

Zion Lutheran

**Mission: Creating Community Through
God's Love and Guidance**



Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 7, 2025

ORDER OF SERVICE

(The assembly speaks the bold print)

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"God's Work, Our Hands"
see insert

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,
our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

Merciful and loving God,
we are your stiff-necked people.
We trample on the needy.
We grumble about your grace to others.
We turn away from the poor.
Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.
Rejoice over us as ones who were lost
and have been found.
Amen.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.
Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.
You who were lost have been found.
In the name of Jesus, your sins are forgiven!
Amen.

GREETING

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

A reading from Deuteronomy.

¹⁵ "See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶ If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷ But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸ I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹ I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰ loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob."

Word of God, Word of Life. Thanks be to God.

PSALM 1

sung to the melody

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

- 1 Blessed is the one who does not walk within the wicked way,
Nor stand in the path of sinners, nor sit where the scoffers stay.
- 2 But he takes delight in foll'wing what the Lord's law says is right,
On that law he meditates both in the day and in the night.
- 3 He will be just like a tree that's planted by the streams that flow;
Yielding fruit within its season, leaves that ever healthy grow.
- 4 In all things he does, he prospers; but the wicked are not so;
They are like the useless chaff that's cast away by winds that blow.
- 5 Thus, the wicked will not stand when comes the final Judgment Day;
Nor will sinners join the gath'ring of the righteous in the Way.
- 6 For the Lord knows well and watches o'er the way the righteous own;
But the way the wicked choose will perish and be overthrown.

SECOND READING

Philemon 1-21

A reading from Philemon.

¹ Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To our beloved coworker Philemon, ² to our sister Apphia, to our fellow soldier Archippus, and to the church in your house: ³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ I thank my God always when I mention you in my prayers, ⁵ because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. ⁶ I pray that the partnership of your faith may become effective as you comprehend all the good that we share in Christ. ⁷ I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. ⁸ For this reason, though I am more than bold enough in Christ to command you to do the right thing, ⁹ yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. ¹⁰ I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. ¹¹ Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me. ¹² I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you.

¹³ I wanted to keep him with me so that he might minister to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel, ¹⁴ but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. ¹⁵ Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for the long term, ¹⁶ no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. ¹⁷ So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸ If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge that to me. ¹⁹ I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. ²⁰ Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹ Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

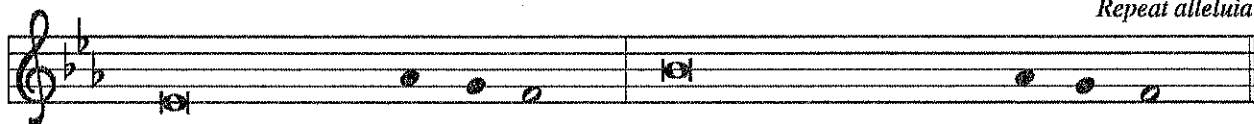
Word of God Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Setting 12



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



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 14:25-33

The holy gospel according to Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁵ Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus], and he turned and said to them, ²⁶ "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

²⁸ For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' ³¹ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³ So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

SERMON

Vicar Jake

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Faith Begins by Letting Go"
see insert

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

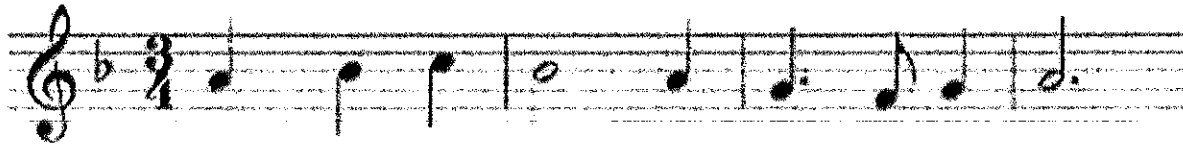
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BAPTISMAL HYMN

"Welcome the Child"
verses 1 & 4

Welcome the Child

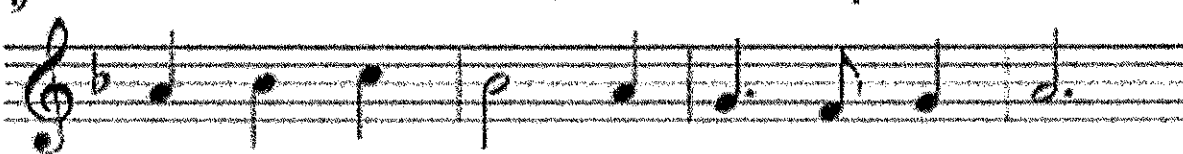
(Baptismal Hymn for a New Child)



