

Beyond the Hymnals: Choosing Christian Song for the Lectionary

+ Series B +

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+ Series B (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 or used devotionally.

These 223 hymns represent the work of 18 Lutheran hymn writers, ranging from the now sainted to current college/seminary students. These suggestions are humbly offered for your consideration...

ASSIGNMENTS

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

Barry Bobb – Jaroslav Vajda, Paul Weber, Herman Stuempfle

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

David Rogner – his own texts and students Jeremiah Schultz and 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]

Gauger, Laurie	<i>Selah Hymnary</i> (an all-digital resource with free PDF downloads from Laurie and her son, Philip Biedenbender) [SH]
Grindal, Gracia	<i>A Treasury of Faith, Lectionary Hymn Texts/New Testament, Series A, B, C</i> WL 2025 [ATOF] <i>A Treasury of Faith, Lectionary Hymns, Old Testament, Series B</i> WL [ATOF/OT-B]
Reinhardt, Kurt	<i>My Light and My Salvation</i> Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary/St. Catherine's ON 2020 [MLMS]
Starke, Stephen P.	<i>O Sing of Christ</i> CPH 2005 [OSOC] <i>Marvel at the Mercy</i> CPH 2018 [MATM]
Stuempfle, Herman	<i>The Word Goes Forth</i> GIA 1993 [WGF] <i>Redeeming the Time</i> GIA, 1997 [RtT] <i>Awake Our Hearts to Praise!</i> GIA 2000 [AOH] <i>Wondrous Love Has Called Us!</i> GIA 2006 [WL] <i>The Song of Faith Unsilenced</i> GIA 2013 [SoF]
Vajda, Jaroslav J.	<i>Sing Peace, Sing Gift of Peace</i> CPH 2003 [SP]
Weber, Paul D.	<i>So Great a Cloud of Witnesses</i> 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

OTHER ABBREVIATIONS USED

AF – Augsburg Fortress	CW-PS <i>Christian Worship Psalter</i> (NPH 2022)
CPH – Concordia Publishing House	MSM-MorningStar Music
CW – <i>Christian Worship</i> (NPH 2021)	NPH – Northwestern Publishing House
ELW – <i>Evangelical Lutheran Worship</i> (AF 2006)	OAAR— <i>One and All, Rejoice</i> (CPH 2020)
LSB – <i>Lutheran Service Book</i> (CPH 2006)	WL-Wayne Leupold Editions
LW – <i>Lutheran Worship</i> (CPH 1982)	WOV- <i>With One Voice</i> (AF 1995)

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Isaiah 64:1-9 Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down...a God who acts on behalf of those who wait for him...

Psalms 80:1-7 Restore us, O God Almighty; make your face shine upon us that we may be saved.

1 Corinthians 1:3-9 You do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly await for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed.

Mark 11:1-10 Jesus' entry into Jerusalem.

OR

Mark 13:24-37 On that day...the Son of Man coming in the clouds....be alert...watch!

Recommended:

“Lift High Your Gates, Jerusalem” – Stuenkel (G) [SoF, #33]

1 Lift high your gates, Jerusalem;
the King of Glory comes.

He wears no jeweled diadem;
there sounds no beat of drums.

No prancing stallion is his steed;
no royal robe he wears.

For wealth or pow'r he does not plead,
but for his death prepares.

2 Lift high your gates; your King is here!
Spread branches in his way!
Hosannas sing as he draws near;
your highest tribute pay.

He comes in deep humility;
his sovereign pow'r is love.
He shares our frail humanity,
though one with God above.

3 Lift high your gates, O church of God,
and greet your King today!
With hymns of joy his glory laud
and for his triumph pray!
But with your palms and songs of praise,
a deeper homage bring:
take up along his servant road
the cross of Christ your King.

CMD

Suggested tune: ELLACOMBE (LSB 443)

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“Open Wide the Heavens' Veil” – Clark (OT, E, G)

1 Open wide the heavens' veil,
Angels following Your trail.
Let the hills and valleys quake,
Witness for Your glory's sake.

2 We have eyes blind to Your Word;
We have ears that have not heard.
Lord, forgive our unbelief;
Give our aching souls relief.

3 Stir Your might, Lord; come to save
All You've ransomed from the grave.
Let Your face in favor shine,
That we see Your love divine.

4 Hail, Hosanna, heav'nly King—
All creation joins to sing.
Once, Your power was concealed.
Now, to all, it is revealed.

77 77

Suggested tune: NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND (*LSB 332*) PD

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NOTES

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Isaiah 40:1-11 Comfort, comfort my people...make straight in the desert a highway for our God...every valley shall be lifted up...all flesh is grass...he will tend his flock like a shepherd.

Psalms 85 Surely his salvation is near those who fear Him.

2 Peter 3:8-14 With the Lord a day is a thousand years...the day will come like a thief...what sort of people ought you be...waiting for the coming of God.

Mark 1:1-8 The voice of one crying in the wilderness "Prepare the way of the Lord"...John's ministry of preaching and baptizing.

Recommended:

Christ Is the Comfort That We Seek—Starke (OT) [Unpublished]

1 Christ is the comfort that we seek,
Sure comfort when the days seem bleak,
When hallowed structures of renown,
Lie hollowed, breached, or broken down.

5 Afflictions, crosses come our way;
Temptations sharp we face each day;
Yet comfort that the Spirit sends,
Forgives, enriches, and befriends.

2 Our groans and prayerful sighs, Christ hears;
He—God for us—calms all our fears:
Rich mercy to us all He shows,
Full favor on us all bestows.

6 Our great Good Shepherd ever true,
Has us, His sheep, in His clear view,
With palms engraved for all to see
His nail-scarred love that sets them free.

3 Adopted as God's own in Christ,
Made clean by blood He sacrificed;
We stand redeemed and justified,
All clothed in white, His flawless Bride!

7 For ev'ry trespass Christ atoned—
What Gospel treasure to us loaned!
"Go—baptize, teach!" Yes, gladly tell
The comfort of Immanuel.

4 Baptized in Christ, we sinner-saints
Are prone to murmurs and complaints;
To such, God's Law and God's great grace
Resound within this holy place.

8 We thank You, God, for blessings past;
We praise You now for mercies vast;
We trust You for each future need;
We follow where Your grace will lead!

LM

Suggested tune: KOMM, GOTT SCHÖPFER (LSB 498)

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The Day of Christ's Return—Starke (E) [OSOC#37]

1 The day of Christ's return is still denied
By skeptics, who in unbelief deride:
"Where is this coming of your Lord?"
Their darkened minds are blinded by their pride.

2 Yes, in the human heart rebellion grows,
Forgetting what the Scripture clearly shows:
A thousand years within God's sight
Are like a day that quickly comes and goes.

3 The gracious reason why our Lord delays
Reflects His patience, born of endless days:

For God would have the world repent
And turn from futile, selfish, empty ways.

4 For soon the heav'ns will vanish with a roar;
The earth laid bare by fire will be no more!
What kind of people ought we be
As we await the One whom we adore?

5 Live godly lives of holiness and peace;
By word and deed the reign of Christ increase;
Look forward to and speed that day
When all will be made new and never cease.

10 10 8 10

Suggested tune by Carl Schalk: CHEOPS (OSOC #37) tune © 1991, CPH

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"Hear My God Cry Out to Me" – Clark (OT, E, G)

1 Hear my God cry out to me,
Pardoning iniquity:
"Comfort, comfort, children dear,
See that I am present here."

Refrain

Who can fathom Your great might?
Who can witness mercy's light?
Vision of Your holy grace
Soon will greet us face to face.

2 Hear my God cry out to me
Through the voice of prophecy:
"All terrain will be made straight
For the Christ whom you await." *Refrain*

77 77 Refrain

3 Hear my God cry out for me,
Hanging on the cursed tree.
"Father, all these sins forgive,
That believers now will live." *Refrain*

4 Hear my God cry out to me
As His glory all will see:
"Peace, take heart; I come for you.
I will make creation new." *Refrain*

Suggested tune: HUMILITY (LSB 373) PD

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“We Enter Advent’s Silence Now” -Gauger (OT) [SH]

1 We enter Advent’s silence now
and still our anxious hearts.
We listen for the angel song,
and we look for Bethl’em’s star.
We turn from garish lights and noise
that mask the world’s despair.
We seek true peace in one true Light:
in the Child the Virgin bears,
in the Child the Virgin bears.

2 We journey to the wilderness
to hear the Baptist’s cry:
“Repent of all your loveless ways
and prepare a path for Christ.”

We search Isaiah’s prophecy
for promises of peace:
this Christ will come to comfort us,
to forgive and make us free,
to forgive and make us free.

3 We ponder in this quiet hour
the miracle to come:
how nature kneels and time stands still
at the birth of God’s own Son.
And though the world is dying yet
and winter nights are deep,
the Advent tree is ever green
for He brings eternity,
for He brings eternity.

8 6 8 7 8 6 8 7 7

Text: © 2017 Laurie F. Gauger

Music © 2017 Philip Biedenbender

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or selahhymnary@philipbiedenbender.com

NOTES

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me...to bring good news to the poor...proclaim liberty to the captives...proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

Psalms 126 The LORD has done great things for us.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 Rejoice always...do not quench the Spirit...abstain from evil...may God sanctify you completely.

John 1:6-8, 19-28 There was a man sent from God..."I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness..."make straight the way of the Lord."

Recommended:

"Walls Crack, the Trumpet Sounds" – Vajda (OT) [SP, p. 272]

1 Walls crack, the trumpet sounds,
the day of jubilee explodes.
The night of fear and gloom,
old jails erupt in dancing crowds.
The freedom we parade for
is the freedom Jesus paid for,
so sing a life of gratitude:
Alleluia!

2 Christ comes, the Servant-King,
to do what we could never do,
to break our binding chains,
our dead and dying hopes renew.
The freedom we were made for
is the freedom Jesus paid for,
so sing a life of gratitude:
Alleluia!

3 Believe the slate is clean,
enjoy God's year of jubilee;
explore with fresh new hearts
the vast bright fields of liberty.
The freedom that we prayed for
is the freedom Jesus paid for,
so sing a life of gratitude:
Alleluia!

4 Stand fast, the demons lurk
to trap us in the death we left.
Christ lives, and so do we,
with power to keep and share the gift.
The freedom we were freed for
is the freedom Jesus paid for,
so sing a life of gratitude:
Alleluia!

68 68 78 84

Suggested tune: MISSION by Carl Schalk, found in *Thine the Praise: The Hymntunes and Carols of Carl Schalk*, GIA G-4554, p. 82.

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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—
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,”
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,
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 battles yet to be;
Safe bring you home to heaven,
To share Christ’s victory!

76 76 D

Suggested tune: SALLEY GARDENS (CW 709) PD

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“Laugh and Shout with Joyful Tears” – Clark (OT, E, G)

1 Laugh and shout with joyful tears;
Know that God your Father hears.
You will languish here no more;
Christ the Savior will restore
All that sin has stripped away
And renew your lifeless clay.

3 Listen to the prophets true;
They have paved the way for you.
When the King returns to reign
Where the light will never wane,
You will wake as from a dream
To behold a heav’nly beam.

2 You can surely place your trust
In the One both true and just.
He is faithful; Yes, He will
Send His Spirit down to fill
Empty lives with holy love
Till all saints are brought above.

77 77 77

Suggested tune: For a new tune by Mark Knickelbein, contact copyrights@cph.org.

RATISBON (LSB 873) will also work. PD

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FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 (The Lord says to Nathan and to David) “I have been with you wherever you went...will make a great name for you...your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever with me.”

Psalms 89:1-5 (19-29) O LORD God of hosts, who is as mighty as you, with your faithfulness all around?

Romans 16: 25-27 The mystery that was kept secret but has now been disclosed through the prophetic writings.

Luke 1:26-38 The angel Gabriel appears to Mary...”I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.”

Recommended:

“When the Angel Gabriel Came”—Starke (G) [Unpublished]

1 When the Angel Gabriel came
To the virgin Mary,
She to Joseph was betrothed,
Of the house of David:
“Mary, blest by grace, now hear:
God is with you—Do not fear!
You are favored by
God the LORD Most High.
To conceive in your womb
And a son be bearing;
You shall call Him Jesus.”

2 Mary, troubled by these words,
Sought to understand them:
“How will this take place in me,
Since I am a virgin?”
What a mystery revealed,
Of the Spirit’s work concealed—
“God will you endue,
Overshadow you;
Thus the child to be born
Will be pure and holy,
Son of God the Father.”

3 “Even now, Elizabeth
In her sixth month carries
In her womb a son conceived,
She who was called barren—
Nothing is beyond God’s might!”
Mary sees with faith’s sure sight:
“Just a servant, I,
Of the LORD Most High;
Let it be now to me
As your word has spoken.”
Word made flesh in Mary!

4 God of God, eternal Word,
Said, “Behold, dear Father,
I have come to do Your will
For the world’s salvation.”
Promised Seed of woman came,
Bearing the prophetic name—
O Immanuel,
‘God with us’ to dwell,
Hear our prayers and our praise
That with thanks we offer
For Your incarnation!

Peculiar Meter

Suggested tune: ANNUNTIATIO by Keith Kolander copyright © 2025, For permission to use, contact him at ktkman57@gmail.com

Alternate tune: EL DESEMBRE CONGELAT (CATALONIAN CAROL) [ELW 299] PD

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“An Angel Came a-Calling” – Stuempfle (G) [SoF, #5]

1 An angel came a-calling
one day in Nazareth,
his presence like a shadow,
his words like gentle breath.
And God hid in the shadow
and spoke within the breath.

2 A maid whose name was Mary
was sweeping floor and hearth.
The shadow fell around her;
she felt the gentle breath.
And God hid in the shadow
and spoke within the breath.

3 “Dear Mary, little maiden,
so humble and so mild.
This day I’ve come to call you
to bear a Holy Child.”
For God hid in the shadow
and spoke within the breath.

4 “How can it be?” asked Mary.
“A man I have not known!”
“Fear not!” the angel answered,
“Your child shall be God’s Son!”
For God hid in the shadow
and spoke within the breath.

5 “Behold, I am your servant,
so let your will be done.”
Then Mary knelt in wonder,
her doubt and terror gone.
For God hid in the shadow
and spoke within the breath.

6 O God, when you come calling
in words like gentle breath,
May we obey with Mary,
the maid of Nazareth.
For you hide in the shadow
and speak within the breath.

76 76 76

Suggested tune: WIR HATTEN GEBAUET (*LBW*, #59)

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“How Can It Be, O God Most High?” – Stuempfle (G) [WGF, #70]

1 How can it be, O God most high,
That you would choose one such as I?
And yet your Spirit’s shadow falls,
Your voice, mysterious, gently calls.
So let it be.

2 How can it be, O God of grace,
That you could wear a human face,
Be born of Mary, virgin mild?
And yet you came a helpless child.
So let it be.

3 How can it be, O God of pow’r,
That at creation’s morning hour
You could a universe bring forth?
And yet we walk a wondrous earth.
So let it be.

4 How can it be, O God, we see
Your love revealed upon a tree
Where death fells him whose name is love?
Yet here is love all loves above.
So let it be.

5 How can it be, O God, whose Word
Struck life’s first strong, creative chord,
That you should use our words so weak?
Yet through such words you choose to speak.
So let it be.

6 How can it be, O God, that bread
He broke and wine, with words he said,
Bring Christ to humbled, hung’ring hearts?
Yet such a meal his grace imparts.
So let it be.

Suggested tune: ERSCHIENEN IST DER HERRLICH TAG (LW, #147)

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“No House or Home Could E’er Contain You” – Clark (OT, E, G)

1 No house or home could e’er contain You;
 Your presence touches ev’ry land.
 No brick or marble can constrain You;
 The universe is in Your hand.

2 A little town, a lowly manger.
 On earth, no place to lay Your head.
 No human mind could fathom stranger
 Than flesh and bones to be Your stead.

3 And now, You dwell among, inside us,
 Your Spirit filling us with life
 To guard our hearts and daily guide us
 Through wondrous joy and fearsome strife.

4 All words on earth fail in comparing
 The glory of Your royal throne;
 Each brilliant jew’l and gem declaring
 The majesty of You alone.

Suggested tune: ST. CLEMENT (*LSB* 886) PD

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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!

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

See CPH published anthem 98-4278.

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“True Light of Light, the Glorious Word”-Reinhardt (G) [MLMS, p. 4]

1 True Light of Light, the glorious Word,
He came to earth to save all flesh;
The Peace of God wrapped in poor cloth,
Born on that night so cool and fresh.

2 A city built of stone and brick
Was birthplace to our God and King;
Fair Bethlehem first saw His light
And heard the angel chorus sing.

3 The ox and donkey knew their Lord
Now lying in their humble stall;
His glory shone on lowly beasts,
Who bowed before the Lord of all.

4 Poor shepherds from the nearby plain
Stood at the door in silent awe,

While Mother Mary knelt by Him
The Lamb of God lay on the straw.

5 O Saviour of our fallen race,
Born in that night so long ago,
We yearn to see Your glorious face
And in Your wounds Your love to know.

6 Poor bread and wine Your presence wait,
God's Peace to hold and carry here;
Our hearts bow down in fear and love
As in our night Your light draws near.

7 True Light of Light, O glorious Word,
Pray visit now this humble place;
Chase all the darkness from our hearts
And fill us with Your love and grace.

LM

Suggested tune: VOM HIMMEL HOCH (LSB 385) PD

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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 Paul 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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See also **“True Light of Light, the Glorious Word”** – Reinhardt/ Christmas Midnight.

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 61:10---62:3 I delight greatly in the LORD; my soul rejoices in my God.

Psalm 111 He sent redemption to his people.

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

Luke 2:22-40 Jesus presented in the Temple...Simeon (*Nunc dimittis*)...Anna.

Recommended:

“My Heart Is Now Thrilling” –Starke (G) [OSOC #113] *Nunc Dimittis*

My heart is now thrilling

At Your Word’s fulfilling,

O Lord, let Your servant depart in Your peace.

I see Your salvation

Prepared for each nation,

It shines with a radiance that never will cease:

A light that will brighten

Like dawn, to enlighten

Both Gentiles and Jews from each tribe and each race.

What sin was concealing

Your love is revealing—

The glory of Israel, the light of Your grace!

6 6 11 6 6 11 D

Suggested tune: THE ASH GROVE (LSB 643) PD

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“Mary, on the Day Appointed” – Rogner (G)

1 Mary, on the day appointed,
Goes to consecrate her Child,
Firstborn son, yet God’s Anointed,
Perfect off’ring, undefiled.
To the temple now she takes him,
Blind to how that Sacred Head,
Crowned with thorns, would one day waken
As the firstborn from the dead.

2 Simeon, devout and waiting
For the hope of Israel,
Feels the pall of gloom abating:
Light is born; the dark dispelled!

In his arms he holds salvation;
God Incarnate there he sees:
For the Gentiles, revelation;
For His faithful servant, peace.

3 Enter now the sanctuary
To behold the Promised Lord,
Found in means most ordinary:
Wine and bread, the living Word.
Hold this Child, the world’s salvation,
In the temple of your heart,
Where His light and consolation
Let the soul in peace depart.

8 7 8 7 D

Suggested Tunes: ABBOT’S LEIGH (*LSB* 646) or BEACH SPRING (*LSB* 848) PD

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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/John Kelly translation of Paul Gerhardt (Ps) [CW 369]

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, PD

“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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“O God of Time and Turning Earth” -Gauger

[Unpublished version-text is in *Selah Hymnary* with different tune]

1 O God of time and turning earth,
you’ve gently guided me from birth.
You’ve carried me through love and loss.
through every tear the years have brought.
I know my times are in your hands.
I trust your wise and loving plans.
The earth still turns, the bells still toll,
and you make all things beautiful.

