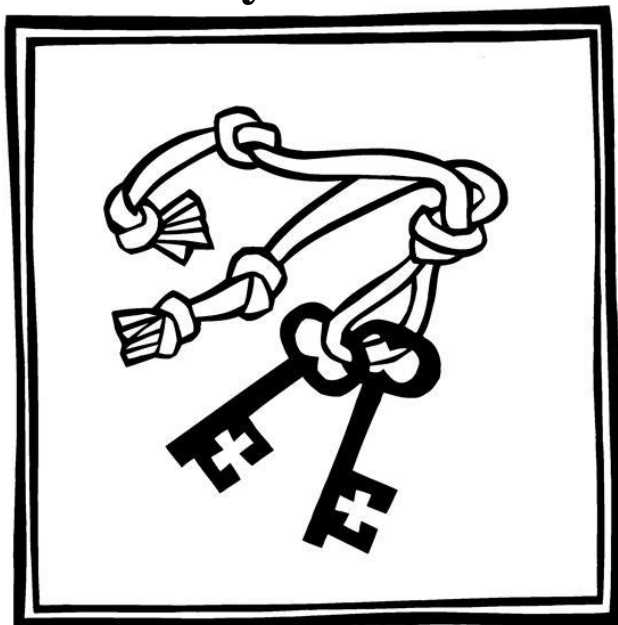


# Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

August 27, 2023

13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost



**ALL ARE WELCOME HERE!**

**Gospel in Action: Caring for all God's children, we shall serve God through worship, learning, and sharing.**

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church  
32747 Lake Road  
Avon Lake, Ohio 44012  
440-933-6263

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Interim Pastor: Rev. Laura Kuntz

Office Administrator: Heather Nordman

Organist: Randi Smarsh      Custodians: Bill Higgins and Beth Lecorchick



## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

*The congregation is invited to stand.*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors. Righteous God,

**C: We confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

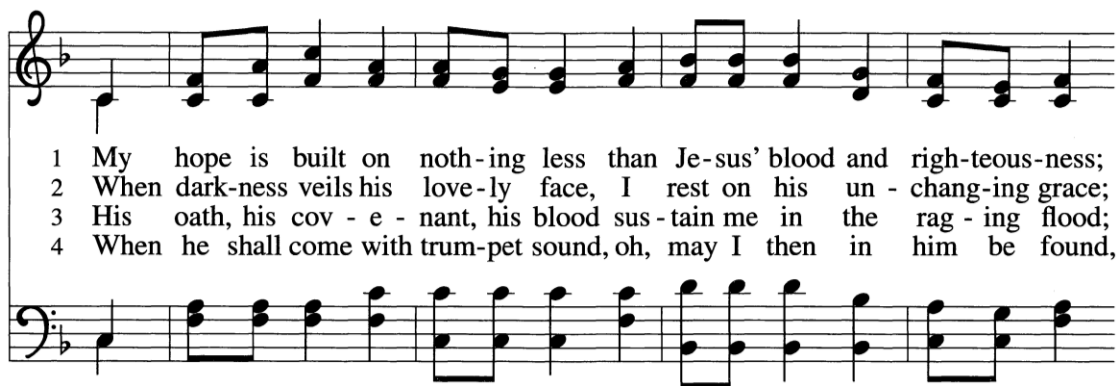
P: God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen.**