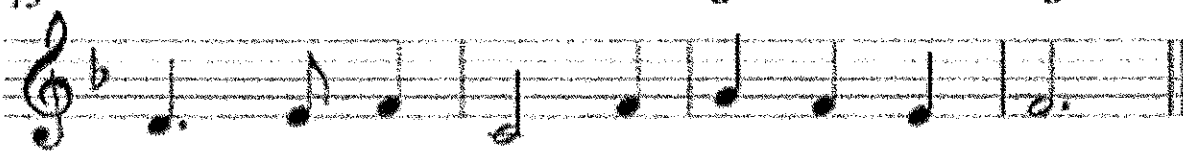
1. Wel - come the child who comes to be blessed,
2. Joy - bring - er God, new life is our joy!
3. Bless them by wa - ter, Spir - it and sign,
4. Give them a Church with fam - i - ly claim.



wel - come the faith that makes the re - quest,
Gift them with hope no hurt can de - stroy,
bring them to share the bread and the wine,
close - ness to Christ, not on - ly in name,



ech - o the words that Je - sus would say:
keep them clear - eyed to won - der and trust,
draw them, like frond of fern leaf un - curled,
make them a source of light and de - light,



"Bring them and nev - er turn them a - way!"
find - ing a peo - ple gen - tle and just.
o - pen to love and life in your world.
blessed with God's Grace and Con - firm - ants' rite.

TEXT: Shirley Erena Murray

MUSIC: Joy F. Patterson

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

Lord of the harvest,
we return to you a portion of what you have given to us.
Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches,
but on you, who richly provides for us.
Multiply what we have gathered
to bless all who are suffering and in need,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

HOLY HOLY HOLY

Setting 12



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

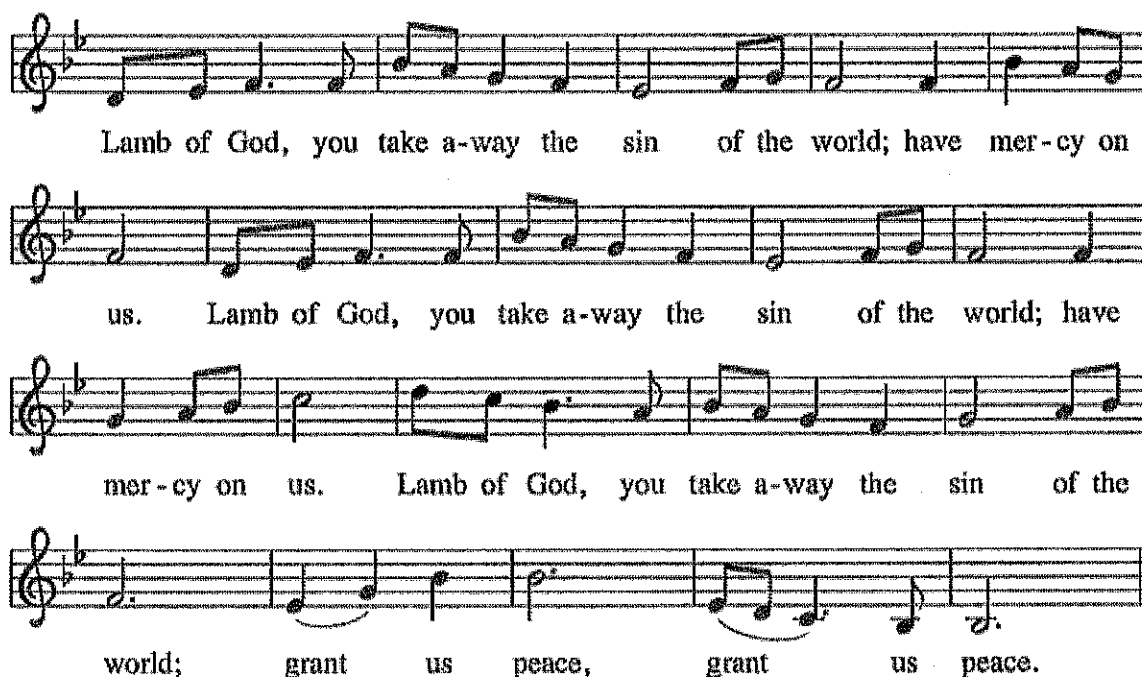
THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

LAMB OF GOD

Setting 12



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

COMMUNION HYMN #802

"Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"

TABLE BLESSING

Now may the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God,
through this meal you have strengthened us
and appointed us to be your servants.
Send us to do good and to share our possessions
with all in need.