2 O God, what might tomorrow bring?
There is a time for everything:
a time to laugh, a time to weep,
a time for war, a time for peace,

a time to search, a time to find,
a time to live, a time to die.
The earth still turns, the bells still toll,
and you make all things beautiful.

3 O God, you walked this turning earth
a high and holy Visitor!
You left your realm of timelessness
to live my life and die my death.
You rose and burst the bands of time.
Now all eternity is mine.
The earth still turns, the bells still toll,
and you make all things beautiful.

L M D

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O GROSSER GOTT (*LSB* 538) would also work. PD

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” – Stuempfle (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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“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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“The Star Has Come” – Clark (OT, E, G)

1 The star has come; the Child of light
Illuminates this world of night.
His radiant glory shall arise
And permeate the darkened skies.

2 The flame is kindled in your heart,
So reach all people worlds apart.
This gift of grace is meant for all,
That nations to their knees may fall.

3 This Promised One--anointed King--
Came down, His heav'nly gifts to bring.
Outshining even polished gold,
That all in wonder may behold.

4 Come marvel at this mystery
Foretold in ancient prophecy,
Revealed now through the holy Son:
The Father makes all children one.

88 88 (iambic)

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“The Star Had Drawn Them to the Place” -Grindal (E,G) [ATOF/NT-ABC]

1 The star had drawn them to the place
to see what God had done.
They came from ev'ry land and race
and found God's only Son.
They read the signs and saw he'd come
to everyone on earth.
He made our flesh his house and home
through his own humble birth.

2 The gold they brought declared him king:
his rule extended far,
to realms unmeasured, everything
beyond the guiding star.

The frankincense, a fragrant oil
declared he was their God
who came to be the devil's foil
for he had come in love.

3 The myrrh they set before his feet
would one day be his balm
when he unwound death's winding sheet
and ended Satan's realm.
Oh, come to see him; come, make haste;
the myst'ry of the world,
the God, the Lord of ages past,
In Christ has been revealed!

CMD

Suggested tune: KINGSFOLD (LSB 444) PD
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NOTES

THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD (FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY)

Genesis 1:1-5 In the beginning...spirit of God was hovering over the waters...let there be light.

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.

Mark 1:4-11 John baptizes Jesus in the Jordan river.

Recommended:

“Baptized into Christ Jesus’ Death” –Starke (E) [MATM #29]

1 Baptized into Christ Jesus’ death,
One with Him on that cursed tree;
Just as He rose
So also those
Baptized into His victory!

Refrain:

Praise God! We are one in Christ and baptized for this moment!

Praise God! We are one in Christ and baptized for this moment!

2 For God so loved the human race,
He gave His one and only Son;
All who believe
In Christ receive
Life everlasting He has won. *Refrain*

3 Receive forgiveness for your sins,
The Holy Spirit from on high:
Rich gifts for all
Whom God will call,
To live in Christ that self may die. *Refrain*

4 Now clothed with Christ, we are renewed,
Cleansed by this washing of rebirth!
His Church Christ sends,
To her commends
His great Good News for all the earth. *Refrain*

5 Baptized into Christ Jesus’ death,
Alive in Christ, raised from His grave!
To all who hear,
Both far and near,
Go, speak that name with pow’r to save! *Refrain*

88 44 8 and refrain

Suggested tune: TILTON by K. Lee Scott, copyright © 1992 CPH. (MATM 29)

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“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 Calv'ry'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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“By Jordan's Barren Bank” – Stuempfle (G) [SoF, #10]

1 By Jordan's barren bank
the stalwart herald stood
and preached in words of flaming fire
the dawning reign of God.

2 “Repent of sin!” he cried,
“and wash in Jordan's stream.
Prepare to meet the Coming One
who will the world redeem!”

3 When Jesus came to John,
he brought no guilty stain,
but, sinless, stepped into the stream,
baptized for sinners' gain.

4 The rending skies disclosed
the Spirit, as a dove,
and God the Father's voice declared,

“My Son, the One I love!”

5 From Jordan's bank he trod
a way none walked before
until at last, up Golgotha,
the heavy cross he bore.

6 Baptized into his death,
forgiven, cleansed and healed,
God, help us walk with faithfulness
the way your Son revealed.

7 All glory to the Son,
and to the Father praise,
and to the Spirit thanks be giv'n
from now through endless days!

SM

Suggested tune: ST. MICHAEL (*LSB 628*)

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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!”

885 885

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

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.

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“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, forest, 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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“Lord of Light! The Darkness Broken” – Clark (OT, E, G)

1 Lord of light! The darkness broken
At the power of Your Word.
With the truth of Your love spoken,
All the gloomy void deterred.
Fill enlightened hearts with praise
At the wonder of Your ways.
With the dismal fog dispelling,
Thankful hearts Your promise telling.

2 Lord of life! Our Adam buried
In Your soul-renewing flood.
To the cross our sins were carried
And were drowned in Jesus' blood.
Now we daily die to sin,
And we daily rise again!
Through the Spirit, we are living
In the freedom You are giving.

3 Lord of love! Our King anointed,
To the river shore You came
At the blessed time appointed
For Your royal role to claim.
As the Father claimed His Son,
Now He gladly calls each one
To the ever-living water
To become His son or daughter.

4 Lord of all! King of creation,
Keep Your children from all harm.
Our Redeemer's compensation
Leads us to our Father's arms.
Holy Spirit, make us whole:
Cleanse our hearts; renew our souls.
Let our lives foretell the story
Of Your coming throne and glory.

87 87 77 88

Suggested tune: WERDE MUNTER (*LSB 548*) PD

There is also a choral arrangement and new tune by Ben Culli.

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NOTES

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20) The Lord calls Samuel.

Psalms 139:1-10 You have searched me out and known me.

1 Corinthians 6:12-20 Our relationships and conduct should reflect our baptism into Christ Jesus.

John 1: 43-51 Jesus calls Nathanael to be a disciple. "Come and see...you will see heaven opened."

Recommended:

"O God, You Saw My Early Being" –Starke (Ps) [Unpublished]

1 O God, You saw my early being
When no one else was seeing—
Knitting me within my mother's womb,
Weaving me upon a living loom,
Marking days of my life's span
According to Your plan.

2 O Christ, You cleansed me and forgave me,
Yes, only You could save me—
Baptized into You, Your dying breath;
Buried with You, raised with You from death:
Now no more an heir of shame,
You gave me Your own name!

3 O Christ, I starve in sin; come, feed me
That food by which You freed me—
Very body given when You died,
Very blood poured out, O Crucified;
Meal of thanks for great and least:
You seat me at Your feast!

4 O Spirit, holy Comfort, guide me;
Your Word, a cleft to hide me—
Still small voice, You keep me through each storm,
Breathing life into my earthen form;
With Your love my life infuse
To serve now, where You choose.

5 O God Most High, my Start and Ending,
To You I am commending—
Soul and body, ev'ry care and fear,
Ev'ry time and season, day and year;
God of grace, grant Your shalom
Till I am welcomed home.

Peculiar Meter

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“O God, You Know Us Through and Through” – Stuempfle (Ps) [RtT, #11]

1 O God, you know us through and through---
each unformed word, each secret thought.

You track us over twisting trails
and seek us when we have not sought.

2 No distant place is far to you;
the darkest night shines bright as day.

We flee, but find we cannot hide
while grace, unswerving, stalks its prey.

3 Not even our unworthiness,
our untold sin, our guilty shame,

can turn your mercy’s swift pursuit
from those you love and call by name.

4 So search us out, O God of grace,
and close us in on every side
till, caught, our hearts cannot escape
the love from which they seek to hide.

5 Then teach our hearts to sing your praise
that, though we flee, you still pursue,
and, surer than the rising sun,
your boundless grace each day renew.

LM

Suggested tune: WAREHAM (LSB 866)

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“O Day of Days, the Day I Found” – Vajda (G) [SP, p. 176]

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.

Suggested tune: WINCHESTER NEW (*LSB* 405)

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“Still a Stranger, They Beheld Him” – Stuempfle (G) [SoF, #51]

1 Still a stranger, they beheld him
as he walked by Galilee.

Andrew, Peter, then Nathaniel,
Philip, too, heard “Come and see!”

Seeking, calling, self-disclosing,
from their past he set them free,
Till, forsaking all, they answered
when he summoned, “Follow me!”

2 “Come and see!” His invitation
echoes on through time and space.
Come and see God’s hidden glory
shining forth from Jesus’ face.

By this vision, faith is wakened,
sees in flesh God’s truth and grace.
Hope is born that God, incarnate,
comes in Christ to save our race.

3 “Follow me!” His Word still calls us,
“Follow where love’s duties lead.
Follow me in lowly service
where the poor and lonely plead.
Follow, though the journey bring you
to a cross on which you bleed.
There you’ll find me, wounded, dying,
but from death forever freed.”

87 87 D

Suggested tune: BEACH SPRING (*LSB* 848)

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NOTES

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Jonah 3:1-5, 10 The Lord calls Jonah to preach repentance to the people of Ninevah.

Psalms 62 Trust in Him at all times.

1 Corinthians 7:29-31 (32-35) Set your mind on the things of the Lord.

Mark 1:14-20 Jesus calls Simon, Andrew, James and John to be disciples...fishers of men. "The kingdom of God is near."

Recommended:

"What Would the World Be Like?" – Vajda (G) [SP, p. 280]

1 What would the world be like,
if You were known the one true God,
if we gave up our proud façade,
and knelt before You meek and awed---
what would the world be like?

2 What could the world be like,
if all received and loved Your Son,
Your kingdom came, Your will were done,
and envy, lust, and greed were gone---
what could the world be like?

3 What blessings would we know,
if everyone sought truth and peace,
saw justice rule, and good increase,

and lifelong captives found release---
what blessings would we know?

4 What joy would fill Your heart,
if we loved You as You love us,
had faith in all Your promises,
were like You: helpful, generous---
what joy would fill Your heart?

5 What would our lives be like,
if every day began with thanks,
and every gift received with thanks,
and every day were closed with thanks---
what would our lives be like?

68 88 6

Suggested tune: DES MOINES by Carl Schalk, found in *Thine the Praise: The Hymntunes and Carols of Carl Schalk*, GIA G-4554, p. 98.

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“Follow, Follow Me, He Says” -Gauger (G) [SH]

1 Follow, follow me, he says—
my Savior at the sea.
Leave behind your boat and net
and walk along with me.
Lean in close and listen well:
my words are like the rain,
watering your thirsty heart,
reviving you again.

2 Follow, follow me, he says.
My way is fresh and new.
My command is simply this:
to love as I love you.

Turn away from selfishness
and all that causes pain.
Turn to me and start again,
forgiven in my name.

3 Follow, follow me, he says.
I come to offer more:
more of life and peace and joy,
more purpose than before.
You and I will fish for souls.
The power's in my Word.
I have news that's truly good
and it will change the world.

7 6 7 6 D

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NOTES

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Deuteronomy 18:15-20 I will raise up for them a prophet and put My words in his mouth.

Psalms 111 Full of splendor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.

1 Corinthians 8:1-13 Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up...do not become stumbling block to the weak.

Mark 1:21-28 Jesus rebukes the unclean spirit...a new teaching with authority.

Recommended:

“Lord, I Must Praise You” – Vajda (Ps) [SP, p. 160]

1 Lord, I must praise you when I stand in wonder
At your mighty works and splendor.
There is no other God, no one above you,
Yet so close to those who love you.
O Lord, have mercy!

All your works declare your majesty*
In an endless grand doxology;
Even more would I praise
Your compassion, love, and grace.
O Lord, have mercy!

2 Nothing but good you give to those who fear you,
Ever near those who revere you.
To you the hungry come for daily feeding,
And the poor for justice pleading.
O Lord, have mercy!

All your deeds are honest and sincere,
All your vows as true as they appear;
Perfect love, rarest kind,
All I need in you I find.
O Lord, have mercy!

3 You sent your people long-desired salvation,
Making us a blessed nation.
You are the Rock: on You our hopes are founded.
Safe we dwell, by love surrounded.
O Lord, have mercy!
Make us wise to follow in Your ways,
And receive our sacrifice of praise.
We are Yours. Yours to use
For your dream as You may choose.
O Lord, have mercy!

(* requires a slight rhythmic alteration)

Peculiar meter

Suggested tune: GOTT SEI GELOBET (*LSB* 617)

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NOTES

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Isaiah 40:21-31 Have you not known...have you not heard...they shall mount up with wings like eagles...they shall run and not be weary.

Psalms 147:1-11 Great is our LORD and mighty in power...his word runs swiftly.

1 Corinthians 9:16-27 I preach the Gospel by necessity...I have become all things to all people that I might save some...run the race with discipline.

Mark 1:29-39 Jesus heals Simon's mother-in-law...they bring the sick and demon-possessed to Him.

Recommended:

“Creator, Keeper, Caring Lord” – Vajda (see Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany below)

“Your Mercy, like a Magnet” – Stuenkel (G) [SoF, #74]

1 Your mercy, like a magnet, drew
the sick and sore distressed,
the poor, the burdened multitudes
by grief or guilt oppressed.
No reaching hand remained untouched,
no cry of pain unheard.
You opened wide the doors of love
and spoke your healing Word.

2 Lord, still the lonely gather round
and long to see your face.
Those scorned, afflicted, in their need
reach out to touch your grace.

Have mercy, Lord; be near today
to bless, to help, to heal,
and, where the people cry to you,
your love again reveal.

3 O Christ, we offer you our lives
that through our words and deeds
your voice may speak, your hands extend
where pain for mercy pleads.
Lord, make your church your Body now
in this new time and place
that we may be the living sign
of your incarnate grace.

CMD

Suggested tune: KINGSFOLD (LSB 444)

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“O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate” – Stuempfle (G) [WL, #70]

1 O Christ, your heart, compassionate,
bore ev’ry human pain.
Its beating was the pulse of God;
its breadth, God’s vast domain.
The heart of God, the heart of Christ,
combined in perfect rhyme,
To write God’s love in human deeds,
eternity in time.

2 As once you welcomed those cast down
and healed the sick, the blind,
so may all bruised and broken lives
through us your help still find.
Lord, join our hearts with those who weep
that none may weep alone,
and help us bear another’s pain
as though it were our own.

CMD

Suggested tune: KINGSFOLD (*LSB* 444) or RESIGNATION (*LW* 252)

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“How Swiftly Runs Your Word, O God” – Stuempfle (Ps) [AOH #72]

1 How swiftly runs your Word, O God,
outracing even light!
When earth was new, you only spoke
and all the world was bright!

2 How swiftly runs your Word, O God!
It sped to Galilee
and there, in Mary’s waiting womb,
assumed humanity!

3 How swiftly runs your Word, O God!
It swept throughout the land!
When Jesus touched the lame, the blind,

3 O Christ, create new hearts in us
that beat in time with yours,
that joined by faith with your great heart
become Love’s open doors.
We are your Body, Risen Christ;
our hearts, our hands, we yield
that through our life and ministry
your love may be revealed.

4 O Love that made the distant stars,
yet marks the sparrow’s fall,
whose arms stretched wide upon a cross
embrace and bear us all:
come, make your church a servant church
that walks your servant ways,
whose deeds of love rise up to you,
a sacrifice of praise!

your Word was in his hand!

4 How swiftly runs your Word, O God!
It came as wind and flame
and drove apostles past their fear
to herald Jesus’ Name!

5 How swiftly runs your Word, O God,
to places far and near!
God, send the church to be your Voice
till all the world shall hear!

CM

Suggested tune: MCKEE (*LSB* 541)

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NOTES

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

2 Kings 5:1-14 Naaman healed of leprosy.

Psalm 30 O LORD my God, I called to you for help and you healed me.

1 Corinthians 10: (19-30) 31---11:1. Do not cause anyone to stumble.

Mark 1:40-45 Jesus heals a man with leprosy.

Recommended:

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

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)

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“Brave Naaman Was an Army Man”-Grindal (OT) [ATOF/OT-B]

1 Brave Naaman was an army man
made sick by leprosy,
and ever since his plague began
he'd prayed to be set free.
His little servant girl said, “Go,
our prophet man can heal.”
So Naaman left with bags of gold
to pay Elisha well.

2 And when he found the prophet's house,
He waited at the door.
Elisha sent a message out
like none he'd heard before:

“Go wash yourself in Jordan's flood
dip seven times in it.
Your flesh will be restored, made good,
and you will be made fit.”

3 But Naaman raged against these words
until his servants said,
“Go, do the simple things you've heard,
if not, you'll soon be dead.”
So seven times he washed himself;
his flesh was soon restored.
From then he worshiped no one else,
but Israel's mighty Lord.

CMD

Suggested tune: SERVANT GIRL by Itke Prins

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NOTES

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Isaiah 43:18-25 I am doing a new thing...I blot out your transgressions and remember your sins no more.

Psalms 41 "O LORD, have mercy on me; heal me, for I have sinned against you."

2 Corinthians 1:18-22 God's "yes"...He anointed us, set His seal of ownership on us, and put His Spirit in our hearts.

Mark 2:1-12 Some men came, bringing him a paralytic.

Recommended:

"Creator, Keeper, Caring Lord" – Vajda (see Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany above)

"Sing Praise to God for Friends Who Bring" – Stuenkel (G) [RtT, #17]

1 Sing praise to God for friends who bring
our needs to Christ the Lord,
who pray that he will bend to us
and speak his healing Word.

2 We may not see their folded hands
nor know what prayers they raise,
but Christ will always hear the voice
that for another prays.

3 And do those clouds of witnesses
whose race has now been run
still lift their prayers by day and night
for us before God's throne?

4 Sing praise for that great company
of all who intercede,
who by the hidden hand of prayer
support us in our need.

CM

Suggested tune: LAND OF REST (*LSB* 673)

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NOTES

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Hosea 2:14-20 I will give her back her vineyard, and will make the Valley of Achor a door of hope.

Psalms 103:1-13 Praise the LORD, all His works everywhere in His dominion.

2 Corinthians 2:12---3:6 Thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ. We are the fragrance of Christ among those who are being saved.

Mark 2: (13-17) 18-22 A question about fasting... “No one pours new wine into old wineskins.”

Recommended:

“Give Glory, All Creation” – Vajda (Ps) [SP, p. 88, alt.]

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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“We Treasure Ancient Truth, O Lord” – Stuempfle (G) [WL, #69]

1 We treasure ancient truth, O Lord,
through ages tested, tried,
and praise your name for priceless gifts
the centuries have supplied.

2 But help us, Lord, in this new day
to walk the road untried,
to welcome truth that turns our feet
where only faith can guide.

3 Lord, may our roots sink strong and deep
in wisdom's ancient soil,
but let our tendrils, seeking sun,
t'ward truth's new light uncoil.

4 Thus help us, Lord, to find our place
in wisdom's pilgrim throng,
to march, sustained by ancient good,
while singing truth's new song.

Suggested tune: ST. ANNE (LSB 733)

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“Jesus Christ, Risen Today”—Starke (E) [OSOC #26]

1 Jesus Christ, ris’n today,
Void the place where He lay!
Fragrance sweet--smell of life
From His triumph glorious,
Lord of lords, victorious!

Refrain:

Let us sing, sing, sing,
Praises bring, bring, bring,
Let us sing,
Praises bring
To the King of glory!