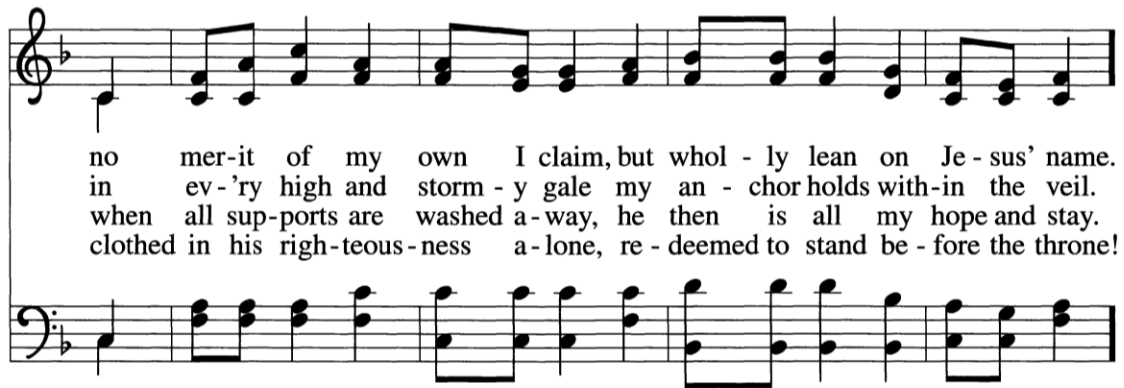
### GATHERING HYMN

596

### My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

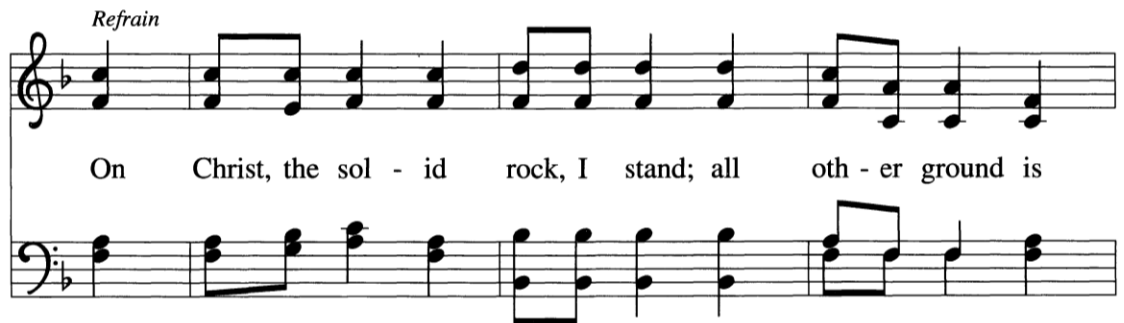


1 My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je-sus' blood and righ-teous-ness;  
2 When dark-ness veils his love-ly face, I rest on his un - chang-ing grace;  
3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus - tain me in the rag - ing flood;  
4 When he shall come with trum-pet sound, oh, may I then in him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



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

*Refrain*



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



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

Text: Edward Mote, 1797-1874, alt.  
 Music: William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868

THE SOLID ROCK  
 8888888

## GREETING

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

**C:** And also with you.

## KYRIE



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE



- 1 Come, let us join our cheer - ful songs with an - gels round the throne;
- 2 "Wor - thy the Lamb that died," they cry, "to be ex - alt - ed thus!"
- 3 Je - sus is wor - thy to re - ceive hon - or and pow'r di - vine;
- 4 Let all cre - a - tion join in one to bless the sa - cred name



ten thou - sand thou - sand are their tongues, but all their joys are one.  
"Wor - thy the Lamb," our lips re - ply, "for he was slain for us!"  
and bless - ings, more than we can give, be, Lord, for - ev - er thine.  
of God who sits up - on the throne, and to a - dore the Lamb.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

**C: O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*The congregation is invited to sit.*

## FIRST LESSON     Isaiah 51:1-6

L: The first lesson is from Isaiah, the 51<sup>st</sup> chapter.

<sup>1</sup>Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the LORD. Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. <sup>2</sup>Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. <sup>3</sup>For the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. <sup>4</sup>Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples. <sup>5</sup>I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. <sup>6</sup>Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

L: The word of the Lord!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## PSALM 138

### TONE



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### REFRAIN



O LORD, your stead - fast love en - dures for - ev - er.

Psalm 138:8  
Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year A* © 2007 Augsburg Fortress.  
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<sup>1</sup>I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with <sup>|</sup> my whole heart;  
before the gods I will <sup>|</sup> sing your praise.

**<sup>2</sup>I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of  
your steadfast <sup>|</sup> love and faithfulness;**

**for you have glorified your name and your word a- <sup>|</sup>bove all things.**

<sup>3</sup>When I called, you <sup>|</sup> answered me;

you increased my <sup>1</sup> strength within me.