We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

BLESSING

The God of righteousness,
who gives justice to the oppressed,
who gives food to the hungry,
who sets the prisoners free,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN #798

"Will You Come and Follow Me"

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

**Creating Community through God's Love and Guidance —
thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

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Pastor: Vicar Jake Czarnik-Neimeyer

Assisting Minister: Wendy Sachs

Greeters: Joyce List, Colleen Malchow

Office Coordinator: Kimberly Gordon kimberly@zionappleton.org

Church Administrator: Wendy Sachs wendy@zionappleton.org

Maintenance Engineer: Elliot Pegel

Parish Nurse: Kandie Wilz kw4421333@gmail.com (920) 442-1333

Worship & Music Coordinator: Heather Watney

heatherwatney@gmail.com

Choir Director: Cheryl Meyer

Handbells: Paula Staedt

Song Leaders: Cheryl Meyer, Wendy Sachs, David Dagenais

Hospitality Coordinator: Lynn Walter lynn@zionappleton.org

Outreach Coordinator: Brianne Connelly bconnelly26@gmail.com

**Zion Lutheran 920-739-3104 Office Hours: Monday-Thursday
9:30--2:00 pm.** zion@zionappleton.org • www.zionappleton.org
For Pastoral emergencies contact Vicar Jake at 920-570-1514.
His office hours are Tuesday & Wednesday 11am-2pm.

Welcome!

We invite visitors to complete the card in the pew and put it in the collection basket. Thank You!

Attendance:

Last Week: 74

Last Year: 93

Announcements!

Congratulations to the family of Eldon Lee Delfosse who is being baptized today. His parents are Ginny Polzin & Brandon Delfosse. His sponsors are David & Lisa Polzin. Please keep them in your prayers.

Next Sunday is Rally Sunday. We're excited to splash into a new year of Sunday School and Confirmation. If you would like your child to join either program please contact us at childfaithformation@zionappleton.org to register. Sunday School: Ages 3 (by September 1st) through Grade 5. Confirmation: Grades 6–8. We look forward to plunging in to God's Word with you!

On Rally Sunday we will be blessing backpacks so anyone, whether it is children or adults, that would like their backpack blessed please bring them next Sunday.

On Saturday, September 20th at 2:00pm Zion will be hosting a vocal concert. Tony Beacco & Ann Bercham will bring their expressive voices with a mix of duet and solo performances. Keith Cahoon will be the pianist. They promise an unforgettable concert full of heart, harmony & artistry. There will be a freewill offering with half of it going to them for the concert and half for Zion to decide where it should go. Please come and enjoy their concert.

Today ELCA celebrates "God's Work, Our Hands". Zion will be celebrating it all the month of September. We will be cleaning rooms at Zion. We will be calling for volunteers for Zion work. If you are interested in helping you can let Lynn Walter know. When you get a call please remember "God's Work, Our Hands". Zion appreciates it very much.

Sing unto the Lord! Lift your voice in song at choir rehearsal next Sunday at 8 am. We will meet by the piano in the front of the sanctuary. All singers are welcome! For questions or information, contact Cheryl Meyer. 920-252-1735.

Zion Tower RingerZ is rehearsing on Wednesdays at 4:15pm in the balcony. We are looking for a couple more ringers. Paula would be happy to introduce you to Paula's handbell basics. You won't know until you try. Please give her a call at 920-810-2225 if you are interested.

First of all thank you to all that have already donated to the neighborhood family. They really appreciate what we have given them. They are still in need of help so if you would like to help them you can either put money in an envelope marked neighborhood family or they can use gift cards to grocery stores, fuel & clothing stores.

Porchfest was a success & beautiful weather. We were able to collect \$393 for the blessing box. That is really needed and it makes Tommy Meltz happy.

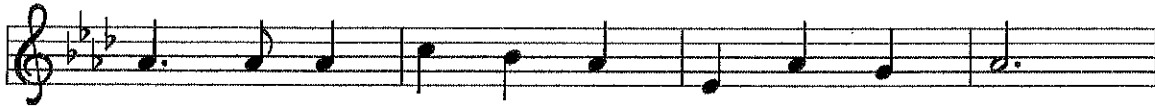
Linwood has 2 opportunities for you to enjoy. First is a presentation at Linwood Community on Thursday, Sept. 18th at 11AM. The topic will be **fall prevention**. The staff of Gold Cross Ambulance will help you understand what causes falls and how to lower your risk. Their last Summer Concert Series will be Sunday, Sept. 21st at 2:pm at Linwood Park Pavilion, 401 N. Douglas St. It will be **Remington's Ride Trio** which is vintage western swing and Dance Hall Honky Tonk. Bring your lawn chair and enjoy great music. A free will offering will be accepted to support the ministry of Linwood Community.