2 Sov’reign might, strong to save;
Gone all fear! For His grave
Now proclaims certainty:
Death is torn asunder,
Satan’s kingdom plundered! *Refrain*

3 Great this King’s Majesty!
Show complete mastery,
Leading sin, death, and hell
Captive in procession,
Breaking their oppression! *Refrain*

4 Victor’s spoils here displayed
That our joy may not fade—
Herald, speed with the news;
Shout the holy lection
Of His resurrection! *Refrain*

666 66 and refrain

Suggested tune: PERSONENT HODIE (OSOC 26, WOV 793) PD

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NOTES

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

2 Kings 2:1-12 Elijah is taken up to heaven in a whirlwind.

OR

Exodus 34:29-35 Moses' face shines after he comes down the mountain.

Psalms 50:1-6 Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.

2 Corinthians 3:12-13 (14-18); 4:1-6 Christ removes the veil from Moses' face...we all beheld the glory of the Lord...God shines in our hearts the light of knowledge.

Mark 9:2-9 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,

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,

The Son partakes in love,
Of human flesh that we,
Partake of God above.

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.

88 88 D (Iambic)

Suggested tune: TREE OF LIFE (LSB 561)

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david.rogner@cuchicago.edu.

“Climb with Christ the Mystic Mountain” – Stuempfle (G) [SoF, #11]

1 Climb with Christ the mystic mountain,
veiled by clouds, yet bathed in light.
Join disciples bowed in wonder,
blinded by his garments bright.
What the source of such a radiance?
shining here is Light from Light!

2 Hear him speak with ancient prophets,
bearers of God’s living Word.
Moses and Elijah greet him
as their people’s promised Lord.
Then another Voice proclaims him:
“My own Son! Attend his Word!”

3 Follow Christ into the valley;
feel with him a father’s pain,
crying for his son, afflicted,

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.

“You can make him whole again!”
Be for Christ his present Body,
healing still the people’s pain!

4 Climb at last another mountain
where, condemned, he goes to die.
Watch while soldiers crucify him;
see the darkened, sunless sky.
There remember truth he taught us:
“Who would live, with me must die!”

5 Raise to Christ transfigured, risen,
hymns of triumph, songs of praise!
Tell to all the world his story;
trust and serve him all your days!
Offer Christ in all his splendor,
with your anthems, lives of praise!

87 87 87

Suggested tune: PICARDY (*LSB 621*)

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“In Our Image, in Our Likeness” -M. Schultz (E) [Unpublished]

1 “In our image, in our likeness”—
on the sixth prolific day
God created man and woman,
pure and good in ev’ry way:
perfect knowledge of their Maker;
what he wanted, they did, too;
crown of all of God’s creation,
giving God the glory due.

2. Lost—that image—in a heartbeat,
Satan’s lie brought Eden’s sin.
Then a son in Adam’s likeness,
sinful, selfish, all turned in.
This the nature we were born with:
“I revile what God requires.”
We could not be more unlike him,
driven by our base desires.

3 Christ, though sinless, died with “Guilty!”
written all across his face,
his the wounds and ours the healing—
shattered lives rebuilt by grace.
Now by faith in partial measure
God’s own image is restored
as the Spirit shapes and molds us
in the likeness of our Lord.

4 Heaven is the home we long for,
where the tree of life now grows,
where we’ll shed our sinful nature,
wear the King’s bright wedding clothes.
There we’ll praise the living Jesus
for his saving sacrifice,
in his image, in his likeness
serving God in paradise.

8 7 8 7 D

Suggested tune: RUSTINGTON (*LSB 572*) PD

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“Eyewitnesses of Majesty” -Schultz (G) [Unpublished]

1 Eyewitnesses of majesty
were Peter, James and John:
the Christ, in blinding brilliancy—
too much to look upon!

For on the mount our Savior’s face
shone like the sun’s bright rays,
and such had never been the case
through all his earthbound days.

2 But just this once—before his heel
would feel the serpent’s bite—
his changed appearance would reveal
that He was Light from Light.
The trembling three, though filled with fear
and lost as what to say,
were thus prepared to persevere
through Jesus’ darkest day.

3 Their friend, whose fame no words can tell,
discussed with shining men
how he would conquer death and hell,
would die and rise again.

Yes, Moses and Elijah knew
what we must also know:
the greatest thing the Lord would do
was let his glory go.

4 So when the coming days of Lent
are filled with somber tones,
when God the Spirit cries, “Repent,
you dry, dejected bones,”
remember how the glory cloud
enveloped Jesus’ friends,
how what they heard so clear and loud
gives life that never ends:

5 “This is my Son, my perfect choice
to suffer in your place.
You’ll know, through his all-pow’rful voice,
my all-forgiving grace.”
And thus in glory we shall stand,
rejoicing on and on,
with Moses and Elijah, and
with Peter, James and John.

CMD

Recommended tune: LORD OF LIFE (*LSB* 552)

Tune © 2004 Kevin J. Hildebrand

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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] PD

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;
And grant us grace these forty days.

78 78

Suggested tune: None; why not compose your own?

Steve Wenté has composed a wonderful new tune for this text. Contact him at steven.wente@gmail.com.

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“Turn from Your Evil Ways” – Clark (OT, E, G)

1 Turn from your evil ways;
Be reconciled to Me.
My love abounds; My heart relents.
I yearn to set you free.

2 With weeping, rend your heart,
And I will make it new.
In mercy, I will cleanse within
To make you pure and true.

3 Repent and turn away
From earthly treasure's charm.
I lead you from temptation, child,
Deliver you from harm.

4 The curse you have received
From Adam's ancient fall
My Son took up to Calvary
That I might pardon all.

5 Confess your sin and shame.
Return to My embrace.
Your Savior paid for ev'rything;
I long to give You grace.

SM

Suggested tune: SOUTHWELL (LSB 424) PD

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NOTES

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

Genesis 22:1-18 Abraham prepares to sacrifice Isaac.

Psalms 25: 1-10 The LORD confides in those who fear him; He makes His covenant known to them.

James 1:12-18 God tempts no one...desire gives birth to sin...every good and perfect gift is from above.

Mark 1:9-15 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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**“Lord Jesus, Whose Obedience” Rogner
(G,E)**

1 Lord Jesus, whose obedience
Fulfilled the Law for me,
Be now my shield and sure defense
Against the Enemy.

2 You once endured for forty days
The Tempter’s cunning art.
Help me to shun his pois’nous ways
And purify my heart.

3 The Old Accuser seeks my life:
He casts the truth as lies.
Give me Your Word to face the strife
With vanquishing replies.

4 How blest the one who perseveres
When tested by the Foe!
The ransomed souls, when Christ appears,
Will life eternal know.

5 Lord, when I tread the wilderness,
Send angels to attend.
Deliver me to blessedness
And joys that have no end.

CM

SUGGESTED TUNES: DETROIT (*LSB* 843) or CONSOLATION (*LSB* 348) PD

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“O Steadfast Lord, Prepare Our Path” – Clark (OT, E, G)

1 O steadfast Lord, prepare our path
That we may never stray
Into the wasteland of Your wrath
But tread the narrow way.

2 Lord, when temptations whisper lies
And lure us from Your side,
Preserve us from the devil’s guise
And shine Your Word to guide.

3 Lord God, You gave Your only Son
To walk our earthen road,
For only He could be the one
To bear our sinful load.

4 Lord, where we falter in this life
And fail to do Your will,
Point us to Jesus’ pain and strife
On Calv’ry’s bloody hill.

5 Just as our Savior led the way
And bore Your righteous wrath,
He still leads on and will not stray
To blaze salvation’s path.

CM

Suggested tune: ST. FLAVIAN (*LSB* 577) PD

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SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 God establishes His covenant with Abraham and Sarah.

Psalms 22:23-31 They will proclaim His righteousness to a people yet unborn---for He has done it.

Romans 5:1-11 Suffering→endurance→character→hope...while we were still sinners, Christ died for us...we were reconciled to God.

Mark 8:27-38 Who do men say that I am...You are the Christ...let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.

Recommended:

“Lord Christ, You Called the Twelve to Walk” – Stuenkel (G) [SoF, #35]

1 Lord Christ, you called the twelve to walk
the road to Calv'ry's cross
and taught that none can follow you
apart from pain and loss.
Good Shepherd, as you lead us through
these holy days of Lent,
we ask for grace to watch and pray
and for our sins repent.

2 We watch you as with steadfast face
you go where foes abound
and know we fail to match your stride
when danger closes round.
Good Shepherd, guide your anxious flock,
our faithfulness renew,
that when you bid us bear a cross,
we'll rise and follow you.

3 You climb a rock-bound hill, and then,
while darkness shrouds the sky,
they nail your body to a tree
and leave you there to die.
Good Shepherd, now the Lamb of God,
for sin a sacrifice,
we kneel in wonder at the sight---
Love's sacrament and price.

4 Our voices rise in grateful song
to praise the Lamb once slain,
the Lamb who triumphed over death
forevermore to reign!
Good Shepherd, Lamb of God, confirm
your flock in faithfulness
that, as we follow where you lead,
our lives your name confess!

CMD

Suggested tune: KINGSFOLD (LSB 444)

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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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

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

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“O Christ, unto Your Cross We Raise” -Cherwien (G) [PBS, p. 38]

1 O Christ, unto your cross we raise
Our eyes in gratitude and praise,
And lift up holy hands in prayer
For what your grace embodied there:
A heart of love, so high, so broad—
The unrelenting love of God.

3 Your outstretched arms embrace the world
To which in mercy we are called;
May we take up your cross, O Christ,
To take up lives of sacrifice,
And follow in your selfless path
That draws abundant life from death.

2 To you, O Christ, we lift our days
To be the vessels of your grace;
Drawn to your cross, our lives redrawn,
We serve the world unto your dawn;
Fed at your meal, we turn to feed
All those in hunger, those in need.

4 This cross can call, this cross can prove
A sign of God’s unchanging love;
Lift up our hearts, transfigure us
Into the pattern of your cross;
So may our hearts receive this sign,
And so embody love divine.

8 8 8 8 8 8

Suggested tune: PORT CHARLOTTE (PBS, pp. 92-93)

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VATER UNSER (*LSB* 613) would also work.

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“A Lasting Promise We Receive” – Clark (OT, E, G)

1 A lasting promise we receive
As children, chosen to believe.
A multitude of holy heirs
Await the home the Son prepares.

3 Yet while we wait, we bear the cross
Of earthly sorrow, pain, and loss.
But what are these? For Jesus bore
All things, that we will gain much more.

2 We have obtained the Father’s grace
Because our Savior took our place.
The Spirit pours into our hearts
The love His gracious will imparts.

4 Therefore, we trust the promise made
And sealed in blood, the ransom paid.
The darkest night will die away;
The Lord bore all, to grant the Day.

LM

Suggested tune: GOTTLÖB, ES GEHT NUNMEHR ZU ENDE (*LSB* 616) PD

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“This Gift of God Is Faith”-Gauger (OT,E) / (E) [SH]

1 The empty hand now filled,
the Spirit's sacred spark,
the eyes that see the hidden things,
the 'yes' said in the heart.
This gift of God, this gift of God is faith.

2 The nod of Abraham
when promised late one night
his family would numbered be
like stars that sweep the sky.
This gift of God, this gift of God is faith.

3 The Virgin's willingness,
when hearing Gabriel's word,
to be the one to bear the Son,
the Savior of the world.
This gift of God, this gift of God is faith.

4 The soul that knows it's lost
but hopes against all hope
and clings to life in Jesus Christ.
To whom else would we go?
This gift of God, this gift of God is faith.

5 Our leaning in to hear,
above the daily noise,
the word divine that says, "You're mine,"
the Father's still small voice.
This gift of God, this gift of God is faith.

6 God's heart that beats in us,
no matter what we feel;
when we are weak, his Spirit speaks;
our destiny is sealed.
This gift of God, this gift of God is faith.

7 Our turning back to God
when far from him we've strayed;
because we see his constancy,
we come back unafraid.
This gift of God, this gift of God is faith.

8 The peace we see upon
the dying sinner's face
who knows that death is powerless
when sinners die in grace.
This gift of God, this gift of God is faith.

6 6 8 6 10

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NOTES

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

Exodus 20:1-17 Giving of the 10 Commandments.

Psalms 19 The precepts of the LORD are right, giving joy to the heart.

1 Corinthians 1:18-31 The wisdom of the world...the foolishness of God...we preach Christ crucified...let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.

John 2:13-22 (23-25) Jesus drives the money changers from the temple...destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up.

Recommended:

“You Strode within the Temple, Lord” – Stuenkel (G) [AOH, #31]

1 You strode within the Temple, Lord,
where merchants vied for gain
and cried, “Your wares corrupt God’s house,
this place of prayer profane!”
With corded whip and fiery wrath
you put God’s foes to flight.
They could not bear the searching beam
of your unshielded light.

2 The temple of your body, Lord,
they crushed when you were slain;
but after three days’ sleep in death,
God raised it up again.
And now you have a dwelling place
on earth, in all its lands.
Your people are your temple, Lord,
a house not made with hands.

3 Make every heart your temple, Lord,
each life a holy place.
Forgive the sins that flaw your plan,
your patient work deface.
In love that does not shrink from truth
these temples purify.
And then in mercy, Lord, remain;
your Spirit’s gifts supply.

4 Come, visit, Lord of righteousness,
the church that bears your name.
Drive out our fear and unbelief,
the pride that is our shame.
Renew the life we share, O Christ,
in love and prayer and praise.
Then send us forth, our strength restored,
to serve you all our days.

CMD

Suggested tune: KINGSFOLD (*LSB* #444)

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“On Budding Hearts, God Wrote the Law” -Starke (OT) (OAAR #346)

1 On budding hearts, God wrote the Law,
When good was all our Maker saw;
Then two consumed their selfish choice;
They hid from His inquiring voice.

2 So once again, God gave the Law—
Mount Sinai quaked with thund’rous awe!
Commandments ten, inscribed on stone,
So that His holy will be known:

3 “You are to firstly love the Lord;
No other gods shall be adored.
Use not God’s name in godless ways.
The Sabbath keep for all your days.

4 Your parents honor and respect.
You shall not murder, but protect.
Your marriage vow you shall not stain.
You shall not steal or false obtain.

5 Against your neighbor, speak no lie,
But use your tongue to edify.
And covet not your neighbor’s house;
Nor covet donkey, maid, or spouse.”

6 God’s Law—a curb, our guard from sin;
God’s Law—a mirror, shines within,
So that from sin we turn away;
God’s Law—our guide from day to day.

7 Help us, O Lord, with holy awe
To truly love You and Your Law;
Help us to trust that when we fall,
Our Savior has redeemed us all!

LM

Suggested tune: GOD’S LAW copyright © 2020 John A. Behnke (OAAR 346]

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

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“Marvel Not at Earthly Gain” – Clark (OT, E, G)

1 Marvel not at earthly gain,
Pillars built with human hands.
Ev’ry tower built in vain—
It is Christ alone who stands.
Tear this Temple to the ground;
He will rise, secure and sound.

3 Tremble not at mortal might,
Sword and stone that melt away.
Christ is victor of the fight,
Claiming all that Final Day.
In His death, He thwarts death’s reign,
Winning life for us to gain.

2 Ponder not the worldly wise
Nor the words of dying lips.
All their breath is filled with lies,
Laced with snares and wily trips.
Listen to the voice of grace
Coming from a blood-stained face.

77 77 77

Suggested tune: For a new tune by Mark Knickelbein, contact copyrights@cph.org.

RATISBON (LSB 873) will also work. PD

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“Now Look, My Soul, into the Law” -Gauger (OT) [SH]

1 Now look, my soul, into the law
and see there ev’ry sin.
This mirror reveals the will of God
and how you’ve turned from him.

Repentance comes before relief
as dark before the day.

2 With true humility, concede
the fullness of your flaws,
the many ways you’ve failed to meet
the standard of the law.

4 And then, my soul, look to your Lord,
the kind and caring Christ.
There’s welcome in his healing Word;
there’s mercy in his eyes.

3 This honesty will bring you grief
but do not look away.

5 Lay all your sins on him, my soul.
His arms are open wide.
He longs to take your heavy load.
It was for you he died.

CM

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or selahhymnary@philipbiedenbender.com

Another possible tune: CAITHNESS (LSB 418) PD

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Numbers 21:4-9 Moses sets a bronze serpent upon a pole.

Psalm 107:1-9 Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble; and He saved them from their distress.

Ephesians 2:1-10 Even when we were dead in our trespasses, God made us alive in Christ Jesus...It is by grace you have been saved...

John 3:14-21 As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness...for God so loved the world...

Recommended:

“Through the Wasteland, Lord, We Wander” – Stuempfle (Ps) [SoF, #59]

1 Through the wasteland, Lord, we wander,
parched and hungry, filled with dread,
lost and lone, we seek for shelter;
trackless lies the way ahead.
Hear, O Lord our heart's petition:
“Guide us homeward; give us bread!”

2 When the night falls deep around us,
doubt corrodes and guilt assails;
when we blindly grope in darkness,
when no human help avails,
hear, O Lord, our heart's petition:
“Send your light that never fails!”

87 87 87

3 Wild the waves around us leaping,
small the boat on which we sail;
fear mounts high and hope deserts us
while the winds above us wail.
Hear, O Lord, our heart's petition:
“Let your Word of peace prevail!”

4 Home of ev'ry wand'ring pilgrim,
bread of life upon our way,
harbor where in peace we shelter,
light that turns our night to day,
hear, O Lord, our heart's thanksgiving:
“Praise to you, our strength and stay!”

Suggested tune: PICARDY (LSB 621)

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“Great Teacher, Sent from God” – Stuempfle (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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“When We Wander, Lone, Bewildered” – Stuempfle (Ps) [WGF, #52]

1 When we wander, lone, bewildered,
Through the barren wilderness,
When, beset by pain or sorrow,
Faith grows faint and fears oppress,
Then, O Christ, our guide and shepherd,
You who once were tested, tried,
Come and lead us through the desert
To the home where you abide.

2 When the weight of guilt, sin’s burden,
Bends us low, with shame surrounds,
When our wrongs accuse, remove us
Far from home where peace abounds,

Then, O Christ, who bore, though sinless,
All our sin upon the tree,
Come, forgive, redeem, restore us
By your Word that sets us free.

3 When we hunger midst the plenty
Of the world’s abundant food,
When we thirst for life surpassing
All that human praise calls good,
Then, O Christ, the bread of heaven,
Wine of life without an end,
Come and meet us at the table;
Be our Host, our food, our friend.

87 87 D

Suggested tune: BEACH SPRING (*LSB* 848)

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“Grace Is God’s Love Undeserved, Yet Abounding” -Starke (E) [MATM #18]

1 Grace is God’s love undeserved, yet abounding,
Wealth of love lavished upon our poor race,
Mercy toward sinners, all reason confounding,
God deemed us worthy to save by His grace!
Deep this rich kindness the earth still is sounding—
God’s love is grace not deserved, but abounding!

2 Grace is God’s love we are shown in Christ Jesus:
God in the flesh took our sin and our shame.
Death-conqu’ring life of our Lord truly frees us,
Faced our foes for us, His triumph we claim!
Good news now soars on God’s Spirit-wrought breezes—
God’s love is grace all are shown through Christ Jesus!

3 Grace is God's love bringing peace beyond measure,
Peace none can find in the Law's harsh demand,
Guarding our hearts in Christ Jesus, our treasure,
Peace far surpassing what we understand;
Peace, a sweet foretaste of heaven's pure pleasure—
God's love is grace that brings peace none can measure!

4 Grace is God's love here in time and forever.
God's work begun in us He will complete!
Nothing in life from this grace can us sever;
Nothing in death brings God's children defeat.
Grace, timely love for God's timeless endeavor—
God's love is grace for all time, yes, forever!

