R E S T J W G Q K X S J K I D K F D Q  
C B D I V T M T I O V P L L U B D J J R S Z W R  
A Z G O D I J J I A U A F V N Q Y F X N Q Y G B  
P A V A L W G Q O S N V D K Z U H G S Q D B W C  
W J I Z V Z X G A H I X A T B Q A V L R Y D M O  
D B F M I W B K C V X Q P S Y A R X H M L D V U  
I R B T G J B W K M L P I S N L E V S H A S U S  
E E Q R M W A R R I O R E N A T H U W I E E O P  
D A B K Y J J N V S F G W E I A S H O L R R D U  
F D Z F D X D T J A M B D K D R A E R M S V E M  
L W J P X I Y X V R I C A X I Z X R D A I A P C  
I N S L M F A F D F V C W B M W P I E X Q N P A  
D E K S R A J Y T P M E W O Z Q O F S A K T A L  
I G E D N W E T F L E E C E F H M G E F M S L K  
I X R E T L T A E P O Z S C X A U Y H L Y E J P  
H V N H E F U L T R U M P E T S O D W E M V A O  
L T O S W D L V H L Z C P G P M T H L E G I V X  
F A E A W M Z G D I G H V G J Q F K L C V L R E  
E K D M A X Z H L J A O K M K M C P L E X D C E  
W E I S Y C S V K Q R R U U T U K A P P V G D W  
J J G D V S B T T U V J J T Z H F H A J U D G E  
J F R T V Z C O U L N V G D V D R Y F L E E C E

sword  
rest  
baal  
evil  
God  
midian

smashed  
lapped  
bread  
fire  
isreal  
servant

trumpets  
altar  
bull  
fleece  
Joash  
Warrior

empty jars  
asherah  
dry fleece  
Gideon  
Judge  
wet fleece





# Christmas To-Do List

Be

-~~Buy~~ Presents

-Wrap ~~Gifts~~ Someone  
in a hug

-Send ~~Gifts~~ Peace

Donate

-~~Shop~~ for Food

Be

-~~See~~ the Lights



SIMPLY-WELL-BALANCED.COM

SERVICE OF THE WORD  
*Lutheran Service Book Setting Three*  
The 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
November 19, 2023 + 10 AM Worship

OPENING HYMN:

*"Christ Beside Me"*

[Tune: Praise & Thanksgiving]



1. Christ be - side me, Christ be - fore me, Christ be -  
2. Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand, Christ all a -  
3. Christ be in all hearts think - ing a - bout me, Christ be on

hind me - king of my heart; Christ with - in me,  
round me - shield in the strife; Christ in my sleep - ing,  
all tongues tell - ing of me; Christ be the vi - sion

Christ be - low me, Christ a - bove me - nev - er to part.  
Christ in my sit - ting, Christ in my ris - ing - light of my life.  
in eyes that see me, in ears that hear me Christ ev - er be.

WORDS: Adapt. James Quinn, 1969, alt.; from *St. Patrick's Breastplate*  
MUSIC: Traditional Gaelic melody; arr. David Evans, 1927  
Music used by permission of Oxford University Press

BUNESSAN  
5.5.5.4.D.

<https://www.pinterest.ca/pin/232779874459667055/>

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS :**

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**who made heaven and earth.**

I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*[Brief silence for prayerful thoughts for self-awareness.]*