Sunday, September 7	Lectionary 23 (Pentecost 16) Baptism of Eldon Lee Delfosse
Deut 30:15-20; Ps 1	Vicar Jake Czarnik-Neimeyer
Philimon 1-21; Luke 14:25-33	Assisting Minister: Wendy Sachs
Worship Service 9:00 am	Musician: Heather Watney
Followed by	Opens and Closes: Gwen Schwandt
Coffee Hour	Greeters: Joyce List, Colleen Malchow
Tuesday, September 9	Zion Mutual Homes Meeting 10:00am
Wednesday, September 10	Tower RingerZ Rehearsal 4:15pm
Sunday, September 14	Lectionary 24 (Pentecost 17) Rally Sunday
Exod 32:7-14; Ps 51:1-10	Pastor Jan LaVake
1 Tim 1:12-17; Luke 15:1-10	Assisting Minister: Tricia Staedt
Choir Rehearsal 8-8:45 am	Musician: Jim Schley
Worship Service 9:00 am	Opens: Greg Pettigrew
followed by	Closes: Tammy Mossholder
Coffee Hour	Greeters: Gary Busch, Linda Wirtz
Sunday School & Confirmation	

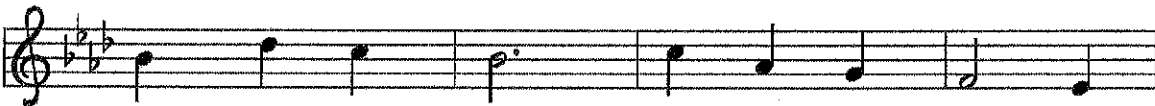
God's Work, Our Hands



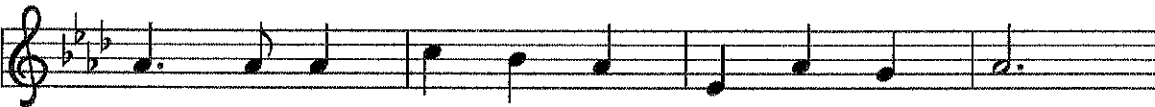
1 God's work, our hands: work - ing to - geth - er,
 2 God's work, our feet: trav - 'ling to - geth - er,
 3 God's work, our voice: sing - ing to - geth - er,
 4 God is at work in and a - round us:



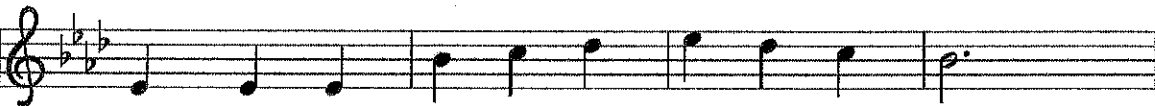
build - ing a fu - ture, re - pair - ing the world,
 fol - low - ing Je - sus to plac - es un - known,
 prais - ing, pro - claim - ing to all who will hear,
 seed - lings are sprout - ing and bread's on the rise!



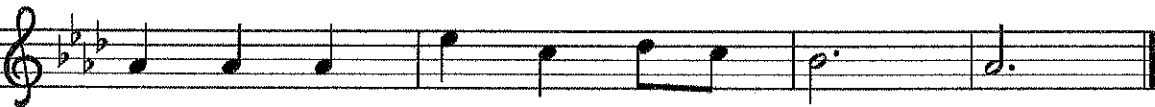
rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new gar - dens,
 walk - ing as friends, march - ing for free - dom,
 pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for jus - tice,
 Washed and set free, hum - bled and hon - ored,



feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold.
 run - ning the race with God's fu - ture the goal.
 claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least.
 gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.



Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
 Bless, God, our feet as we fol - low your way,
 Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
 Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your call,



shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

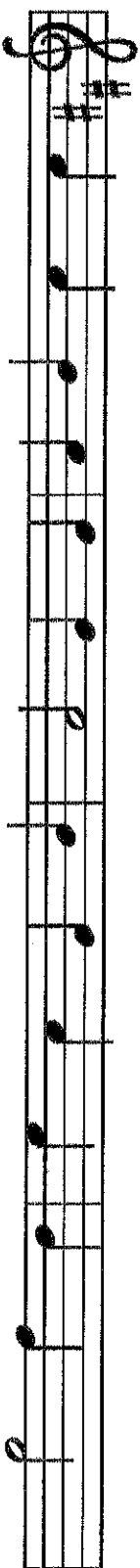
Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson, 1922-1987