11 10 11 10 11 11

Suggested tune: JESUS IST KOMMEN, GRUND EWIGER FREUDE (*LSB* 533) PD

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“In Wickedness We Wander” – Clark (OT, E, G)

1 In wickedness, we wander
Along the world's dark path
And hunger for the evil
That sows the fruits of wrath.
Lord, lead us from the shadows
Into Your land of light,
And quench our thirst for sinning,
Sustained in Your delight.

2 In selfishness, we grumble
Against Your holy will
And yearn for satisfaction,
Our vain desires to fill.
Lord, curb our wanton pleading
Into Your call for peace
And grant us hearts for serving,
That ev'ry lack will cease.

3 In wretchedness, we wither
Beneath Your righteous eye
And know our way of living
Will cause us all to die.
Lord, guide us from the wicked
Into Your life of grace,
And give to us Your mercy,
Our sinfulness erase.

76 76 D

Suggested tune: For a new tune by Gabe Maichel, contact copyrights@cph.org.
ANTHES (*LSB* 915) will also work. PD

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“As Moses in the Wilderness” -Grindal (OT) [ATOF/OT-B]

1 As Moses in the wilderness
raised up a serpent made of brass,
and those who looked on it were healed
by looking on the thing that killed,
we take the mercy cure he gives,
a draught that kills so we may live.

2 To look at Jesus on the cross
and see what he has done for us
is like a death for those to see

their fault before them on a tree.
It breaks their hearts with grief and pain
to see their sinful selves made plain.

3 He takes us to himself in love,
and as our hearts are strangely moved,
he draws the lethal venom out
to treat our self-regard and doubt.
He kills the death in us with life
and overcomes our deadly strife.

88 88 88

Suggested tune: BRASS SERPENT by Iteke Prins

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Alternate tune: VATER UNSER (LSB 613) PD

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NOTES

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Jeremiah 31:31-34 I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel...I will remember their sins no more.

Psalms 119:9-16 I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands.

Hebrews 5:1-10 Christ Jesus, our great high priest...became the source of eternal salvation for all

Mark 10: (32-34) 35-45 Whoever would be great among you must be your servant.

Recommended:

“Draw Us, O God, into Your Holy Future” -Cherwien (E) [LiW, p. 21]

1 Draw us, O God, into your holy future,
Where we become what we were meant to be:
Each life unique, a loved and precious creature,
Yet all entwined, a many-branching tree.

4 Leaves fade and fall and feed new generations;
New life comes forth from what has gone before;
Create in us a sense of sure vocation:
A life of grace, for all the world outpoured.

2 Like as a tree, upreaching to the heavens,
We stretch and grow toward stars and sun above;
May we aspire to draw in light and wisdom,
Secure and sound, deep-rooted in your love.

5 Draw us, O God, into your new creation,
That we bear fruit for hope and making whole:
The fruit of truth, of beauty, and compassion—
Abundant life, of body, mind, and soul.

3 Out from dark earth, from shadow and from silence,
The seed may sprout, the old beget the new;
May we let go of all that stunts and binds us,
And winnow well all that we thought we knew.

11 10 11 10

Suggested tune: WARD (LiW, pp. 54-55)

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Jeff Blerch's tune WELCOME (*LSB* 612) would also work.

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“O Son of Man, You Came to Serve and Give” – Rogner (G)

1 O Son of Man, You came to serve and give
Your life as ransom, so that we may live.
Now may Your grace such acts of kindness move
That we in humble deeds may show Your love.

2 Make each of us a living sacrifice,
Poured out for others, heeding not the price,
Mindful of grace that we do not deserve,
Thankful for opportunities to serve.

3 Grant wisdom to discern the Spirit's call,
And faith to follow, trusting You in all.
Direct our gifts to meet our neighbor's need,
Whether we give, encourage, teach, or lead.

4 We praise Your name, O Triune God adored,
For calling us to service by Your Word.
Help us to grow in grace, redeemed and free,
That we may good and faithful servants be.

10 10 10 10

SUGGESTED TUNE: FARLEY CASTLE (*LSB* 631) PD

or an original tune by Jonathan Stahlke (for permission contact Jonathan.Stahlke@cuchicago.edu)

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“Such Perfect Love” – Clark (OT, E, G)

1 Such perfect love that keeps each vow
To all anointed on the brow.
Upholding ev'ry promise made,
Our Father's care will never fade.

2 Such selfless love that rights each wrong
Of ev'ry child to Him belong.
Forgetting ev'ry broken yes,
Our Savior earns our righteousness.

3 Such holy love that cleanses through,
For sinners' hearts, now made anew.
Restoring all from sin and death,
Our Holy Spirit gives us breath.

LM

Suggested tune: O WALY WALY (*LSB* 595) PD

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NOTES

PALM SUNDAY

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

Zechariah 9:9-12 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.

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.

Mark 14:1---15:47 Jesus anointed at Bethany...The Lord's Supper...Gethsemane...Crucifixion...Burial

OR

Mark 15:1-47 Jesus before Pilate...Crucifixion...Burial

OR

John 12:20-43 Jesus predicts his death.

Recommended:

“Holy Woman, Graceful Giver” - Cherwien (G---Mark 14 text) [PBS, p. 26]

1 Holy woman, graceful giver,
Prophet, servant, and believer,
Woman with the ointment jar,
Rose up near the time appointed
Broke the seal, Christ's head anointed
For the coming fatal hour.

3 In these jars is hidden treasure,
Costly fragrance, Christly pleasure,
Like the Christ, first from the dead,
Broken for creation's wholeness,
Poured out for its coming fullness,
Prophet, Servant, Hope, and Head.

2 Like the vessel, we are broken;
Like the ointment, we are token
Of God's loving unto death;
Like the woman, we are serving;
Like the scolders, ill deserving
Such a rich, forgiving faith.

4 Holy woman, costly treasure,
With the jar of alabaster,
Shows the hidden gift we are;
Therefore let us as Christ's servants
Hold our sister in remembrance,
Woman with the ointment jar.

8 8 7 8 8 7

Suggested tune: ALABASTER (PBS, pp. 74-75)

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ALLES IST AN GOTTES SEGEN (*LSB* 620) would also work.

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“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)

Jonathan Kohrs has composed a new tune for this text. Contact him at jkohrs811@gmail.com

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david.rogner@cuchicago.edu.

“Exult Today, Jerusalem” – Starke (PG) [MATM #5, 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
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;

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

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.

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.

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.

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!

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.

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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Tune: Charles Wood, 1866-1926. PD

“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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Suggested tune: ELMDALE [LiW, p. 71] Daniel E. Schwandt, copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress

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SOUTHWELL (*LSB* 424) will also work.

(See also **“Lift High Your Gates, Jerusalem”** – Stuempfle in First Sunday of Advent above.)

“A Bending Knee, a Broken Jar” – Stuempfle (G) [SoF, #1]

1 A bending knee, a broken jar
were signs of love outpoured.
They were a woman's sacrifice
one day to Christ, the Lord.

2 The broken jar, the oil outpoured
were all a waste, they said.
Such costly gifts she should have sold
to feed the poor instead.

3 But who can measure love by price,
its value quantify?
The gifts that pour from loving hearts
have worth that does not die.

4 And hands that give receive with grace
and do not close in pride,
as Christ, the Lord who loved the poor,
turned not from love aside.

5 Her gifts of love anointed him
who from a cross would reign,
whose way to his enthronement wound
along a path of pain.

6 So help us serve you, risen Lord,
with hearts as true and good
as hers who loved, then heard you say,
“She served me as she could!”

CM

Suggested tune: MARTYRDOM (LSB 437)

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“You Walked through Crowded Streets” – Stuempfle (G) [WL, #16]

1 You walked through crowded streets
toward skull-shaped Calvary.
How could they know your way would run
to all eternity?

2 They nailed you to a cross;
with thorns they crowned your head.
How could they know new life was born
from ev’ry drop you bled?

3 They mocked you as a king
whose reign was fantasy.
How could they know your kingdom stretched
to ev’ry land and sea?

4 The sun concealed its face,
and day was turned to night.
How could they know no dark could hide
your mercy’s healing light?

5 They took your body down
and laid it in a cave.
How could they know earth’s fairest flow’r
would blossom from the grave?

6 O Jesus, crucified,
before your cross we kneel.
Unveil for us the mystery
of love you there reveal.

SM

Suggested tune: SOUTHWELL (LSB 424)

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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.

1 Corinthians 10:16-17 The cup of blessing

Mark 14:12-26 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.

10 10 10 10

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.

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

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“O Christ, within a Quiet Room” – Stuenkel (G2) [SoF, #38]

1 O Christ, within a quiet room
you met with friends as Friend
and, kneeling, washing dirty feet,
you loved them to the end.
We cannot cross the bridge of time
to meet you there tonight;
so come across the ages, Lord,
to share your love and light.

2 Come, break again the bread for us
and pour the cup of grace.
Come, speak the words that lift the veil
that hides your holy face.
Come, wash our sin-soiled hearts with love,
our greed-spoiled lives refine.
Come graft our wills to yours, O Christ,
as branches to the vine.

3 Then send us from this quiet room
to follow your command,
to touch our neighbors near and far
with love's uplifting hand.
As once you took the basin, Lord,
and knelt in lowliness,
make us your servant people now
to comfort and to bless.

4 Your promised Spirit, Christ, we need
to strengthen and to guide;
your risen life to live in us
when faith has nearly died.
When tested, tempted, tremb'ling, Lord,
when love leads to a cross,
then help us know your gift of peace,
transcending pain or loss.

CMD

Suggested tune: KINGSFOLD (*LSB 444*)

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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!

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!

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!

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!”

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!

87 87 887

Suggested tune: AUS TIEFER NOT (*LSB 607*)

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

1 The Father sees his children’s chains.
From Pharoah’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.

888 5

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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“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!

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 with refrain

Suggested tune: BANQUET BIDDING [MATM #36]

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“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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“Behold, the Marriage Feast Awaits” -Reinhardt [MLMS, p. 42]

1 Behold the marriage feast awaits!
Make haste to enter through 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 every grace
He 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: JAM LUCIS (*LSB* 889) PD

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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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See Lent 2: **“O Christ, unto Your Cross We Raise”** - Cherwien

“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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“O Sinner, Watch and Wonder” – Clark (OT, E, G)

1 O sinner, watch and tremble
And shudder at the loss.
A form none would resemble
Here hangs upon a cross.
This body, crushed and bleeding,
Is offered up for you.
His life for yours is pleading
To pay the ransom due.

2 O sinner, watch and wonder
To see the dying Son.
The weight that He is under
Would else be borne by none.
The Father has forsaken
His sole-begotten Child
That we from wrath are taken,
Forever reconciled.

76 76 D

3 O sinner, watch and tarry
To witness love made bare.
Observe as strangers carry
A gift of grace most rare.
Unspeakable—this vi'lence
That caused your God to die.
Regard this scene in silence,
Save for an awestruck cry.

Suggested tune: For a new tune by Mark Knickelbein, contact copyrights@cph.org.
ANTHES (LSB 684) will also work. PD

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NOTES

EASTER (*Sunrise*)

Exodus 15:1-11 The song of Moses and the Israelites.

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

1 Corinthians 5:6b-8 Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed.

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*)

Jonathan Kohrs has composed a new tune for this text. Contact him at jkohrs811@gmail.com

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“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!

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
All of us His own.

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)

Isaiah 25:6-9 He will swallow up death forever...let us rejoice and be glad in His salvation.

Psalms 16 For you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay.

1 Corinthians 15:1-11 Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures.

Mark 16:1-8 The empty tomb.

Recommended:

“O Christ, the Daystar, Risen Son” -Cherwien [LiW, p. 32]

1 O Christ, the Daystar, risen Son,
The light no dark can overcome:
From morning prayer to evensong,
Our inmost thoughts to you belong.

3 Out from the night of fear and care
Your shining face dispels despair;
You stand at daybreak's golden skies
And reach your hand to bid us rise.

2 Though darkness looms and shadows wake,
Though unseen foes beset and plague,
O Christ, our Light, whom shall we fear,
When you, the Dawn from high, appear?

4 Oh, may your light set hearts on fire
To burn with love and pure desire;
That we as risen people shine,
Filled with your light and hope divine.

5 O Christ, the Daystar, risen Son,
The light no dark can overcome:
From morning prayer to evensong,
Our utmost hymns to you belong.

LM

Suggested tune: DUNEDIN (LiW, p. 68; *LSB* 574) by Vernon Griffiths, © 1971 Faber Music Ltd.

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“Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen” -Cherwien (G) [OBS, p. 36]

1 Rise, O church, like Christ arisen,
From this meal of love and grace;
May we through such love envision
Whose we are, and whose, our praise.
Alleluia, alleluia:
God, the wonder of our days.

3 Rise, remember well the future
God has called us to receive;
Present by God's loving nurture,
Spirited then let us live.
Alleluia, alleluia:
Spirit, grace by whom we live.

2 Rise, transformed, and choose to follow
After Christ, though wounded, whole;
Broken, shared our lives are hallowed
To release and to console.
Alleluia, alleluia:
Christ, our present, past, and goal.

4 Service be our sure vocation;
Courage be our daily breath;
Mercy be our destination
From this day and unto death.
Alleluia, alleluia:
Rise, O church, a living faith.

8 7 8 7 8 7

Suggested tune: SURGE ECCLESIA (OBS, pp. 76, 109) by Timothy J. Strand © 1997 Augsburg Fortress

ASCENDED TRIUMPH (*LSB* 491) and REGENT SQUARE (*LSB* 367) would also work.

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“Up From the Earth in Dawn Array” - Cherwien (G) [CBM, p. 50]

1 Up from the earth in dawn array
Christ enlightens night to day;
Spring now alights on rock and meadow,
Tilling life from death and shadow.
Firstborn and fair, the risen Christ
Speaks our name and bids us rise.

4 Riven in two, the temple's veil,
Riven olden rifts to heal:
Power is loosed among the living,
Vining wild beyond believing,
Look and behold, the whole world through,
God is making all things new.

2 “Come now, my love, now come away;
See the bright eternal day.
Winter is past, the rains are over;
Earth is clothed in rose and clover.
Sweet as the dove our song should be;
Come, my love, arise with me.”

5 Gone is the garden's solemn guard,
Gone the ever-turning sword,
Angels instead a hymn are weaving,
And the Tree of Life is leafing.
Exile, no more our poor estate:
Christ has opened wide the gate.

3 Wounded the hands that bid us rise,
Washed with tears those loving eyes,
Wounded, our stony hearts are riven
To prepare the earth for heaven;
Rooted in God, our hopes unfold
Washed in hues of royal gold.

6 Come now, dear Christ, now come and stay
As we feast this golden day.
From every wound, each barren winter,
Spring shall bloom, and life shall enter.
Risen with you and bowed in awe
May we sing alleluia!

8 7 9 8 8 7

Suggested tune: BESANÇON, (CBM p. 106; *LSB* 481) French carol; Public domain

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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 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

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

1 Glory gilds the eastern sky,
Heav'n 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 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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“As the Sun Rolls Back Night’s Gloom” – Stuempfle (G) [WL, #25]

1 As the sun rolls back night’s gloom,
weeping women reach the tomb,
find the rock-bound prison open,
hear the wondrous message spoken!
Let the joyous word be spread:
“Christ is risen from the dead!”

3 Such a dawn has never been
since the world’s first light was seen.
Now is born the new creation!
Now the day of our salvation!
Let the joyous word be spread:
“Christ is risen from the dead!”

2 Jesus greets the rising sun.
Shadows of the night are gone.
Burial cloths no more enfold him.
Death’s strong chains no longer hold him.
Let the joyous word be spread:
“Christ is risen from the dead!”

4 On this glorious Easter day,
earth is clothed in bright array!
Christians, join the whole creation
with your songs of jubilation!
Let the joyous word be spread:
“Christ is risen from the dead!”

77 88 77

Suggested tune: DEJLIG ER DEN HIMMEL BLÅ (*ELW* 301)

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“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

Suggested tune: BOUNDLESS LIFE by Keith Kolander, copyright © 2025, For permission to use, contact him at ktkman57@gmail.com

DENBY (LSB 602) will also work.

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“Where Is the Stone That Was Sealing the Tomb” -Schultz (G) [Unpublished]

1 Where is the stone that was sealing the tomb?

An angel had set it aside,
showing the world that this vacated room
brings peace that will ever abide.

Come now and

Refrain:

Sing, “Alleluia!” Christ is arisen, he demolished death’s prison,
Sing “Alleluia!” Our Redeemer is risen indeed!

2 Where is the Lord who was laid in the tomb?

Alive and still reigning today,
freeing the world from the shackles of gloom,
for he took transgressions away.

Break forth and

Refrain

3 Where is the fear that was found in the tomb?

Disciples soon left it behind,
telling the world of the joy that will bloom
where Christ and his goodness have shined.

All the earth

Refrain

4 Where is the trust that is taught at the tomb?

In me, Lord, now let it be found,
that, when the world comes to ashes and doom,
I meet you on heavenly ground.

O my soul,

Refrain

10 8 10 8 3 and refrain

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NOTES

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 4:32-35 With great power the apostles testified to the resurrection of our Lord Jesus.

Psalms 148 Let them praise the name of the Lord.

1 John 1:1—2:2 That which we have seen and heard...God is light...walk in the light.

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 3:11-21 Peter and John heal the lame man and preach repentance to the Israelites.

Psalm 4 You have filled my heart with greater joy.

1 John 3:1-7 See what kind of love the Father has given to us.

Luke 24:36-49 Jesus appears to the disciples...opens their minds to the Scriptures...promises His Spirit.

Recommended:

“I’ll Lie Down and Sleep in Peace” – M. Schultz (Ps) Psalm 4 [Unpublished]

1 When the morning sun has risen,
run its course across the heavens,
and, in captivating beauty,
left its hues on the horizon,

Refrain:

I’ll lie down and sleep in peace,
in the quietness of knowing
you alone, O Lord my refuge,
make me dwell in perfect safety.
I’ll lie down and sleep in peace.

2 When my evening prayer has risen
to your throne of grace in heaven,
and I’ve marveled at your mercy,
that in Christ I stand forgiven,

Refrain

3 When the gentle moon has risen
and the stars adorn the heavens,
in the solace of your presence,
‘neath the shield of guardian angels.

Refrain

8 8 8 8 and refrain

Suggested tune: WILD MOUNTAIN THYME (Scottish folk song) PD

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See **“Behold, the Marriage Feast Awaits”** – Reinhardt/Maundy Thursday.

NOTES

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 4:1-12 Peter and John are jailed...a question of authority...there is salvation in no one else.

Psalm 23 The Lord is my shepherd.

1 John 3:16-24 Let us love in word and truth.

John 10:11-18 I am the Good Shepherd...I know my own...there will be one flock, one Shepherd.

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.

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;

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,
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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“We Are Known and Not Unnumbered” – Stuempfle (G) [WL, #60]

1 We are known and not unnumbered
like the stars that fill the sky.
Vast the cosmic sweep beyond us,
faint the infant’s newborn cry;
yet your ear, O God, is list’ning
when the heart can scarcely sigh.

2 We are known and not forgotten
like a hero’s faded wreath.
Time through endless ages stretches,
brief our moment’s mortal breath;
yet your hand, O God, supports us,
holds us both in life and death.

3 We are known and not rejected
like a beggar held at bay.
Though we mar, distort your image,
though we turn from you away.
still you seek us out in mercy,
hear and answer when we pray.

4 We are known, remembered, cherished,
when we wander lost, alone.
Though we break the bonds that bind us,
still you name us as your own.
We may fill this crowded planet,
yet you love us each as one.