**<sup>4</sup>All the rulers of the earth will praise <sup>1</sup> you, O LORD,  
when they have heard the words <sup>1</sup> of your mouth. R**

<sup>5</sup>They will sing of the ways <sup>1</sup> of the LORD,  
that great is the glory <sup>1</sup> of the LORD.

**<sup>6</sup>The LORD is high, yet cares <sup>1</sup> for the lowly,  
perceiving the haughty <sup>1</sup> from afar.**

<sup>7</sup>Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you <sup>1</sup> keep me safe;  
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right <sup>1</sup> hand  
shall save me.

**<sup>8</sup>You will make good your pur- <sup>1</sup> pose for me;  
O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the  
works <sup>1</sup> of your hands. R**

## **SECOND LESSON          Romans 12:1-8**

L: The second lesson is from Romans, the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter.

<sup>1</sup>I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. <sup>2</sup>Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. <sup>3</sup>For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. <sup>4</sup>For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, <sup>5</sup>so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. <sup>6</sup>We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; <sup>7</sup>ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; <sup>8</sup>the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

L: The word of the Lord!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

*The congregation is invited to stand.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.

Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

## GOSPEL Matthew 16:13-20

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 16<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord!**

<sup>13</sup>Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” <sup>14</sup>And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” <sup>15</sup>He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” <sup>16</sup>Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” <sup>17</sup>And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup>And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup>I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” <sup>20</sup>Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

P: The gospel of the Lord!

**C: Praise to you, O Christ!**

*The congregation is invited to sit.*

## SERMON

**Pastor Laura Kuntz**

*The congregation is invited to stand.*

HYMN OF THE DAY

652

Built on a Rock

1 Built on a rock the church shall stand, e - ven when stee - ples are  
 2 Sure - ly, in tem - ples made with hands God the Most High is not  
 3 Christ builds a house of liv - ing stones: we are his own hab - i -  
 4 Yet in this house, an earth - ly frame, Je - sus the chil - dren is

fall - ing; crum - bled have spires in ev - 'ry land, bells still are  
 dwell - ing— high in the heav'ns his tem - ple stands, all earth - ly  
 ta - tion; he fills our hearts, his hum - ble thrones, grant - ing us  
 bless - ing; hith - er we come to praise his name, faith in our

chim - ing and call - ing— call - ing the young and old to rest, call - ing the  
 tem - ples ex - cel - ling. Yet God who dwells in heav'n a - bove deigns to a -  
 life and sal - va - tion. Where two or three will seek his face, he in their  
 Sav - ior con - fess - ing. Je - sus to us his Spir - it sent, mak - ing with

souls of those dis - tressed, long - ing for life ev - er - last - ing.  
 bide with us in love, mak - ing our bod - ies his tem - ple.  
 midst will show his grace, bless - ings up - on them be - stow - ing.  
 us his cov - e - nant, grant - ing his chil - dren the king - dom.



- 5 Through all the passing years, O Lord,  
grant that, when church bells are ringing,  
many may come to hear your Word,  
who here this promise is bringing:  
“I know my own, my own know me;  
you, not the world, my face shall see;  
my peace I leave with you. Amen.”

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Carl Doving, 1867–1937, adapt.  
Music: Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887  
Text © 1958 *Service Book and Hymnal*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

KIRKEN DEN ER ET GAMMELT HUS  
8888888

## APOSTLES' CREED

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

A: God of Sarah and Abraham, inspire your church to pursue righteousness in its ministry. Equip us to share your compassion that unites us as one family of faith. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Remind us that from the beginning of creation, you knit together a world meant for harmony. Protect and restore the wasted places to joy and gladness. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Stir the leaders of nations and towns, militaries and courts, to respond to your teachings. Let your call for justice reach all people and bring deliverance where there is oppression. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Show your steadfast love and faithfulness to those in despair. Increase their strength, care for all who feel low, keep safe any in the midst of trouble, and protect vulnerable people from harm especially those we say aloud or silently in our hearts... Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Encourage those who offer their gifts and talents in service to your church. Energize this congregation's rostered and lay leaders, musicians, teachers, greeters, and administrators so they may be transformed in sharing your grace. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: We pray for this community of faith and for its Call Committee. For your wisdom and love. Give us holy indifference that we may be indifferent to our own will. Through your Holy Spirit, help us to be unwilling to do anything but your will. Give us patience and guidance as we seek to know what you would like us to do. Bless all that we do, so that we can do what you bless. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