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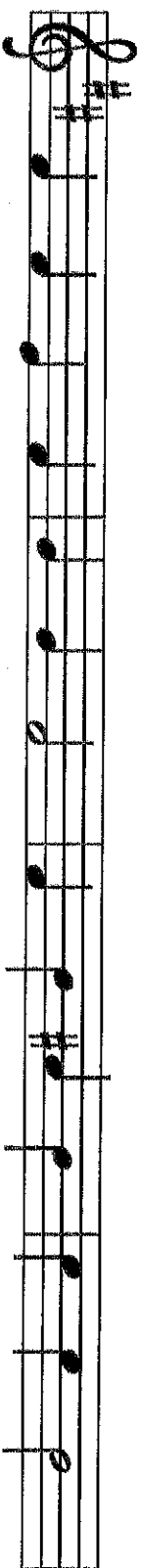
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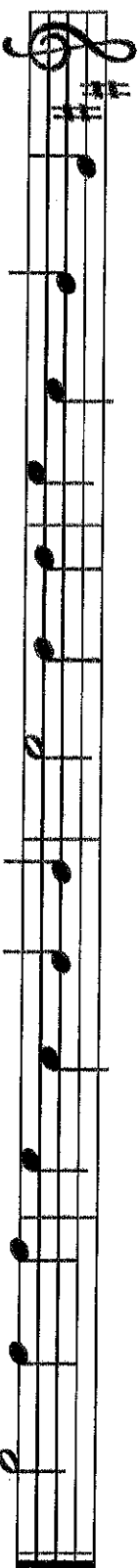
Faith Begins By Letting Go



- 1 Faith be - gins by let - ting go, giv - ing up what had seemed sure,
- 2 Faith en - dures by hold - ing on, keep - ing mem - 'ry's roots a - live
- 3 Faith ma - tures by reach - ing out, stretch - ing minds, en - larg - ing hearts,



tak - ing risks and press - ing on, though the way feels less se - cure:
so that hope may bear its fruit; prom - ise - fed, our souls will thrive,
shar - ing strug - gles, liv - ing prayer, bind - ing up the bro - ken parts;



pil - grim - age both right and odd, trust - ing all our life to God.
not through mer - it we pos - sess but by God's great faith - ful - ness.
till we find the com - mon - place ripe with wit - ness to God's grace.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: RATISBON, J. G. Werner, *Choralbuch*, 1815

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Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus



- 1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, fol - low his ex - am - ple pure,
- 2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus, and with pa - tience bear our cross.
- 3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death he con - quered death,
- 4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en from the dead



through a world that would de - ceive us and to sin our spir - its lure.
Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; where he is there is no loss.
he will free us from de - struc - tion, give to us im - mor - tal breath.
that to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus, you are now our head,



On - ward in his foot - steps tread - ing, trav - 'lers here, our home a - bove,
Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter, we shall reap ce - les - tial joy:
Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion that would lead us in - to sin;
we are your own liv - ing mem - bers; where you live, there we shall be



full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Sav - ior's bid - ding.
all dis - com - forts that an - noy shall give way to mirth here - af - ter.
and the grave that shuts us in shall but prove the gate of heav - en.
in your pres - ence con - stant - ly, liv - ing there with you for - ev - er.



Faith - ful Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where you guide.
Je - sus, here I share your woe; help me there your joy to know.
Je - sus, here with you I die, there to live with you on high.
Je - sus, let me faith - ful be; life e - ter - nal grant to me.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–1681; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, alt.

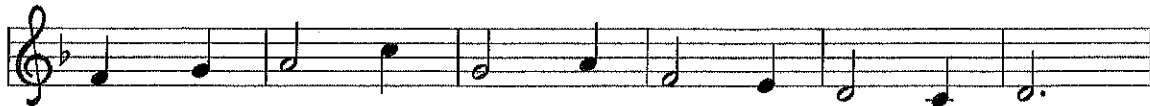
Music: LASSET' UNS MIT JESU ZIEHEN, Georg G. Boltze, 18th cent.

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Will You Come and Follow Me

The Summons



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't
 your name? Will you care for cruel and
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low



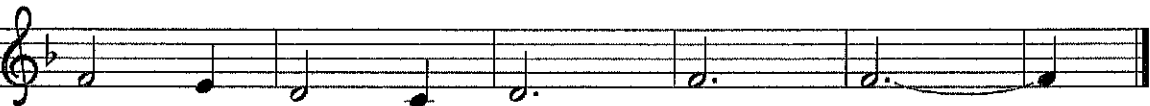
know and nev - er be the same?
 kind and nev - er be the same?
 free and nev - er be the same?
 side and nev - er be the same?
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"
 pray'r in you and you in me?"
 mean in you and you in me?"
 sound in you and you in me?"
 grow in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional

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