87 87 87

Suggested tune: ASCENDED TRIUMPH (LSB 491)

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“Lost in the Terror of the Night”-Reinhardt (G) [MLMS, p. 29]

1 Lost in the terror of the night,
The thorns had caught me in my flight
My bleating cries would soon be still,
The wolf was circling for the kill.

2. But then His voice came on the wind:
“My precious Lamb, I know you’ve sinned,
Yet I have come to seek the lost,
To rescue them at any cost.”

3 He traced my path into the wild,
His heart set on His wayward child,

Until He found me where I lay,
His foolish sheep that went astray.

4 Into the thorns He stretched His arm
With boundless love, enduring harm,
His hands were cut and pierced for me
To break the snare and set me free.

5 With tender mercy, I’m held fast;
Around his neck, now safe at last,
My shepherd bears me through the night
Towards the joy of dawning light.

LM

Suggested tune: WENN WIR IN HÖCHSTEN NÖTEN SEIN (LSB 615) PD

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NOTES

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 8:26-40 The Spirit leads Philip as he opens up the Scriptures to the Ethiopian eunuch.

Psalms 150: Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

1 John 4:1-11 (12-21) Do not believe every spirit; test the spirits...let us love one another.

John 15:1-8 I am the true vine...abide in me...bear much fruit.

Recommended:

“Draw Us, O God, into Your Holy Future” – Cherwien (G) [LiW, p. 21]

(See Lent 5)

“Spirit, Come with Grace, Renew” – Starke (OT, G) [MATM #32] <Confirmation Sunday>

1 Spirit, come with grace, renew
These our children called by You;
May they, soul and body, be
Kept by You in sanctity.

4 In the eucharistic meal,
Your forgiveness to them seal
As they feed on Jesus Christ,
For their sins once sacrificed. *Refrain*

Refrain:

Breathe on them Your living breath;
Keep them faithful unto death.

5 May they fruits of faith display,
Firm and steadfast till that day
When all those who Christ confess
Shall be crowned in righteousness. *Refrain*

2 To the font their faith we trace,
Where You touched them with Your grace,
Grafting them by love's design
As a branch into the Vine. *Refrain*

3 Help them live, O holy Fire,
By God's Word, as You desire;
Purge away all worthless dross,
Forge their lives around the cross. *Refrain*

7 7 7 7 and refrain

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“Amid the World’s Bleak Wilderness” -Vajda (G) [LW #273, SP, p. 36]

1 Amid the world’s bleak wilderness
A vineyard grows with promise green,
The planting of the Lord Himself.

2 His love selected this terrain,
His vine with love He planted here
To bear the choicest fruit for Him.

3 We are His branches, chosen, dear,

And though we feel the Dresser’s knife,
We are the objects of His care.

4 From Him we draw the juice of life,
For Him supply His winery
With fruit from which true joys derive.

5 Vine, keep what I was meant to be:
Your branch with Your rich life in me.

Irregular

Suggested tune: GRANTON [LW 273]

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“Abide in Me” – Weber (G) [SG, #2]

REFRAIN

Abide in me as I abide in you,
abide in me as I abide in you.

1 I am the vine, you are the branches;
those who abide in me bear much fruit. REFRAIN

2 Apart from me you can do nothing,
keep my commands, abide in my love. REFRAIN

3 As I love you, love one another;
My joy in you, your joy made complete. REFRAIN

45 45 46 46

Suggested tune: ABIDE IN ME (Original tune by Paul Weber found in SG, #2).

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“Your Church Is like a Family” – Stuempfle (G) [SoF, #72]<perhaps as a closing hymn>

1 Your church is like a fam’ly formed
by gifts of grace and richly fed---
each member born through water, Word,
and nurtured by Christ’s living Bread.
Christ, knit our lives in unity;
in mutual love and ministry.

2 Your church is like a building strong.
You are its rock and cornerstone.
In ev’ry age your saints proclaimed
the truth through which its strength has grown.
Christ, make each life a living stone
within this house you call your own.

3 Your church is like a sturdy vine
whose branches spread the world around.
Where faithful Christians serve you, Lord,

there fruits of love and peace abound.
Christ, prune our life that it may bear
good fruit for all the world to share.

4 Your church is like a fam’ly sent,
dispersed beyond these walls of stone
to school and office, fact’ry, farm---
wherever human work is done.
Christ, Guide and Strength forever be;
make each new day our ministry.

5 And so, with all the church on earth
the church of saints in ages past,
we lift again our hymns to you,
for you are Lord while time shall last!
Christ, help us sing through all our days:
“Alleluia! To God be praise!”

88 88 88

Suggested tune: MELITA (LSB 717) or ALL EHR UND LOB (LSB 500)

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“O Sing a New Song of Glory to God” -Cherwien (Ps) [LiW, p. 34]

1 O sing a new song of glory to God,
Expressions of joy, expressions of love,
For God our creator creates all things new;
So sing a new song unto God.

2 Become a new voice to sing a new song,
Arise in Christ, in Spirit renewed,
For all things transform in the mercy of God;
So sing a new song unto God.

3 O radiant delight, O planting of God,
Let God be your love, let love be your song,

And let not your living belie what you sing;
So sing a new song unto God.

4 Assembly of saints, sing glory to God,
Become yourselves the glory you sing;
God’s glory shines out in the lives of all saints;
So sing a new song unto God.

5 O sing a song of glory to God,
O sing with your voice, O sing with your heart,
But foremost, beloved, O sing with your life;
O sing a new song unto God.

10 10 11 8

Suggested tune: DEXTER (LiW, p. 70)

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“The True Vine Grows No Piercing Fruit” – Reinhardt (G)

[MLMS, p.104]

1 The true Vine grows no piercing thorn
But prays for those, who filled with scorn,
Hang Him to die upon the tree
To curse the heart that sets them free.

3 The true Vine yields no bitter gall
For those who jeer and insults call,
But mercy’s cup He fills instead,
For those who mock and wish Him dead.

2 The true vine bears no sour fruit,
Pure love infuses ev’ry shoot
For those who with their wicked lies
Proclaim His guilt to stormy skies.

4 Lord, help me take up Your own plea
And pray for those who would wound me;
The vine’s own branch should grow no thorn,
Free me in love from sinful scorn.

LM

Suggested tune: LAKEWOOD (*LSB* 854)

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“The Light, the Water, and the Word” -Grindal (First Reading, Acts 8:26-40) [ATOF/OT-B]

1 The light, the water, and the word
shone brightly round me when I heard
that Jesus was God’s only Son.
I heard his name, and life began.

3 The brightness in me had been sent,
and when I fathomed what it meant,
I stepped beneath the sparkling flood:
Christ washed away the old for good.

2 Light broke above me on that day.
I needed one to show the way,
to open up the book I read
and raise its letters from the dead.

4 Now I am living in the light
that shines around me day and night
with glory from the Christ, my Lord,
His light, his water, and his word.

LM

Suggested tune: LIGHT by Iteke Prins

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Alternate tune: ST. LUKE (*LSB* 614) PD

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SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 10:34-48 You know how God anointed Jesus with the Holy Spirit...

Psalm 98 The LORD has made His salvation known.

1 John 5:1-8 This is the love of God that we keep His commandments.

John 15:9-17 If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love.

Recommended:

See **“Abide in Me”** by Paul Weber listed above in Fifth Sunday of Easter.

“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!

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.

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!

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) or LAUDATE DOMINUM (*LSB* 665)

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“The Love of the Father, Made Flesh in His Son”—Rogner (G)

1 The love of the Father, made flesh in His Son.
Draws all to the Savior, that we may be one.
How often the world shuns the grace from above,
But Jesus reminds us, “Remain in My love.”

2 When loneliness threatens, and doubt leads to fear,
When wrath sows division, and hopes disappear,
Take heart! The compassion of God never ends.
As Jesus assures us, “I call you my friends.”

3 Confusion may tempt us to walk a new way;
The cares of the world can entice us to stray.
Yet trust God’s direction; His truth ever stands.
As Jesus implores us, “Obey My commands.”

4 Sustained by His grace and His precepts divine,
We thrive, as a branch grafted into the Vine,
Now serving our neighbor, with joy unsurpassed,
For Jesus exhorts us, “Bear fruit that will last.”

11 11 11 11

SUGGESTED TUNES: FOUNDATION (*LSB 728*) or ST. DENIO (*LSB 802*) PD

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NOTES

If you wish to include a hymn for Mother’s Day (May 9, 2027), 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:

“Disciples of Our Lord” -Starke (FR, G) [OSOC #29]

1 Disciples of our Lord

With awe beheld Christ rise as clouds obscured Him.

Their eyes where He had soared

Transfixed, until the angels' words assured them:

Refrain

“Gaze not into the sky, with heart and soul suspended.

This Jesus whom you love

Has now to heav'n ascended, ascended, ascended;

He'll come again when time has ended!”

2 Until that final hour

His Gospel into all the world be taking;

The promised Spirit's pow'r

Shall go with you, new life in hearts awaking. *Refrain*

3 Then let us work today,

The night when none can toil advances nearer.

With bright and splendid ray

May God's great love shine through us, always clearer. *Refrain*

6 11 6 11 and refrain

Suggested tune: VRUECHTEN (LSB 482) PD

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“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 Love that walked earth’s narrow streets
rules ev’ry land and race!
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!

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!

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.

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.

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.

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*)

Jonathan Kohrs has composed a new tune for this text. Contact him at jkohrs811@gmail.com

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david.rogner@cuchicago.edu.

NOTES

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 1:12-26 The selection of Matthias.

Psalms 1 The LORD watches over the way of the righteous.

1 John 5:9-15 This is the testimony: God has given us eternal life in His Son.

John 17:11b-19 Jesus prays on behalf of 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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NOTES

THE DAY OF PENTECOST

Ezekiel 37:1-14 Dem dry bones...I will put my Spirit within you and you shall live...

Psalms 139:1-12 (13-16) How precious to me are your thoughts, O God!

Acts 2:1-21 The day of Pentecost.

John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15 When the Spirit of Truth comes, he will guide you into all truth.

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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“Where Have You Gone, Ascended Lord” – Stuempfle (G) [SoF, #68]

1 Where have you gone, ascended Lord,
no eye can ever see,
nor can we know you as you were
in ancient Galilee.

2 Yet through the Spirit still you come
to fill each empty heart,
to teach us Truth, to show the Way
and Life and Love impart.

3 Come, Spirit of the Risen Christ;
upon your church descend
and be for us in this new day
our Counselor and Friend.

4 Renew in us the flame of faith;
Lord, teach us how to pray,
and help us, by the Spirit's strength,
your call to serve obey.

Suggested tune: LAND OF REST (LSB 673) or DUNDEE (LSB 526)

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“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.

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.

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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“The Lord, His Peace Bestowing” – Starke (SR) [MATM 53] <Pastoral Ministry>

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.”

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.

2 On Pentecost, in power,
Again the Spirit came

5 The Lord is still bestowing
His peace upon our race:

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.

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.

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.

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

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“O God of Fire, O Word of Flame”-Cherwien (2nd Reading from Acts 2) [PBS, p. 40]

1 O God of Fire, O Word of Flame,
That calls each creature's precious name,
As once you came, come now, inspire,
That we become on earth your fire.

That as your first-fruits we emerge
Refined, transfigured from your forge.

2 Pour out your Spirit on all flesh;
Ignite in us enlightened speech,
That thus, enkindled by your spark,
We speak the language of each heart.

4 Enfold us in your warm embrace,
That we become your dwelling place,
And as your holy mortal home,
A welcome hearth to all become.

3 Remove from us all dross and fear,
And with your burning love draw near,

5 So change us, charge us, that we move
As sanctuaries of your love,
And in these latter days inspire,
That we become on earth your fire.

LM

Suggested tune: CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM (*LSB* 351) PD
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“Spirit of God, Resound in Us”-Cherwien (OT) [PBS, p. 51]

1 Spirit of God, resound in us
With songs of beauty, hymns of life,
That beauty from our voices rise
In echoed tones melodious; Alleluia.

2 Spirit of God, revive in us
Our first and given Godly state,
That with the One we may create
A world divine and marvelous; Alleluia.

3 Spirit of God, reveal in us
The boundless Good that knows no shore,

And spur our actions to explore
God’s all-embracing spaciousness; Alleluia.

4 Spirit of God, refine in us
The love of God, the mind of Christ,
That from all dross we be enticed
To lives all lovely, luminous; Alleluia.

5 Spirit of God, reflect in us
The concord of God’s living choir
That with the water, earth, wind, fire
We sing in praise harmonious; Alleluia.

LM and alleluia

Suggested tune: ANNO TRINGINTA QUINQUE (PBS, pp. 112-113)

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NOTES

THE HOLY TRINITY

Isaiah 6:1-8 Isaiah's vision of the Lord upon His throne.

Psalms 29 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name.

Acts 2:14a, 22-36 This Jesus whom you crucified...(Peter's sermon)

John 3:1-17 For God so loved the world...

Recommended:

"Isaiah Gazed in Silent Awe" -Starke (OT) [OSOC #87]

1 Isaiah gazed in silent awe
To see the Lord God over all,
Whose robe of brilliance filled the hall,
That temple which Isaiah saw.
Above God's throne were seraphim,
With rev'rent poise they worshiped Him
And sang His praises as they soared:
"O holy, holy, holy Lord."

2 Now when these six-winged angels spoke,
The thresholds and foundations shook
In thund'rous glory, as he looked,
The lofty throne room filled with smoke!
And at this sight, God's chosen seer,
With trembling lips cried out in fear,
"Oh, woe is me, for I am lost—
My eyes have seen the Lord of Hosts!"

3 An angel from that heav'nly place
Held out a burning coal with tongs
To touch his mouth, to purge his wrongs—
High messenger of cleansing grace.
The urgent call of God was heard:
"Whom shall I send to speak My Word?"
The seer replied, from sin set free:
"Lord, here am I; send me, send me!"

4 Lord, touch our eyes that we may see,
Unseal our lips that we confess
Your mercy and Your holiness,
Your all-embracing majesty.
Grant voice and vision from above,
That we proclaim Your saving love
In all we say and all we do,
To glorify and honor You!

L M D

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"O God, Whose Spirit's Searching Call" – Stuempfle (OT) [SoF, #42]

1 O God, whose Spirit's searching call
can conquer doubt and fear,
your Word, insistent, summons us
until, by faith, we hear.

2 Our wills, confined by self, release
from their captivity

that, when you speak, we may reply:
"Here, Lord, am I; send me!"

3 Conform us to your Word of truth;
your Spirit's gifts supply.
Ignite in us a flame, a fire
of zeal that will not die.

4 Let all our life and work be built
on Christ, the cornerstone;
and help us feed your hungry flock
the bread of Christ alone.

5 Give strength to run the race begun,
enduring to the end,
until with saints who ran before
our songs of praise we blend.

CM

Suggested tune: SHANTI (LSB 720) or NUN DANKET ALL (LSB 812)

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“Resplendent Trinity” – Weber [SG, #61] (Selected stanzas)

1 Resplendent Trinity---
of glist’ning stars the Maker,
the Christ whose cross glows brilliantly,
the Flame that fans love’s ardor---
shine forth in this your house
as gathered here we praise you
for your salvation glorious
and life each morning made new.

2 Inspiring Holy Three,
pour out your Spirit’s powers
as once you did on seventy
of Israel’s chosen elders,

who ate and drank with you,
beheld your face and glory.
With all the saints we worship you
and witness to your story.

3 All glory, One in Three!
O Father, Son, and Spirit:
keep us in loving unity,
Each child of yours to cherish.
Amen, it shall be so!
Your grace will never fail us!
So we shall gather ‘round the throne
to sing your endless praises!

67 87 D

Suggested tune: GERALDINE Original tune by Paul Weber, sound in SG, #61.

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“Great Teacher, Sent from God” – Stuempfle (G) See Fourth Sunday in Lent above.

“We Believe in God the One” – Moede

1 We believe in God the One,
Mighty Father, by whose Son
All in heav’n and earth was made,
Seen, unseen, His love displayed,
Him who over all presides,
Maker who for all provides.

2 We believe in God the Lord,
Jesus Christ, the Son adored,
Sole Begotten, from above,
From the Father’s endless love,
Who, before all ages stirred,
Was begotten, God the Word.

3 Light from Light and God from God,
Truly God from Truly God,
Christ, begotten, never made,
He through whom all things were made,
With the Father He is One,
Essence same as God the One.

4 Christ for all mankind came down,
For our saving left His crown,
By the Spirit, flesh assumed,
Of the Virgin, God en-wombed,
For us men a man became,
Jesus, Yahweh-saves, His Name.

5 Under Pilate crucified,
Suffered, buried, God had died.
On day three He rose from death,
Witnessed by the Scriptures’ breath.
He ascended to the sky
To the Father’s right on high.

77 77 77

6 Christ in glory comes again,
Judging dead and living men,
He whose Kingdom never ends,
He whose Name all names transcends.
By His Spirit is outpoured
This confession: Christ is Lord.

7 Holy Spirit, we confess,
Life-Creator, Lord we bless,
From the Father and the Son,
Worshipped, glorified as One,
God who through the prophets spoke,
And breathed Scripture’s ev’ry stroke.

8 We believe the Church is one,
Holy, cath’lic, justly won,
Apostolic doctrine pure,
We, Christ’s Body, shall endure.
We confess one Baptism true,
Sins forgiven, man made new.

9 We believe the dead will rise,
Faithless men to their demise;
To the faithful God gives life
Everlasting, free from strife,
Coming age, God dwells with men.
This is true, amen, amen.

Suggested tune: Contact Jacob Moede at moedej@csl.edu for a tune he wrote.
RATISBON (LSB 873) will also work. PD

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“Listen; the Voice of God Is Quaking” – Clark (OT, E, G)

1 Listen; the voice of God is quaking;
His glory thunders majesty.
Cedars and ancient doors are breaking;
Waves crash and foam into the sea.
Bow down in praise, you heav’nly host.
All voices raise from ev’ry coast.

2 Listen; the voice of God is teaching,
Sharing the light to darkened eyes.
He loves the world; His truth is reaching,
That all may know the greatest prize.
Sit down and hear the Gospel true:
The Son is here and rescues you.

3 Listen; the voice of God empowers,
Setting your tongues ablaze with truth.
During these last remaining hours,
Share the Good News with aged and youth.
The promised King has vanquished hell.
All voices ring, His name to tell.

4 The Father’s voice proclaims the sentence:
“Sin’s fatal wages—satisfied.”
The Savior’s voice speaks to repentants:
“For you I suffered, bled, and died.”
The Spirit fills our mouths with song.
Our hearts He stills, our praise prolong.

98 98 88

Suggested tune: O DASS ICH TAUSEND ZUNGEN HÄTTE (DRETZEL) (LSB 566)

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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.

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.

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.

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 Wenthe has composed a wonderful tune---NORTH LASALLE--- for this text. Contact him at stevenwenthe@gmail.com

Another possible tune is MORNING STAR (LSB 400)

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NOTES

PROPER 3 (May 24-28)

Hosea 2:14-20 I will make a covenant for them...

Psalms 103:1-13 Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits---

Acts 2:14a, 36-47 The promise is for you and your children...

Mark 2: (13-17) 18-22 No one pours old wine into new wineskins.

Recommended:

“We Treasure Ancient Truths, O Lord” – Stuempfle (G) [WL, 69] See Epiphany 8 above.

“O Bless the LORD; My Soul, Bless the LORD!”-Starke (Ps) [Unpublished]

1 O bless the LORD;
My soul bless the LORD!
Let all within me
Now bless His holy name forevermore—
My soul, do not forget
God’s gracious good to you!

4 O bless the LORD,
Our Father above
Who shows compassion
With boundless, steadfast love for all in Christ—
Removes our sins from us,
As far as east from west!