O Almighty God, Merciful Father,

I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

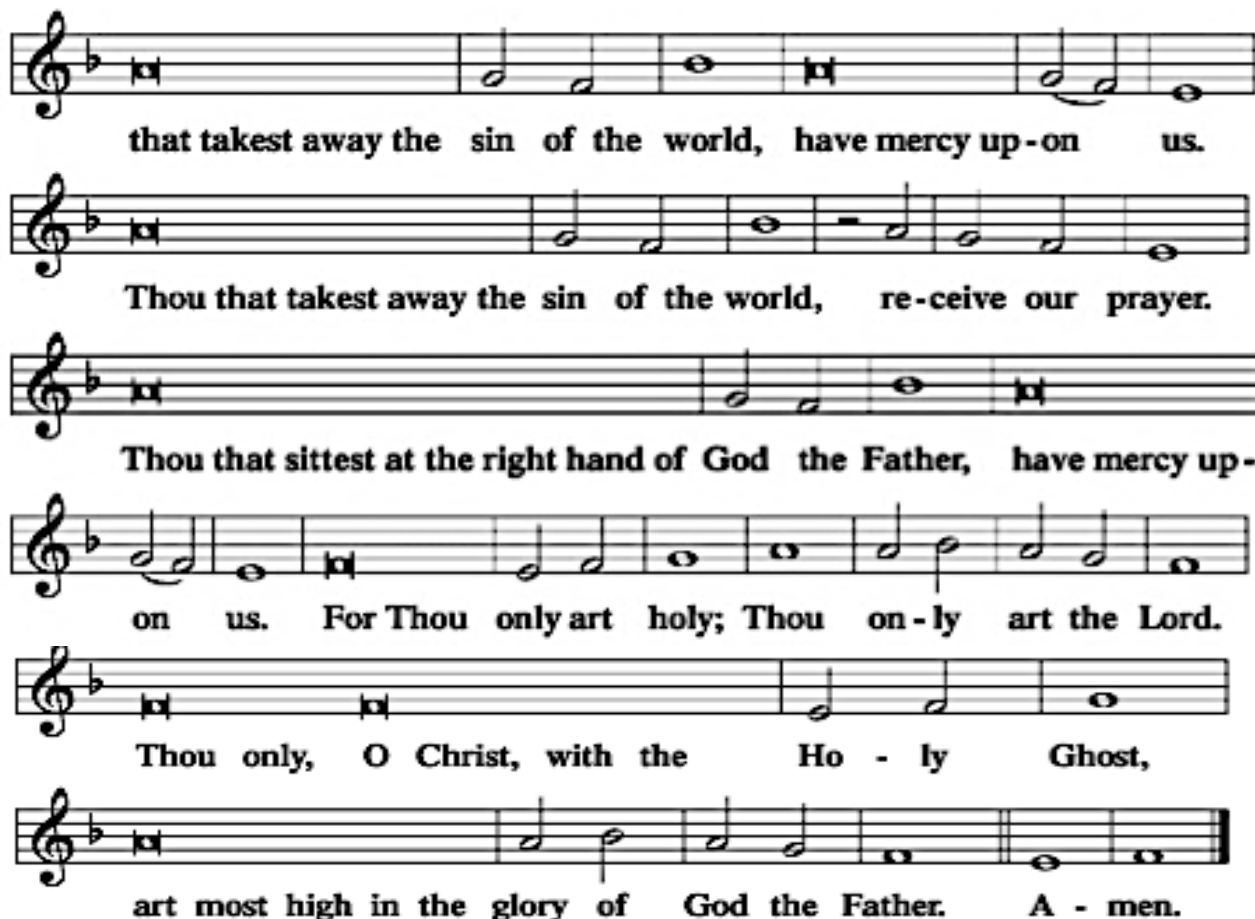
Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

### LORD, HAVE MERCY [KYRIE]

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

### HYMN OF PRAISE [GLORIA]

Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward  
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,  
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.  
O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.  
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-

on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. A-men.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY:

We pray: Lord God, govern our hearts by your Holy Spirit. Make us mindful of the end of all things and the day of Your just judgment. Stir us up to lead holy lives and let us live with You forever. We ask this through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### SERVICE OF THE WORD

**The Old Testament:** *Zephaniah 1: 7, 12-18*

Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is near; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice and consecrated his guests... At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the men who are complacent, those who say in their hearts, 'The LORD will not do good, nor will he do ill.' Their goods shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them." The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter; the mighty man cries aloud there. A day of wrath is that day, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. I will bring distress on mankind, so that they shall walk like the blind, because they have sinned against the LORD; their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. Neither their silver nor their gold shall be able to deliver them on the day of the wrath of the LORD. In the fire of his jealousy, all the earth shall be consumed; for a full and sudden end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## The Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11

[St. Paul writes:] Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you have no need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing. This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## CHOIR ANTHEM:

## WHEN WE ARE LIVING

When we are living, it is in Christ Jesus  
And when we're dying, it is in The Lord.  
Both in our living and in our dying,  
We belong to God, we belong to God.