## **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*The congregation is invited to sit.*

## OFFERING

### Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful *Offering Song*



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be  
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -  
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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*The congregation is invited to stand.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

**C: God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

## LORD'S PRAYER

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

**C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## LAMB OF GOD



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



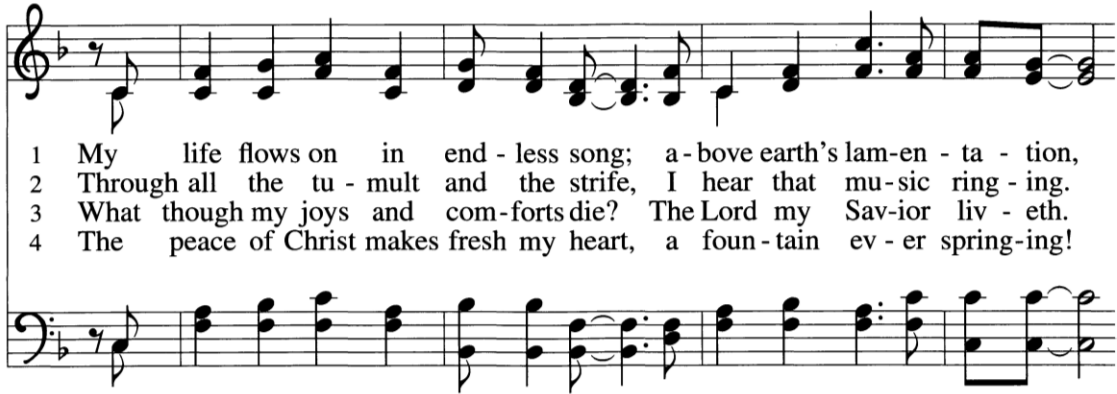
you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