2 O bless the LORD,
Who heals and forgives;
From death redeems you,
Who crowns your life with mercy and with love—
Who sates you with His good;
Your waning youth, renews.

5 O bless the LORD,
For pure, righteous love
To children’s children,
To all who keep His holy covenant—
His throne stands firm and sure;
God’s kingdom rules all things!

3 O bless the LORD,
His mercy and grace;
So slow to anger,
With boundless, steadfast love for all in Christ—
Removes our sins from us,
As far as east from west!

6 O bless the LORD,
You heavenly hosts
Who do His bidding,
In ev’ry place where His dominion reigns—
O bless the LORD, my soul,
With all who do His will!

7 O bless the LORD;
All glory to God!
Bless God the Father;
Bless God the Son; bless God the Holy Ghost—
As was when time began,
Is now, and evermore!

4 5 5 10 6 6

Suggested tune: DANKET DEM HERRN! WIR DANKEN DEM HERRN PD

From Tasten-Spiele, the accompaniment book for the German *Evangelisches Gesangbuch* #333.

Contact Jacob Weber for copy of the tune and a possible setting. jacob.weber@cph.org

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“What God Requires of Us Is Love” -Grindal (OT) [ATOF/OT-B]

1 What God requires of us is love,
and wants us for his own,
so we can flourish as we live
and worship him alone.

2 For when we worship him alone
and follow his commands,
our lives become a vine that's grown
and nourishes the land.

3 The food that nourishes the land
is tended and made good
by God who guides the grower's hands
to prune away dead wood.

4 God, like the gardner pruning wood,
wants us to grow and thrive,
so life can flourish as it should,
deep-rooted and alive.

CM

Suggested tune: GARDNER by Iteke Prins

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Alternate tune: DUNDEE (*LSB* 526) PD

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NOTES

PROPER 4 (May 29-June 4)

Deuteronomy 5:12-15 Observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

Psalms 81:1-10 “If my people would but listen to me, if Israel would follow my ways...”

2 Corinthians 4:5-12 We are hard pressed on every side but not crushed...we preach Christ crucified.

Mark 2:23-28 (3:1-6) The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath.

Recommended:

“Lord, Save Your People” (*Salvum fac populum tuum*) -Starke (G) [Unpublished]

(Fifth stanza for LSB 941 “We Praise You and Acknowledge You”—can work as an offertory)

5 Lord, save Your people—blessings on Your heritage outpour;

Uplift and govern them by grace, both now and evermore.

We magnify You daily, as we glorify Your Name.

O grant, dear Lord, to keep us this day from sin and shame.

Your mercy be upon us, Lord; our trust in You is sound.

In You, Lord, I have trusted; let nothing me confound.

13 13 13 13 13 13

Suggested tune: THAXTED (LSB 941) PD

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NOTES

PROPER 5 (June 5-11)

Genesis 3:8-15 The fall of man into sin.

Psalms 130 Put your hope in the LORD for with the LORD is unfailing love.

2 Corinthians 4:13---5:1 We fix our eyes on what is unseen.

Mark 3:20-35 Claims that Jesus had an evil spirit.

Recommended:

“In the Beauty of Creation” – Clark (OT, E, G)

1 In the beauty of creation,
We enjoyed Your presence clear.
Ev'ry day: a celebration
That Your glory would be near.
Till that day we hid in terror—
Loving trust replaced with fear.

2 From the depths, we cry for mercy,
Listen to our desp'rate plea!
Well aware we are not worthy,
Still we come on bended knee.
Steadfast love through Christ's redemption
Promises to set us free.

3 In the manger lay Messiah:
God with us, Immanuel.
He has paid what You require
Satisfied the debt of hell.
In our place, He died our Brother,
With our Father we may dwell.

4 Though our earthly lives are waning,
You renew us day by day.
Christ, the Victor, now is reigning
Till the world will pass away.
We will rise and share Your glory;
In Your presence we will stay!

87 87 87

Suggested tune: For a new tune by Mark Knickelbein, contact copyrights@cph.org.

LAUDA ANIMA (LSB 417) will also work. PD

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NOTES

PROPER 6 (June 12-18)

Ezekiel 17:22-24 On the mountaintop I will plant my tree.

Psalms 1 The LORD watches over the way of the righteous.

2 Corinthians 5:1-10 (11-17) We have a building from God, not made with hands.

Mark 4:26-34 The kingdom of God is like the grain of a mustard seed.

Recommended:

“The Lord Will Nurture Ev’ry Seed” – Clark (OT, E, G)

1 The Lord will nurture ev’ry seed
And plant new life where there is need.
The smallest sprig becomes a tree
Set high above for all to see.

3 The Lord will bring the harvest in
And claim the fruit begun within,
For all the bounty here bestowed
Comes from the life that He first sowed.

2 The Lord will quench the thirsty heart
And satisfy those set apart.
The water flows both deep and clear,
Refreshing all that’s rooted near.

LM

Suggested tune: O WALY WALY (LSB 595)

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NOTES

PROPER 7 (June 19-25)

Job 38:1-11 Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth?

Psalms 124 Our help is in the name of the LORD who made heaven and earth.

2 Corinthians 6:1-13 Now is the day of salvation.

Mark 4:35-41 Jesus calms the storm sea. The Lord of all creation. "Even the wind and sea obey him!"

Recommended:

"Before the Worlds Were Formed" – Stuenkel (OT) [SoF, #7]

1 Before the worlds were formed
or stars the heavens filled,
when all was chaos wild and bare,
earth's creatures still unwilling,
the Word, unspoken yet,
was like a mighty chord
that throbbed within the heart of God.
You were, O Christ, the Word!

2 While all was dark and void,
God said, "Let there be light!"
And silent, primal night was filled
with beams of glory bright!
By God's all potent Word
a universe was born,
and all the infant stars sang out
to greet creation's morn!

3 One brilliant star bent low
above a sleeping town,
while shepherds slept and sages searched
and angel songs poured down.
The Word became our flesh
within a cattle shed!
Eternity was fused with time
upon a manger bed!

4 O Word that formed the stars
yet shared our human pain,
who walked this stricken earth with us,
yet death could not contain:
Come, bring us light and life;
speak now with love and pow'r
and make the chaos of our time
your new creation's hour!

SMD

Suggested tune: TERRA BEATA (LSB 856)

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"My Friends, Be Not Afraid" – Stuenkel (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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“Where Were You When I Filled the Sky” – Clark (OT, E, G) [Unpublished]

1 Where were you when I filled the sky with countless
lights?

Where were you when I built the mountains to their
heights?

Where were you when I set creation’s cornerstone?

I am God. I am Lord alone.

2 Where were you when I taught the sun to shine its rays?

Where were you when the host of heaven sang in praise?

Where were you when I gave to Adam living breath?

I am God. I have conquered death.

3 Where were you when I sent My Son to Mary’s womb?

Where were you when I took Him from a stranger’s tomb?

Where were you when humanity was reconciled?

I am God. And you are My child.

4 Where am I when you come across the tempest wave?

Where am I when you gaze upon the looming grave?

Where am I when the earth begins to fade away?

I am God. I am here to stay.

12 12 12 8

Suggested tune: For a new tune by David von Kampen, contact copyrights@cph.org.

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“A Vicious Storm, a Raging Sea” -M. Schultz (G) [Unpublished]

1 A vicious storm, a raging sea,
a Savior sleeping peacefully.
Their racing hearts would not slow down:
“Do you not care if we should drown!”
I know that feeling far too well—
the fear of harm or death or hell.

2 A brief command, all dangers pass—
the lake becomes a sheet of glass!
Who is this man from Galilee
who with a word can calm the sea?
He is, by God’s eternal plan,
the one who is both God and man.

3 The One whom wind and waves obey
could clearly see the coming day
when he beneath God’s wrath would fall,
when he would bleed and die for all.
Dismissing all his pow’r divine
Christ Jesus gave his life for mine.

4 Raised from the dead to end sin’s curse,
his presence fills the universe.
His pow’r as God, once set aside,
he now employs, all-glorified,
to bless his church in ev’ry way.
I have no reason for dismay.

5 Lord Jesus Christ, when storms arise
on you alone I’ll fix my eyes.
Through Word and water, bread and wine,
I hear you saying, “You are mine!”
Your promises are strong to quell
all fear of harm and death and hell.

*(Optional stanza may be sung between stanzas 4 and 5
for the account of Jesus walking on the water.)*

*A boat, a storm, adrift again,
they marshalled all their strength in vain.
They saw the Lord; “A ghost!” they cried,
and, sinking fast, one almost died.
But he who walked out on the sea
saved them from great catastrophe.*

8 8 8 8 8 8

Suggested tune: MELITA (LSB 717) PD

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NOTES

If you wish to include a hymn for Father’s Day (June 20, 2027), see end of this document.

PROPER 8 (June 26-July 2)

Lamentations 3:22-33 The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases...great is Your faithfulness.

Psalms 30 Hear, O LORD, and be merciful to me.

2 Corinthians 8:1-9, 13-15 They gave beyond their means, of their own free will...excel in the art of grace.

Mark 5:21-43 Jesus heals Jairus's daughter, the woman with a discharge of blood, and others...and raises a little girl from the dead.

Recommended:

“Creator, Keeper, Caring Lord” – Vajda (see Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany above)

“The Night Is Filled with Mourning” – Clark (OT, E, G)

1 The night is filled with mourning,
The darkness filled with death.
But dawn returns, adorning
The earth with newfound breath.
Arise, O weary sleeper:
Your Lord comes to redeem.
Your Father is your keeper
And wakes you from the dream.

2 His mercy never ceases;
Your weeping soon will end.
Each day, His love increases
With each new gift to send.
He gives you ev'ry blessing
Till you could want no more.
With each new heart confessing,
He's faithful to restore.

76 76 D

Suggested tune: EWING (LSB 672) PD

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NOTES

PROPER 9 (July 3-9)

Ezekiel 2:1-5 I send you to preach a message of repentance to a rebellious people.

Psalms 123 I lift up my eyes to you, to you whose throne is in heaven.

2 Corinthians 12:1-10 Three times I pleaded with the Lord...my grace is sufficient for you...

Mark 6:1-13 Where did this man get this wisdom?...he even does miracles...a prophet without honor...

Recommended:

“Hear My God Cry Out to Me” – Clark (OT, E, G)

1 O Lord, lift up Your prophets
And give them strength to stand
Firm in Your Word unerring,
Obeying Your command.
O Father, lend them wisdom
To preach the Word You give,
That by it, those who listen
May learn from death and live.

2 O Lord, raise up Your teachers
And guard them from the foe.
Despite the wayward tempters,
Direct their way to go.
O Savior, grant them courage
To face each trap and snare
And follow where You guide them,
That they may lead with care.

76 76 D

3 O Lord, hold up Your shepherds
And show them how to trust:
The Lamb of God is holy
And makes His people just.
O Spirit, send them fervor
To seek the hurt and lost
That they may speak the pardon
Bought at the highest cost.

Suggested tune: ANGEL’S STORY (LSB 527)

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NOTES

PROPER 10 (July 10-16)

Amos 7:7-15 Amos brings a dire warning to Israel.

Psalms 85: (1-7) 8-13 Show us your unfailing love, O LORD.

Ephesians 1:3-14 We have been blessed with every spiritual blessing.

Mark 6:14-29 John the Baptist is executed.

Recommended:

“God’s Rich Grace for All Is Flowing” -Starke (E) [Unpublished]

1 God’s rich grace for all is flowing,
Love, all nations can be knowing,
Love in which we may abide.
On the cross, Christ claimed His station;
“Finished!” His sure declaration—
For all sin He bled and died!

2 Come into God’s presence, praising;
Hear Him speak His will amazing—
Holy ground and holy place!
Spirit-breathed, God’s Word unerring,
Freely preached, good news declaring
God’s forgiving, boundless grace.

3 At the font, God’s Word with water
Cleanses us as son or daughter
Baptized in His Triune Name;
Spirit-sealed for our protection,
Heirs of Jesus’ resurrection,
Called His glory to proclaim.

4 To disciples, fearful, shuttered,
“Peace be with you,” Jesus uttered—
Living Lord, the Crucified!
Keys to them and us committing,
Loosing, binding sin as fitting,
Law and Gospel rightly plied.

5 Taste and see God’s grace with wonder:
Bread and wine—yet in and under,
Gives Christ’s body and His blood!
As we kneel with thanks partaking,
We in Christ true refuge making
For our own eternal good.

6 Life in Christ for all is flowing,
God’s rich grace to nourish growing
Branches grafted in the Vine;
Cleansed by love beyond our reason,
Pruned, we bear Love’s fruit in season,
Stewards of God’s grand design!

8 8 7 8 8 7

Suggested tune: ALLES IST ON GOTTES SEGEN (*LSB* 620) PD

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“To Speak the Truth to Those in Power”-Grindal (OT) [ATOF/OT-B]

1 To speak the truth to those in pow’r,
when they have gone astray,
against the tyrants of this hour
whose evil deeds have come to flow’r—
God calls us to obey,
And speak the truth today.

2 To tell the wicked they have erred,
That God is holy fire,
takes knowledge of God’s holy Word
and strength to speak for Christ, our Lord,
against the base desires
that trap us in their mire.

3 God calls the simplest ones to preach
when those who should are still.
The farmer and the shepherd teach
the truth pure reason cannot reach
when innocents are killed
because it is our will.

4 The prophets call us to account
and show us how things end.
Their words spring from the holy fount
God carved in stone upon the mount
that only sin can rend
and only God can mend.

86 88 66

Suggested tune: POWER by Itke Prins

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Alternate tune: REPTON (*LSB* 853) PD

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NOTES

PROPER 11 (July 17-23)

Jeremiah 23:1-6 Woe to those shepherds who destroy my sheep...I will raise up a righteous Branch.

Psalms 23 Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life.

Ephesians 2:11-22 You who were once far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

Mark 6:30-44 The feeding of the 5,000.

Recommended:

“The Walls of Hate Are Broken” – Stuenkel (E) [WGF, #68]

1 The walls of hate are broken
By Christ who is our peace.
The Word that he has spoken
Bids enmity to cease.
In Christ is no division
Of nation, class or race.
How can there be exclusion
Of those Christ's arms embrace?

2 Yet walls are still dividing
This world to which Christ came.
The proud are still deriding
The meek who bear Christ's Name.
We live in separation
From those Christ made our kin,
And fear breeds alienation
Deep rooted as our sin.

3 The storms of judgment thunder;
God's lightning flashes forth
For sins that tear asunder
This fair and fruitful earth.
And Abel's blood in silence
To highest heaven cries
Against Cain's hand of violence
By which a brother dies.

4 O Christ, these walls demolish
Till they divide no more;
Our enmities abolish
And unity restore.
Establish soon that kingdom
Where strife and hatred cease,
Where, bound in perfect freedom,
We live in love and peace.

76 76 D

Suggested tune: KING'S LYNN (LSB 517)

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“They Came, a Milling Crowd” – Stuenpfe (G) [WGF, #45]

1 They came, a milling crowd,
And gathered round the Lord,
He loved them with a shepherd’s heart
And fed them with his Word.

2 And then, when evening came,
They hungered and were fed
From offered loaves he blessed and broke
And made their living bread.

3 How great the mystery!
The loaves were multiplied,

And still we feed upon the crumbs
And still are satisfied!

4 Once more, O Christ, we come,
A restless, hung’ring throng
To hear your Word and taste your bread
And sing salvation’s song.

5 All praise to you, O Christ,
By whom we now are fed.
Our Host, again you share with us
Yourself, the living bread.

SM

Suggested tune: SOUTHWELL (*LSB* 424)

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NOTES

PROPER 12 (July 24-30)

Genesis 9:8-17 God gives Noah and his sons a sign of his covenant with his people.

Psalms 136:1-9 Give thanks to the God of heaven...his love endures forever.

Ephesians 3:14-21 Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly...to Him be glory in the Church.

Mark 6:45-56 Jesus walks on the water and calms the sea.

Recommended:

Consider **“My Friends, Be Not Afraid”** – Stuempfle (G) [SoF, #37] See Proper 7 above.

“Who Is This, That Winds Obey Him” -Cherwien (G) [PBS, p. 54]

1 Who is this, that winds obey him,
Seas grow silent, storms grow still?
Who, awaking, soothes to sleeping
Gale and tempest by his will?
Christ it is, whose ever-presence
Quiets fright and calms our fear;
Christ it is, who offers haven:
Peace, be still, for I am here.

2 Mighty waters may dishearten,
Towering waves may crash and move,
But no wildness, nor thick darkness,
Shall subdue God's steadfast love.

God it is, who set sea's limits:
“Thus far shall you come—thus far”;
God it is, who speaks and quiets:
Peace, be still, for I am here.

3 Why then fear when storms are raging,
When the primal seas assail?
God has spoken from the whirlwind;
Christ has spoken from the gale.
Now, the still point of deliverance;
Now the calms of peace appear,
For God's steadfast love says ever:
Peace, be still, for I am here.

8 7 8 7 D

Suggested tune: PREISINGER (PBS, pp. 115-117)

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HYFRYDOL (LSB 700) would also work. PD

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“Fathom the Depths of the Power of God” – Clark (OT, E, G)

1 Fathom the depths of the power of God:
Nations bow under His chastening rod.
Waves rise and tumble, obeying His call.
Valleys rise up; mountains tremble and fall.

2 Ponder the reach of the love of the Lord,
Blessing all peoples with mercy outpoured.
Heavenly bodies attest to His care,
Hinting at glorious beauty most rare.

3 Measure the goodness that man cannot know:
Shimmering promise through radiant bow.
Each generation in turn testifies—
God came to earth and returned to the skies.

4 Witness the covenant God will uphold:
Age after age, watch the wonder unfold.
Jesus the Son, drowns each sin in His blood,
Raising us up in His life-giving flood.

10 10 10 10

Suggested tune: O QUANTA QUALIA (*LSB 520*) PD

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NOTES

ST. JAMES THE ELDER, APOSTLE (July 25)

Acts 11:27—12:5 King Herod executes James, the brother of Jesus.

Psalms 56 In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I will not be afraid. What can mortal man do?

Romans 8:28-39 We are more than conquerors...nothing can separate us from the love of God.

Mark 10:35-45 Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant.

‘If God Knew Me Before He Made’-Michael Schultz (E) [Unpublished]

1 If God knew me before he made the heavens and the earth,
If he would make me like his Son by prearranged rebirth,
If all God's plans for me were based in Jesus, not in me,
If I'd be saved because the Lord was fastened to a tree,

2 If God desired his timeless choice to reach its timely goal,
If through his call I now believe that Jesus saved my soul,
If he's declared me innocent and calls me justified,
If he has bliss in store for me and says I'm glorified,

3 Then this would mean the Lord has always had his eye on me,
Then he is mine and I'll be his for all eternity,
Then life, with all its ups and downs, is not some random ride,
Then nothing can derail his plan to bring me to his side,

4 Then I can know all things will work together for my good,
Then all my troubles needn't be explained or understood,
Then I and all who love the Lord will trust his higher ways,
Then, come what may, I'll well know why he's worthy of my praise.

CMD (or 14 14 14 14 with no phrase break, as printed above)

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Another possible tune: ALL SAINTS NEW (LSB 678) PD

PROPER 13 (July 31-August 6)

Exodus 16:2-15 The Lord provides food for the people in the wilderness.

Psalms 145:10-21 The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time.

Ephesians 4:1-16 Grace has been given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

John 6:22-35 Labor for food that endures to eternal life...the bread of God who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.