Mid times of sorrow and in times of pain,  
When sensing beauty or in love's embrace,  
Whether we suffer or sing rejoicing,  
We belong to God, we belong to God.

Through all our living, we our fruits must  
give.  
Good works of service are for offering.  
When we are giving or when receiving,  
We belong to God, we belong to God.

"Ooo..... Ooo.....Ooo... .Ooo...."  
Across the wide world, we shall always find  
those who are crying with no peace of  
mind.  
But when we help them or when we feed  
them  
We are serving God, we are serving God.  
We belong to God, we belong to God.

WHEN WE ARE LIVING Contributors: Verse 1 Text: Elise Eslinger © 1989, United Methodist Publishing House  
Verses 2-4 Escamilla/Lockwood Text: © 1983, United Methodist Publishing House  
Arranged by Hal H Hopson Tune: Setting © 1999 Augsburg Fortress All rights reserved.  
One License Song# 94441 Streamed with permission under One License # A-741085 All rights reserved.

## SUNG ALLELUIA VERSE<sup>13E</sup>



## The Holy Gospel: St. Matthew 25: 14-30

The Holy Gospel, according to St. Matthew, the 25<sup>th</sup> chapter:



[Jesus says:] “For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’ And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’ He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ But his master answered him, ‘You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☐ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

#### THE APOSTLES' CREED:

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, from thence he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.**

#### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOSPEL HYMN:

“My Worth Is Not In What I Own”

© 2014 Gettys & Kendrick



My worth is not in what I own Not in the strength of flesh and bone But  
 My worth is not in skill or name In win or lose, in pride or shame But  
 As sum-mer flowers we fade and die Fame, youth and beau - ty hur - ry by But  
 I will not boast in wealth or might Or hu - man wis - dom's fleet-ing light But  
 Two won-ders here that I con - fess My worth and my un - wor - thi - ness My



in the cost - ly wounds of love At the cross My  
 in the blood of Christ that flowed At the  
 life e - ter - nal calls to us At the cross I  
 I will boast in know - ing Christ At the  
 val - ue fixed, my ran - som paid At the



cross I re-joice in my Re - deem - er Great-est Trea - sure, Well-spring of my soul



I will trust in him, no oth - er. My soul is sat - is - fied in him a - lone.

CCLI Song # 7024758 -- Graham Kendrick | Keith Getty | Kristyn Getty; Getty Music Publishing; Make Way Music For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com  
 CCLI License # 775293 <https://musescore.com/user/45030683/scores/7742714>

MESSAGE

RESPONSE TO THE WORD



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



new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -



way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it



from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -



tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

**THE OFFERING** *is received.*

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:**

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Gracious and loving God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: you give to every person their years, days, and hours upon this earth. We thank and praise you for the time you have given us, and we pray that you would teach us to use our time in this life wisely. By your Holy Spirit, make us aware of our neighbour's need. Stir us up to lead holy lives, and to trust completely in Jesus' infinite. As we pray and wait:

**Hear us and ready us, great God.**

We pray for your church across the globe, that your people may use the talents you have given, and through them radiate good and faithful service. We give you thanks for those involved in sharing the Gospel through word, action, multi-media and example. Bless our church with wise leadership and humble witness that all may come to faith and life. As we pray and wait:

**Hear us and ready us, great God.**

As you teach us to use our talents to your glory, so bless our nation. May we all make careful use of land and sea. Help our nation to care for the environment, that resources may be conserved and fairly distributed, and that damage done may be healed. We pray for the just work of financial institutions, for agriculture, industry, technology, and healthcare. Give to our government wisdom, good judgement, and a willingness to listen carefully to the concerns of all the people. As we pray and wait:

**Hear us and ready us, great God.**

Have mercy on those who continue to suffer illness and hardship. We commend to you people in need of prayer and encouragement (*insert names here*). Make them ever aware of your loving presence with them and comfort them with your Holy Spirit, that in their distress they may accept your fatherly will and rejoice in your saving help. As we pray and wait:

**Hear us and ready us, great God.**

Father, hear the prayers we offer to you, and sustain us in faith until you finally receive us with the words, 'Well done, good and faithful servants'. We pray in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER:**

Trusting in Your promises we are bold to pray:

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come.....**

**CLOSING PRAYER:** *[spoken together]*

**Almighty God, Your love never fails, and you can turn the shadow of death into daybreak. Help us to receive your word with believing hearts, so that, confident in your promises, we may have hope and be lifted out of sorrow into the joy and peace of your presence; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**



## SUNG GREETING & BENEDICTION



**P** The Lord be with you.



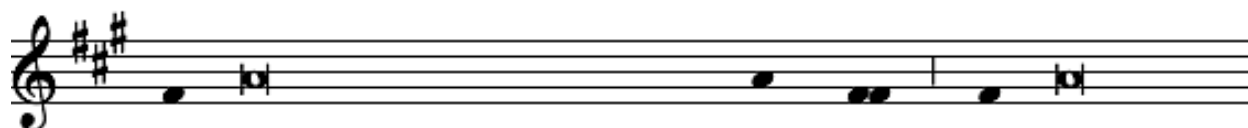
**A** Bless we the Lord.



**C** And with thy spir - it.



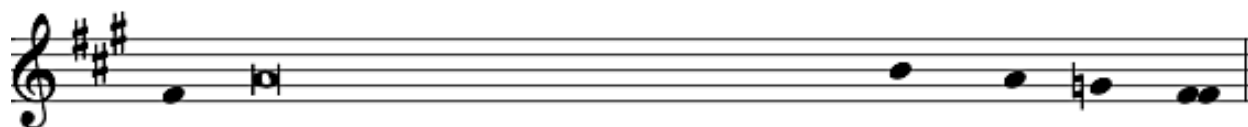
**C** Thanks be to God.



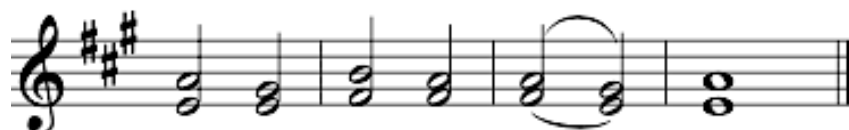
**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and <sup>†</sup>give you peace.



**C** A - men, a - men, a - men.

CLOSING HYMN:

"O Blessed Spring"

LSB # 595



1 O bless-ed spring, where Word and sign Em - brace us  
 2 Through sum-mer heat of youth-ful years, Un - cer - tain  
 3 When au-tumn cools and youth is cold, When limbs their  
 4 As win - ter comes, as win - ters must, We breathe our  
 5 Christ, ho - ly Vine, Christ, liv - ing Tree, Be praised for



in - to Christ the Vine: Here Christ en - joins each one to  
 faith, re - bel - lious tears, Sus - tained by Christ's in - fus - ing  
 heav - y har - vest hold, Then through us, warm, the Christ will  
 last, re - turn to dust; Still held in Christ, our souls take  
 this blest mys - ter - y: That Word and wa - ter thus re -



be A branch of this life - giv - ing Tree.  
 rain, The boughs will shout for joy a - gain.  
 move With gifts of beau - ty, wis - dom, love.  
 wing And trust the prom - ise of the spring.  
 vive And join us to Your Tree of Life.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953  
 Tune: English

O W A L Y W A L Y  
 L M

Text: © 1993 Susan Palo Cherwien; admin. Augsburg Fortress  
 Tune: Public domain

John 15:1-5; Gen. 2:9; Rev. 22:14

Reprinted from [www.hymnary.org](http://www.hymnary.org).