*The congregation is invited to sit.*

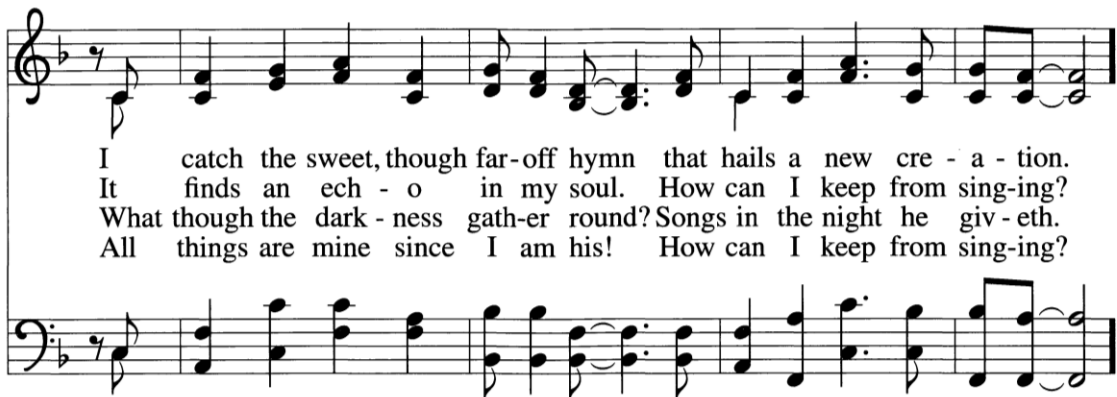
## COMMUNION

# My Life Flows On in Endless Song

763

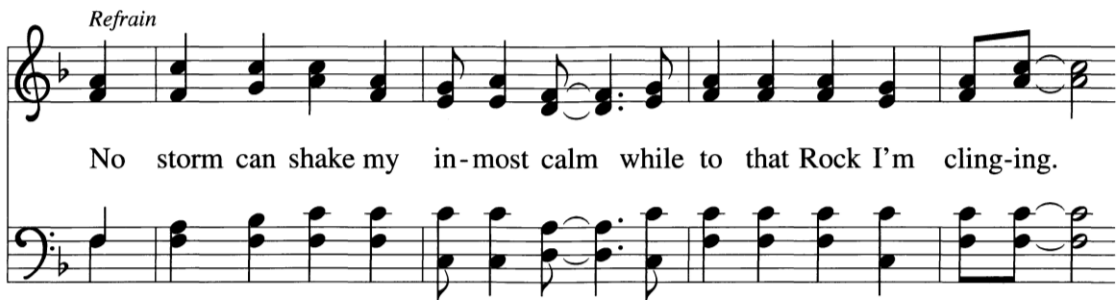


1 My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion,  
2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu - sic ring - ing.  
3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv - eth.  
4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun - tain ev - er spring-ing!

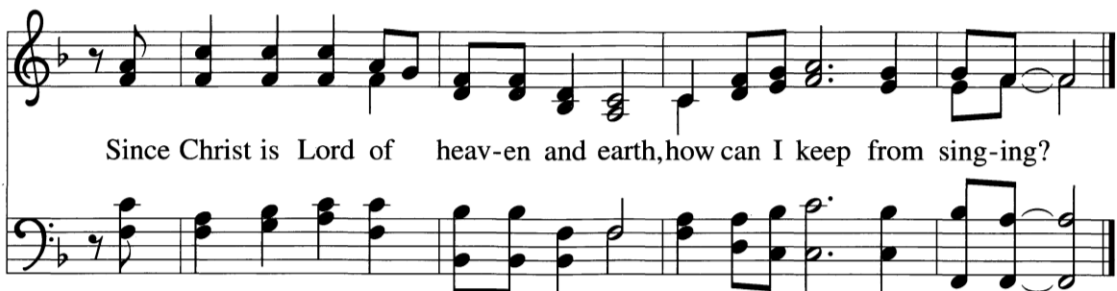


I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.  
It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?  
What though the dark - ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.  
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

*Refrain*



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826-1899  
Music: Robert Lowry, alt.

HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING  
87 87 and refrain

# Now the Silence

460



Now the si - lence Now the peace Now the emp - ty hands up - lift - ed



Now the kneel - ing Now the plea Now the Fa - ther's arms in wel - come



Now the hear - ing Now the pow'r Now the ves - sel brimmed for pour - ing



Now the bod - y Now the blood Now the joy - ful cel - e - bra - tion



Now the wed - ding Now the songs Now the heart for - giv - en leap - ing



Now the Spir - it's vis - i - ta - tion Now the Son's e - piph - a - ny



Now the Fa - ther's bless - ing Now Now Now

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919  
Music: Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929  
Text and music © 1969 Hope Publishing Company

NOW  
PM

*The congregation is invited to stand.*

## POST COMMUNION BLESSING

**P:** May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen and keep you in his grace.

**C:** Amen.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray,

**C: We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## BLESSING

P: The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

**C: Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

### Rise, Shine, You People!

665



1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered  
2 See how he sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;  
3 Come, cel - e - brate; your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,  
4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent the Son to save us.



our hu - man sto - ry; God in him is cen - tered. He comes to  
he brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing. All men and  
your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark - ness hurl - ing. To all the  
Tell of the Son, who life and free - dom gave us. Tell how the



us, by death and sin sur - round - ed, with grace un - bound - ed.  
wom - en, who by guilt are driv - en, now are for - giv - en.  
world go out and tell the sto - ry of Je - sus' glo - ry.  
Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry na - tion God's new cre - a - tion.

Text: Ronald A. Klug, b. 1939, alt.  
Music: Dale Wood, 1934–2003  
Text and music © 1974 Augsburg Publishing House

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11 11 11 5

## DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Share the Good News.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

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