Recommended:

"Blessed Jesus, Living Bread" – Vajda (G) [SP, p. 54]

1 Blessed Jesus, living Bread,
by your self our souls are fed:
give us all the eyes to see
all that you were sent to be.

2 To the House of Bread you came,
there received your saving Name;
from that lowly manger bed
all the dying world is fed.

3 Not by this world's bread alone
can our life become full-grown,
but by every word that goes
from the mouth of God---one grows.

4 We are in that crowd you fed
with your blest, abundant Bread.
Moved by every human care.
bless the Bread we eat and share.

77 77

Suggested tune: SONG 13 (*LSB* 496)

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"God Has a Plan for All" – Vajda (E) [SP, p. 102]

1 God has a plan for all
born children of the night,
and calls the victims of the Fall
to live in light,
where love and grace
their fears replace
and fill their hearts with pure delight.

2 God has a plan for us
new children of the light,
delivered from our ominous
and hopeless plight,
to know the peace
of Christ's release,
and how His death sets all things right.

3 God has a plan for each
to play an honored role,
with Christ to teach us how to reach
God's lofty goal.
Reborn, and one
with God's own Son,
we grow in heart and mind and soul.

4 Ascended Lord, we ask
and wonder at the grace
that calls us to this noble task,
this time, this place?!
What love You show,
what gifts bestow
on those You seek and find and bless!

66 84 88

Suggested tune: DARWALL'S 148th (LSB 912) or LOVE UNKNOWN (LSB 430)

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“We’re Called to Be One in Christ” -Starke (E) [MATM #79]

1 We’re called to be one in Christ,
Though varied our gifts may be,
To keep the Spirit’s bond of peace in loving unity:

Refrain:

We’re called...*to be one*
We’re called...*to be one*
We’re called to be one in Christ!

2 In true solidarity,
With one living hope our call—
One Lord and one baptismal faith, one Father of us all! *Refrain*

3 One vision and purpose clear
Uniting our work and ways:
To serve the Lord with thankful hearts and gladness all our days. *Refrain*

4 Come, see with our Savior’s eyes:
The ripening fields await!
With zeal His harvest gather in—the hour is growing late! *Refrain*

5 All laud for the Father’s love
That gave us His only Son,
Who binds us by the Spirit’s might around the cross as one! *Refrain*

7 7 14 and refrain

Suggested tune: MARION (LSB 813) PD

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“Our Hunger Filled Us with Strange Food” -Grindal (OT) [ATOF/OT-B]

1 Our hunger filled us with strange food—
complaining in the sun we stood.
All we could taste was wilderness
with nothing in our mouths to bless.
The freedom we had found—
we cursed the dusty ground.

2 God gave a promise we'd be giv'n
some meat, enough, and bread from heav'n.
The skies grew dark with quails that night,
and when we woke, the ground was white.
Strange food for us to eat:
Fresh bread from heav'n, and meat!

3 From God's own mouth we all receive
the food our bodies need to live.
Through God's own breath all things are made,
the crops and animals we need,
so we can live and grow
in ways we scarcely know.

4 We live by ev'ry Word from God,
whose breath is life for flesh and blood.
It feeds us more than daily bread,
for by God's word our souls are fed.
God's word brings life to all—
to body, mind, and soul.

8 8 8 8 6 6

Suggested tune: MANNA by Itke Prins

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NOTES

PROPER 14 (August 7-13)

1 Kings 19:1-8 The Lord strengthens Elijah for the journey.

Psalms 34:1-8 Glorify the LORD with me; let us exalt his name together.

Ephesians 4:17---5:2 Speak the truth with your neighbor...be imitators of God.

John 6:35-51 I am the bread of life...if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever.

Recommended:

“Blessed Jesus, Living Bread” – Vajda (G) [SP, p. 54]

1 Blessed Jesus, living Bread,
by your self our souls are fed:
give us all the eyes to see
all that you were sent to be.

3 All we ever need and more,
flowing from your boundless store;
at your table every guest
sees your mercy manifest.

2 Word of God by which we live:
what we hunger for you give---
for the body and the soul,
life with God, life new and whole.

4 We are in that crowd you fed
with your blest, abundant Bread.
Moved by every human care.
bless the Bread we eat and share.

77 77

Suggested tune: SONG 13 (LSB 496)

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“Bread of Heaven, Living Manna” – Starke (G) [MATM #35] (OAAR 257)

1 Bread of heaven, living manna,
Love and mercy You exude;
Perfect off’ring, freely given
On the blood-marked Paschal rood;
Bread unleavened, Lamb unblemished,
Freeing sin-bound slaves from strife:
Feed us on our desert journey,
Holy Jesus, Bread of Life.

2 Bread of heaven, living manna,
Sure Your promise—faithful, true:
“Take and eat; this bread here broken
Is My body giv’n for you.

Take and drink; this cup of blessing
Is My very blood outpoured.”
With thanksgiving—sins forgiven—
We will ever bless You Lord!

3 Bread of heaven, living manna,
Bread the ancients never knew;
You, Lord Jesus, came from heaven,
That our world be fed by You;
Now in You we never hunger,
And believing, thirst no more;
Living in You, Lord, we ever
Have our being and adore.

8 7 8 7 D

Suggested tune: SUO GÂN (CW 647, MATM 35, OAAR 257)

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[Also could fit under (G) of PROPER 15 (August 14-20)]

NOTES

PROPER 15 (August 14-20)

Proverbs 9:1-10 Leave your simple ways and you will live; walk in the way of understanding.

OR

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18 As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

Psalms 34:12-22 Come, my children and listen to me, I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

Ephesians 5:6-21 Walk as children of the light...be filled with the Spirit.

John 6:51-69 I am the living bread...whoever feeds on this bread will live forever.

Recommended:

“Blessed Jesus, Living Bread” – Vajda (G) [SP, p. 54]

1 Blessed Jesus, living Bread,
by your self our souls are fed:
give us all the eyes to see
all that you were sent to be.

2 Ah, what welcome words you speak:
comfort to revive the weak,
God’s own wisdom, hope, and cheer
starving souls are blest to hear.

3 Word incarnate, Word divine
Word that comes in bread and wine;
Love that we have come to know:
Lord, to whom else shall we go?

4 We are in that crowd you fed
with your blest, abundant Bread.
Moved by every human care.
bless the Bread we eat and share.

77 77

Suggested tune: SONG 13 (LSB 496)

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“Bread of Heaven, Living Manna” – Starke (G) [See Proper 14 above]

NOTES

PROPER 16 (August 21-27)

Isaiah 29:11-19 People honor me with their lips, while their hearts are far from me.

Psalms 14 Oh, that salvation would come out of Zion!

Ephesians 5:22-33 Wives submit...husbands love...

Mark 7:1-13 The commandments of God and the traditions of men.

Recommended:

“An Icon of Christ with His Bride” – Reinhardt (E)

[MLMS, p.102]

1 An icon of Christ with His bride,
Man takes a woman to his side
To live for her with all his life,
To guard and keep her in all strife.

3 The brush strokes of His words and deeds
Serve her in all her earthly needs.
With tender words and serving heart,
In love he lives the Bridegroom's part.

2 He paints an image of Christ's love
By setting her in all above,
He lives for her like Him who gave
All that He had His bride to save.

4 This master work of love on earth
Is worked in him through his rebirth,
As God the Father, Spirit, Son,
Abide in Him and live as one.

LM

Suggested tune: WAREHAM (LSB 866) PD

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NOTES

PROPER 17 (August 28-September 3)

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9 Keep the commandments that I give you...

Psalms 119:129-136 Turn to me and have mercy on me.

Ephesians 6:10-20 Be strong in the Lord...put on the whole armor of God.

Mark 7: 14-23 The things which come from within defile a person.

Recommended:

“Lord, Keep Your Statutes in My Heart ” – Clark (OT, E, G) [Unpublished]

1 Lord, keep Your statutes in my heart;
Guard me, that I will not depart
From You or from Your righteous Law,
Which holds no hint of human flaw.

2 Lord, I am set apart in You
And all that You would have me do.
Your wisdom shines in this dark world
As testimonies come unfurled.

3 Lord, tears of sorrow mar my face:
Your truth is met with hell's disgrace.
As unseen powers clash at war,
Preserve me from the harm in store.

4 Lord, help me cling to Your clear will
Against all sin and earthly ill.
And when I fail and come undone,
Restore me in Your perfect Son.

5 Lord, I take joy in Your command
And watch it spread to ev'ry land.
Behold, Your people stand in light
And trust in Your eternal might.

LM

Suggested tune: ERHALT UNS, HERR (*LSB* 522) PD

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NOTES

PROPER 18 (September 4-10)

Isaiah 35:4-7a Be strong, fear not...the eyes of the blind shall be opened. The LORD encourages his people.

Psalms 146 I will praise the LORD all my life.

James 2:1-10, 14-18 Faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

Mark 7: (24-30) 31-37 Jesus heals the deaf and mute man..."Ephphatha"...he hath done all things well.

Recommended:

"Be Open, Deafened Ears" – Stuenkel (G) [SoF, #6] Selected stanzas

1 "Be opened, deafened ears,
and hear the Gospel Word!

Your God is near with power to save,
with grace for life restored!"

2 Be opened, deafened ears,
and hear the pleas that rise
from those whose lives are filled with pain,

whose need for mercy cries!"

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

SM

Suggested tune: POTSDAM (LSB 414) or FRANCONIA (LSB 408)

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"Creator, Keeper, Caring Lord" – Vajda (see Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany above)

"O Lord, Who Brightens Darkened Eyes" – Clark (OT, E, G) [Unpublished]

1 O Lord, who brightens darkened eyes,
So grant me sight to recognize
The pain and need of rich and poor,
To share a glimpse of all in store.

2 O Lord, who loosed the muted tongue,
So give me voice for prayers unsung.
May words of truth flow from my lips
With courage as Your Word equips.

3 O Lord, who opened silent ears,
So help me hear the longing fears

Of those who sorrow all alone
And comfort them with joys unknown.

4 O Lord, who set the captive free,
So break my bonds of apathy.
Forgive me when I fail in deed,
My heart locked to my neighbor's need.

5 O Lord, who made the ailing leap,
So strengthen me, Your will to keep.
You died and rose to live again
That we may rise with You. Amen!

LM

Suggested tune: GOTTLOB, ES GEHT NUNMEHR ZU ENDE (*LSB* 616) PD

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NOTES

PROPER 19 (September 11-17)

Isaiah 50:4-10 A word that sustains the weary...

Psalm 116:1-9 The LORD is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion.

James 3:1-12 From the same mouth comes blessing and cursing...Tame your tongue!

Mark 9:14-29 Jesus casts out the evil spirit in a young boy...power of prayer....

Recommended:

“Lord, I Believe!” – Weber (G) [SG, #43]

1 Lord, I believe!
Help now my unbelief---
all things are possible with you.
You are the Gate!
If I should enter in,
will I be saved from sin and fear?

2 Lord, I believe!
Help now my unbelief---
all things are possible with you.
You are the Light!
If I should follow you,
will you dispel the dark within?

3 Lord, I believe!
Help now my unbelief---
all things are possible with you.
You are the Bread!
If I should come to you,
will I yet hunger? Will I thirst?

4 Lord, I believe!
Help now my unbelief---
all things are possible with you.
You are the Life!
If I believe in you,
though I should die, will I yet live?

(After stanza 4) Lord, I believe! Lord, I believe!

46 84 68

Suggested tune: CHURCH-MUSICK, an original tune by Paul Weber found in SG, #43.

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“Tune My Ears to Hear Your Mercy ” – Clark (OT, E, G) [Unpublished]

1 Tune my ears to hear Your mercy,
Trusting in Your holy Word.
Open wide my heart to listen
To the Gospel undeterred.
When the Word made flesh descended,
Healing deaf and muted souls,
He fulfilled the prophets' visions
Written in the sacred scrolls.

2 Teach my tongue to tell of wisdom
That can only come from You.
When deceivers jeer and threaten,
Keep my words upright and true
When the Word of life was dying
And the devil spat disgrace,
Purest blood flowed, testifying:
Christ took on the sinner's place.

3 Train my feet, that I may follow,
Tracing where You walked before.
Guide my path and keep me steady
Past the trial and grave in store.
When the Word of truth awakened,
Turning death into a lie,
He declared my case acquitted—
Satan's verdict to defy!

87 87 D

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BEACH SPRING (LSB 848) will also work. PD

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NOTES

PROPER 20 (September 18-24)

Jeremiah 11:18-20 I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter.

Psalms 54 Surely God is my help; the Lord is the one who sustains me.

James 3:13---4:10 Avoid jealousy and ambition; be humble; avoid quarreling. Friendship with the world is enmity with God.

Mark 9:30-37 Who will be the greatest? If anyone wants to be first....whoever welcomes a little child...

Recommended:

“As Our Savior Bore a Cross” – Rogner (G, E)

- 1 As our Savior bore a cross,
May we find our gain in loss.
Vain ambition breeds distress,
While the last and least are blessed.
- 2 In the gracious reign of Christ,
Greatness lies in sacrifice;
Rich the servant who can see
God's divine economy.
- 3 Welcoming a little child,
Showing love to one reviled:
These are truly Kingdom-deeds,
Done to Christ, for others' needs.
- 4 Curb our pride, O God of peace;
Let humility increase.
Make us mirrors of Your Son,
That Your will on earth be done.

7 7 7 7

Suggested tunes: GOTT SEI DANK (*LSB* 830), PATMOS (*LSB* 783), or SONG 13 (*LSB* 496)
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NOTES

PROPER 21 (September 25-October 1)

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29 Israel wishes to be back in Egypt. The Spirit upon the 70 elders.

Psalms 104:27-35 How many are your works, O LORD!

James 5: (1-12) 13-20 Praying for one another.

Mark 9:38-50 Whoever causes one of these little ones....be at peace with one another.

Recommended:

“Pilgrims on a Journey” – Grindal (OT) [ATOF/OT-B]

1 Pilgrims on a journey
often long for home;
trudging on, they weary
of their final goal.

2 Visions span before them
of the life they left,
all the lavish comforts
they cannot forget.

3 God sends fire upon them
from the prophet's mouth,

helping them go forward
t'ward the very truth.

4 God, send us your prophets,
ready with your word.
Give us ears to listen,
so our hearts are stirred.

5 Bring us to your banquet;
give us all that's good.
Feed our souls and bodies
with celestial food.

6 5 6 5

Suggested tune: PILGRIM JOURNEY by Itke Prins

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Alternate tune: WEM IN LEIDENSTAGEN (*LSB* 433) PD

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NOTES

PROPER 22 (October 2-8)

Genesis 2:18-25 God creates a woman for Adam.

Psalms 128 Blessed is everyone who fears the LORD, who walks in his ways.

Hebrews 2:1-13 (14-18) Jesus made like his brothers.

Mark 10:2-16 A question about divorce...let the children come to me...

Recommended:

“Jesus Christ, Our Elder Brother” – Stuenkel (E) [SoF, #28]

1 Jesus Christ, our elder brother,
Son of God, yet child of earth,
made a member of our family
by your lowly manger birth.

3 On our pathway be our comrade;
in uncertainty our guide.
Christ, who knew temptation's power,
help us when we're tempted, tried.

2 Here you shared our human journey,
walked on every way we go,
joining in our joy and laughter,
bearing all our pain and woe.

4 Born of Mary, God incarnate,
Jesus Christ, our guide and friend,
be for us our elder brother
till we reach our journey's end.

87 87

Suggested tune: MERTON (LSB 345)

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“How Blest Are Those Who Fear the Lord” -Starke (Ps) [OSOC #50] (CW-PS 128A)

1 How blest are those who fear the Lord,
Who find in God their great reward:
They know a Love for all their days,
They gladly walk in godly ways—
Blest are all who fear the Lord!

4 From heaven God will surely bless
Such unions with His faithfulness,
With bountiful prosperity
Till children's children they shall see—
Blest are all who fear the Lord!

2 The promise of success shall be
Upon their work continually,
As all they do shall prosper well
And in contented peace they dwell—
Blest are all who fear the Lord!

5 To God the Father and the Son
And Holy Spirit, Three in One,
Be glory, laud, and endless praise,
Both now and through eternal days—
Amen.

3 What ample fruit is seen in lives
Of faithful husbands and their wives;
Each home with joy and love abounds
As children's laughter in them sounds—
Blest are all who fear the Lord!

LM and alleluia

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“Faithful Husband, Faithful Wife” -Starke (G) [Unpublished]

(could be used for the renewal of vows for a silver or golden wedding anniversary)

1 Faithful husband, faithful wife,
Blessed by God with length of life;
Faithful helpmeets, bound in love
By God’s Spirit from above.

3 Faithful Savior, their Defense:
Christ, their only confidence,
Interceding at God’s throne,
Saving them by grace alone.

2 Faithful servants, washing feet,
Loving as is good and meet;
Sharing burdens, great and small;
Lifting up when one would fall.

4 Faithful Father, faithful Son,
Faithful Spirit, Three in One:
Look on them with mercy still
With Your love their union fill.

7 7 7 7

Suggested tune: GOTT SEI DANK (LSB 830) PD

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“Walking in Your Perfect Garden ” – Clark (OT, E, G) [Unpublished]

1 Walking in Your perfect Garden,
You watched Adam work alone.
From his side, you made a woman:
Flesh of flesh and bone of bone.
Holy marriage You created
In Your good and gracious will.
Promised Savior, long awaited,
Through this union You fulfill.

3 Fill us with Your Holy Spirit,
That our actions point to You.
Grant Your Word that we may hear it
And reflect in all we do.
May our words breathe out Your wisdom
Pointing to Your love divine,
That each wife and ev'ry husband
Witness to Your great design.

2 Jesus Christ, the loving Bridegroom
Of His Church, His precious Bride.
Sacrificing for His loved one,
He would lay His life aside.
By Your love, we love each other,
Looking to the other's need.
As we learn and live together,
May we serve in word and deed.

87 87 D

Suggested tune: For a new tune by Mark Knickelbein, contact copyrights@cph.org.
HYFRYDOL (LSB 700) will also work. PD

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“Red Roses, Fresh as Eden” -Grindal (OT) [ATOF/OT-B]

1 Red roses, fresh as Eden are fragrant in the room. We bless the happy couple, a lovely bride and groom, whose promise to be faithful brings heav’n down to earth. God made them for each other, and sends them gladly forth.	to pray God’s grace upon them and all who gather here, surrounding them with blessings and blossoms of good cheer.
2 We watched their new love blossom, like tender springtime flow’rs. And now we’re here to witness their joyful wedding vows,	3 Lord, fill their love with wisdom that ripens as it grows. Send them your life and spirit as fresh as summer’s rose. Give them the grace to flourish before your loving eyes, the light that shines from heaven and brings us Paradise.

7 6 7 6 D

Suggested tune: BRANDEN by Iteke Prins
Music copyright © 2014 by Wayne Leupold Editions Inc.
Alternate tune: LANCASHIRE (LSB 478) PD

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NOTES

PROPER 23 (October 9-15)

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15 Hate evil, love good, establish justice.

Psalms 90:12-17 LORD, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

Hebrews 3:12-19 We share in Christ if we hold our confidence to the end.

Mark 10:17-22 The rich young man “What must I do to inherit eternal life?” Treasures in heaven...

Recommended:

“Lord, Whose Then Shall They Be” – Stuenkel (G) [RtT, #45]

1 Lord, whose then shall they be,
these treasured goods we store?
Shall all the wealth we gain and guard
beyond a day endure?

2 We trust earth's transient gifts
to feed and satisfy,
to form a rock on which to stand
until, at last, we die.

3 But nothing born of earth
unshaken can abide,
Like sand it soon is swept away
SM

in time's swift, swirling tide.

4 O Christ, who offered all,
teach us the truth again:
that only what we give in love
shall through all time abide.

5 Help us hold in trust
the treasured goods we store
and share them where you bid us serve
the dispossessed and poor.

Suggested tune: SWABIA (LSB 535)

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“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.

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.

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.

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,
You name we ever will adore!

LM

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HERR JESU CHRIST, DICH ZU UNS WEND (*LSB* 580) would also work. PD

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NOTES

PROPER 24 (October 16-22)

Ecclesiastes 5:10-20 Riches can contribute to our hurt...wealth as a gift.

Psalms 119: 9-16 I rejoice in following your statutes as one rejoices in great riches.

Hebrews 4:1-13 Sabbath rest...the word of God is living and active.

Mark 10:23-31 Easier for a camel ...forsake all and follow me.

Recommended:

“Lord, Whose Then Shall They Be” – Stuenkel (G) [RrT, #45] See Proper 23 above.

NOTES

PROPER 25 (October 23-29)

Jeremiah 31:7-9 I will gather them from the ends of the earth...

Psalms 126 Those who sow in tears will reap with songs of joy.

Hebrews 7:23-28 Jesus is our great high priest---holy, blameless, pure, set apart...

Mark 10:46-52 Blind Bartimaeus receives his sight.

Recommended:

“Creator, Keeper, Caring Lord” – Vajda (see Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany above)

“Out of Darkness, Lord, I Call You” - Stuempfle (G) [SoF, #44]

1 “Out of darkness, Lord, I call you;
rescue me from endless night!
Son of David, stop and hear me!
Grant me once again my sight!”

2 Still, O Christ, we call in darkness,
plagued by doubt that dims our sight.

Still we long for faith’s clear vision,
yearn for truth’s unclouded light.

3 Jesus, Light no dark can conquer,
shine on us who wander, blind.
Come, in us fulfill your promise:
“Those who seek will surely find!”

87 87

Suggested tune: CROSS OF JESUS (LSB 428)

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“A Blind Man Sat Beside the Road” – Stuempfle (G) [WGF, #24]

1 A blind man sat beside the road
And begged for charity
Until he heard a stranger’s step
And asked, “Who can this be?”

2 “Who can this be, and will he stop
For one as poor as I?”
Then voices pierced his darkness deep:
“The Lord is passing by.”

3 “He must not pass me by,” he cried,
“He must in pity see

These empty hands, these sightless eyes!
Have mercy, Lord, on me!”

4 Then Jesus stopped, in mercy spoke;
Those sightless eyes he healed
Which, opened wide, by faith made whole,
The Son of God revealed.

5 Our blindness cries for vision bright,
Our poverty for grace.
O Lord, have mercy now on us;
To us reveal your face.

CM

Suggested tune: CONSOLATION (*LSB 342*)

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NOTES

PROPER 26 (October 30-November 5)

Deuteronomy 6:1-9 These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts.

Psalms 119:1-8 Oh, that my ways were steadfast in obeying your decrees.

Hebrews 9:11-14 (15-22) The blood of Christ cleanses us...so that we may serve the living God.

Mark 12:28-37 The greatest commandment.

Recommended:

“All the Ways of God Are Justice” -Cherwien (OT,G) [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.

2 Hear, O people, God is speaking;
In God's image were we 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.

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.

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.

8 7 8 7 D

Suggested tune: FORGOTTEN LUTHER (LiW, pp. 44-45) by Jeffrey R. Pannebaker

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BEACH SPRING (LSB 848) will also work.

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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 and 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>

“This Gift of God Is Faith” – Gauger <see Second Sunday in Lent>

“Though Mountains Quake and Oceans Roar” – Vajda (Ps) [SP, p. 256]

1 Though mountains quake and oceans roar
And lightning cracks the heavens,
Though nations rage in ruthless war,
We still have one last haven:
Our God still is God;
High above the flood,
This God’s in control
From pole to trembling pole:
The Lord of hosts is with us.

2 There is a city where God dwells,
Where peace flows like a river;
Beyond the reach of death and hell,
It stands secure forever.
There, held in his arm

Like sheep safe from harm,
All promises kept,
Yes, even while we slept:
So great a Savior loved us!

3 Attention, nations, friend and foe:
Hear God himself appealing:
All who are tired of hate and woe,
Come to his Son for healing!
What we could not do,
Live and hope anew,
The Devil’s head crushed,
Our every terror hushed,
God does, and he is with us!

87 87 66 66 7

Suggested tune: EIN FESTE BURG (isorhythmic) (*LSB* 657)

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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) [Unpublished]

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.

4 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)

1 Kings 17:8-16 Elijah and the widow at Zarephath.

Psalms 146 The LORD watches over the sojourners; upholds the widow and fatherless.

Hebrews 9:24-28 Christ has entered heaven itself, now to appear for us in God's presence.

Mark 12:38-44 The poor widow and her two coins.

Recommended:

“The Lord That Sends the Sun and Rain”-Grindal (OT) [ATOF/OT-B]

1 The Lord that sends the sun and rain
so all the world is fed,
rules over mountain, sea, and plain
and gives all people bread.
The widow thought that she would die,
preparing her last meal,
“This is the last I have,” she sighed.
“I’m done with my appeals!”

2 Elijah said, “Give me some bread,
I’m hungry, weak, and tired.”
“I have no food,” the widow said,
“and we will soon expire.”

Elijah said, “Our Lord provides,
and there will always be
enough, so we can live, not die,
which you will shortly see.”

3 Each day the widow found enough,
enough for them to live.
Thank God, who fed them all with love,
and all of them survived.
The Lord that sends the sun and rain
so all the world is fed
rules over mountain, sea, and plain
and gives all people bread.

CMD

Suggested tune: ZAREPHATH by Iteke Prins

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Alternate tune: KINGSFOLD (LSB 444) PD

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NOTES

PROPER 28 (November 13-19)

Daniel 12:1-3 Those who lead many to righteousness will shine like stars forever and ever.

Psalms 16 In your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Hebrews 10:11-25 A new and living way has been opened up for us.

Mark 13:1-13 Signs of the end...endure to the end.

Recommended:

“Shine Like Stars” – Vajda (OT) [SP, p. 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!

Irregular

Suggested tune: STARS by Carl Schalk found in *Thine the Praise: The Hymntunes and Carols of Carl Schalk*, GIA G-4554, p. 104.

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“When the Darkness Claims the Moon ” – Clark (OT, E, G) [Unpublished]

1 When the darkness claims the moon.
Watch and wait for My returning.
Stay awake! I’m coming soon.
Keep your lamps alive and burning.
Train your gaze upon the skies;
I will strengthen weary eyes.

3 Tell the world the time is near.
I will come in awesome glory.
Wait in hope and do not fear;
Never cease to tell My story.
To all corners, share the Word
Till all ears have clearly heard.

2 Peace, take heart; I will come back,
Though the hours seem long and dreary.
When enduring each attack,
Turning vision dim and bleary,
Know that I endured the grave—
Conqu’ring hell, your soul to save.

4 Surely, I will come again;
Heaven’s powers will be shaken.
Hear the saints all cry, “Amen!”
Earthen treasures now forsaken.
I will bring you to My side;
There in peace, we will abide.

78 78 77

Suggested tune: For a new tune by Mark Knickelbein, contact copyrights@cph.org. This is also a choral arrangement.

GROSSER GOTT (*LSB* 940) will also work. PD

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NOTES

PROPER 29 (November 20-26)

Isaiah 51:4-6 My justice will become a light to the nations.

Psalms 93 Your throne is established from of old; you are from everlasting.

Jude 20-25 Keep yourselves in God's love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you eternal life.

Mark 13:24-27 At that time men will see the Son of Man coming in clouds...

OR

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 The Son of Man and the Ancient of Days at the throne.

Psalms 93 Your throne is established from of old; you are from everlasting.

Revelation 1:4b-8 The Alpha and the Omega

John 18:33-37 "Are you the king of the Jews?"

Recommended:

"Before Your Awesome Majesty" – Vajda (Ps) [SP, p. 46]

1 Before Your awesome majesty,
We humbly bow, we bend the knee
As to no merely earthly king,
Creator, Lord of everything.

2 Almighty, holy, unborn One,
Whose glory far outshines the sun:
Who can approach You and yet live,
Who dares to sin, and You forgive?

3 The oceans roar at Your command,
You tame them when You raise Your hand;

Into that sea You cast our sins,
With water our new life begins.

4 No God is there besides You, Lord,
No life is there without Your Word;
Yet neither might nor glory move
Us to adore You as Your love.

5 Beginning and the End are You,
To You all praise and thanks are due;
What stars and saints and angels see,
Grant us to share eternally.

LM

Suggested tune: TALLIS' CANON (*LSB* 883)

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“Creator God, the Sea’s Expanse” – Stuempfle (Ps) [SoF, # 15]

1 Creator God, the sea’s expanse
cannot contain the grace
that stretches to eternity
yet wears a human face.

3 O Spirit, surging like the sea
from Father and from Son,
erode the rock of sin in us
till we with you are one.

2 O Son of God, your love’s descent
plunged deeper than the sea
and never found a resting place
till nailed upon a tree.

4 And now to Father, Spirit, Son,
the glorious Trinity,
let all creation’s praise roll on
as boundless as the sea.

CM

Suggested tune: DETROIT (*LSB* #843)

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“Come Quickly, Lord!” -Starke (E,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.

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!

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 the you do for these, you do for Me.”

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!”

11 10 11 10

Suggested tune: RHYS PD Contact Stephen Starke at spstarke5678@gmail.com for a copy of the tune and setting.

EIRENE (*LSB* 690) would also work. PD

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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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“The Holy Cross of Jesus” -Starke (E,G) [OSOC #76]

1 The holy cross of Jesus
Proclaims what God has done,
Reveals His heart of mercy,
His love for ev’ryone:
For while we still were sinners,
The Lord reached down to save
And to our world, ungodly
His only Son He gave!

2 Through Christ, we learn what love is:
His life laid down for us,
Himself, that sinless off’ring

4 Lift high the cross of Jesus
Proclaim what God has done,
Make known His love and mercy
That sent His only Son;
Then future generations,
Like those long past, will see
And learn of their salvation
Earned on the sacred tree.

5 We praise You, God the Father,
Acclaim You, God the Son,
Extol You, God the Spirit—

Upon the holy cross.
Come, fix your eyes on Jesus,
The model of God's grace;
With selfless love serve others
And so His love retrace.

Forever Three in One!
O God, Your plan to save us
From sin and death and loss,
Is strength and wisdom anchored
In Jesus' holy cross.

3 Baptized into Christ Jesus,
Joined to His cross and tomb,
We rose in union with Him,
No longer heirs of doom;
Washed clean by Word in water,
Our old self crucified,
We live by faith in Jesus,
Redeemed and justified.

7 6 7 6 D

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Alternate tune: AURELIA (LSB 644) PD

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"How Great the Cross of Christ" -Starke (E,G) [OSOC #74] (OAAR #245)

1 How great the cross of Christ, the crucified,
The throne where Christ our Lord was glorified;
There, lifted up for all the world to see,
Christ draws all people to His victory!

4 How great the cross of Christ, the crucified!
Our path to Paradise was once denied;
The sword is sheathed to bar the way no more,
The cross of Christ is now the open door.

2 How great the cross of Christ, the crucified!
Our debt of sin was nailed with Him who died;
Our ev'ry wrong the Savior has embraced,
All canceled, paid in full—all debt erased.

5 How great the cross of Christ, the crucified!
How great God's love, how deep and high and wide;
Love, that foreknew from all eternity
The cross: the price to rescue you and me!

3 How great the cross of Christ, the crucified!
Pure streams of life flow from His wounded side,
To plunge the earth beneath that cleansing blood—
Sin's highest peaks are covered by this flood.

10 10 10 10

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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 [OAAR #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 76 86

Suggested tune: Kevin Hildebrand has written a wonderful tune, NEOSHO/OAAR #260, for this text.
Contact him at kevin.hildebrand@ctsfrw.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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david.rogner@cuchicago.edu.

“Lord, Leave Me Not When My Strength Fails”-Reinhardt <Senior Ministry>

1 Lord, leave me not when my strength fails,
As my hair greys and my flesh pales.
Forsake me not when I can’t stand
Hold me in Your almighty hand.
Cast me not off in my old age,
But help me turn life’s final page.

2 Behold me, Lord, when I can’t see,
Your watchful eye keep fixed on me;
Speak out to me when my voice faints,
Give comfort to my soul’s complaints.
Still turn to me Your open ear,
And listen yet when I can’t hear.

4 When I feel like a burden, Lord,
Bring to my mind Your certain Word,
That if Your Kingdom I would see,
Weak like an infant I must be;
If Your green pastures I’m to roam
Your Son must bear me safely home.

5 O Lord, You’ve counted all my days
And have me in Your watchful gaze;
You’ve numbered each hair of my head
And sworn to raise me from the dead;
Be with me now throughout old age,
And see me past life’s final stage.

3 When my own mem'ry starts to fade,
Recall the promises You made;
When all my present thoughts don't last,
But wander in the distant past,
When names of loved ones from me flee,
In mercy, Lord, remember me.

6 Then to my bones give restful sleep,
And take my soul to where none weep,
Until Your Son awakens me
To live a life from sin set free.
Then give me joy in Your new age,
Where there's no grey or final page!

8 8 8 8 8 8

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NOTES

RETIREMENT (PASTOR)

“Each Pastor, God’s Shepherd” -Starke (2 Tim. 4:2-3) [Unpublished]

1 Each pastor, God’s shepherd,
Receives this high calling:
To preach the Word freely in season and out—
Reproving, exhorting,
With patience persuading:
Good news for all voicing with fervor devout.

2 O wondrous evangel—
Proclaiming Christ Jesus,
The Passion-bound Lamb of prophetic repute:
Sole grain of pure wheat sown
To death by the Father,
To rise in sure victory, bearing much fruit!

3 Christ’s “Peace to you!” greeting
Brings joy from this Shepherd,
Who calls each by name as His own precious sheep;
He leads to green pastures,
He guides to still waters;
With goodness and mercy His flock He shall keep.

4 Dear Father, we thank You
For our faithful shepherd,
Through whom we have heard You in good times and ill:
Baptizing and teaching,
Christ’s “Peace!” to us preaching,
This Spirit-sent calling to gladly fulfill;

5 Absolving, communing,
Rejoicing, consoling;
The ninety-nine leaving to seek out the one;
Befriending the outcast,
Uplifting the fallen—
With love we say truly, “Dear pastor, well done!”

6 The LORD is our Shepherd;
We shall not be lacking;
He feeds and refreshes, our souls to restore;
He walks close beside us
Through death’s shadowed valley
And in His blest house we shall dwell evermore!

6 6 11 6 6 11

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NOTES

RETIREMENT

“The God of Peace, Who Raised with Power” -Starke [MATM #67]

1 The God of peace, who raised with pow’r
The Shepherd of the sheep,
Go with you from this place and hour,
Your path to bless and keep.

3 The God who gave you to us here,
Endowing us through you,
Now guide you in each coming year
In all you say and do.

2 May He equip you with the grace
To know and do His will,
To meet each challenge you may face
With faith and love and skill.

4 Lord Jesus Christ, our life and light,
The Savior we adore,
To You be glory, wisdom, might,
Both now and evermore!

CM

Suggested tune: ZARLING Copyright © 2020 by John A Behnke. Found in his CPH concertato, “The God of Peace” (based on this text) for SATB choir, organ, and optional flute/Order no. 98-4389.

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Alternate tune: BELMONT (LSB 710) PD

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NOTES

PASTORAL MINISTRY

“For Faithful Shepherds of the Fold” -Starke (1 Tim. 3:1-7) [OSOC #85]

1 For faithful shepherds of the fold,
Whose words and works Your grace have told,
Lord, hear our grateful praises;
With watchful care Your flock they feed,
In fields of service where you lead,
In near and distance places.
Good Shepherd, call those for such toil
Who from Your cross will not recoil,
Nor spurn its starkness coldly;
Grant pastors by Your love enflamed,
Who of Your truth are not ashamed,
Who preach the Gospel boldly.

2 The Gospel brings good news from heav'n,
Of peace and joy and sins forgiv'n:
God's love for ev'ry nation;
The cross of Jesus' sacrifice,
That off'ring far beyond all price,
Is pow'r for our salvation!

How can the world God's mercy share
Or call upon His name in prayer?
Can faith come without hearing?
How beautiful the feet of those
Who speak of all God's love bestows,
Love in our flesh appearing

3 Come, fix your eyes on things above,
Seek first God's kingdom and His love
With faith sincere and fervent.
Your Savior serve until that day
You hear the Master gladly say:
“Well done, My faithful servant!”
Forever true may we be found
And with that wreath of wreaths be crowned,
Eternal life obtaining.
Lord, help us see, when time has passed,
All labors done for You will last,
Beyond all time remaining.

8 8 7 8 8 7 D

Suggested tune: O MENSCH, BEWEIN (OSOC, #85) Also found in the new hymnal supplement, *Te Laudamus*. PD

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NOTES

MISSION OBSERVANCE/MISSION WITNESS

“When Jesus Saw the Masses” -Starke (Matt. 9:35-10:20) [Unpublished]

1 When Jesus saw the masses,
Helpless, harassed were they,
Like sheep without a shepherd—
Aimlessly lost, astray.
“Harvest abounds!” said He,
“Laborers, they are few;
Pray the Lord earnestly:
‘Send some this work to do.’”

2 Jesus called twelve disciples,
Gave them authority
To heal and cast out demons
By His Word’s potency:
“As you are going, say
‘God’s kingdom is at hand!’
Give My Word free away;
Go now, throughout the land!”

3 Still Jesus sees the masses,
Helpless, harassed are they,
Like sheep without a shepherd—
Aimlessly lost, astray.

“Harvest abounds!” says He,
“Laborers, they are few;
Pray the Lord earnestly:
‘Workers send out anew.’”

4 Great is our Lord’s commission!
Strong His authority!
Our raised and ruling Savior
Calls now for you and me:
“Work in My harvest field;
Gather while it is day;
I am your Strength, your Shield;
Go now, without delay!”

5 Now, Lord, I see the masses,
Helpless, harassed are they,
Like sheep without a shepherd—
Aimlessly lost, astray.
“Harvest abounds!” say I,
“Send me to work for You;
Daily, I pray, supply
Your grace in all I do.”

7 6 7 6 6 6 6 6

Suggested tune: TUMSHUKURU (Kenyan folk song, found in *Ibada Takatifu*. For more information contact Phillip Magness at phillipmagness@protonmail.com.

PD

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NOTES

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

“We Thank You, Dearest Father” -Gauger [Unpublished]

1 We thank you, dearest Father,
For this, your Word of Truth.
It lights the path before us;
It guides us through our youth.
It teaches us to know you,
Your Spirit and your Son.
It shouts the shining promise:
Salvation has been won!

2 We thank you, dearest Father,
For faithful parents who
Impress upon their children
That truth must come from you,
Who plan and work and pray that
Their children might receive
A Christian education
To fill their deepest need.

3 We thank you, dearest Father
For calling workers here
Who humbly teach their children
To hold the Savior dear.
And if you, Lord, should call them
To serve another place,
We pray that you would bless them
With days and years of grace.

4 We thank you, dearest Father,
For letting children come
To schools where ev'ry teaching
Is centered on your Son.
The love of Christ compels us:
Come, follow, go and serve
That ev'ry child may learn of
The truth found in your Word.

7 6 7 6 D

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Tune: © 2016 Sarah R. Lambrecht gypsylamb@gmail.com

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ANTHES (LSB 684) would also work. PD

NOTES