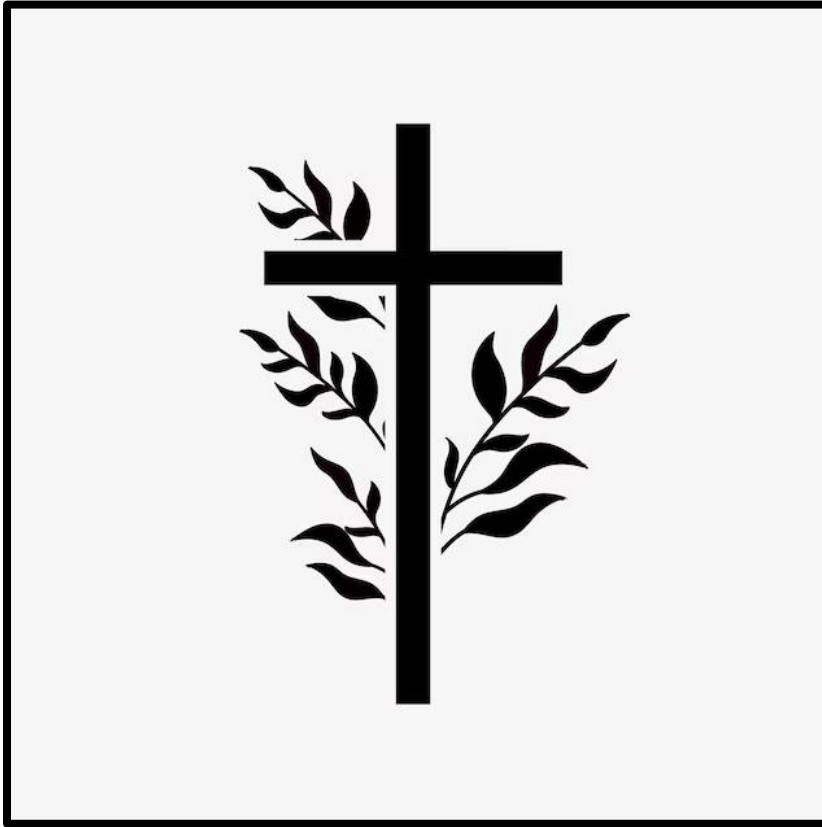


**ST. STEPHEN THE MARTYR LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**Sunday, September 3, 2023 9:30 AM**



*The prophet Jeremiah speaks of the incurable wound of his suffering yet finds in God's words the delight of his heart. When Peter doesn't grasp Jesus' words about suffering, Jesus tells the disciples they will find their lives in losing them. Such sacrificial love is described by Paul when he urges us to associate with the lowly and not repay evil with evil. In worship we gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of our suffering world.*

*ELW is the cranberry red Evangelical Lutheran Book of Worship*

**PRELUDE:** “Wondrous Love” -arr. Kevin Sadowski

**WELCOME**

*(please stand as able)*

**GATHERING HYMN: ELW #656 Blest Be the Tie That Binds**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**P:** Blessed be God, the one who forms us,  
✠ Jesus who bears the cross,  
the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

**C: Amen.**

**P:** Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Steadfast and faithful God,

**C: you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you.**

**We are overwhelmed by the world’s violence and suffering.**

**We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others.**

**For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us.**

**For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us.**

**For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us.**

**Lead us back to you and set us on the right path;**

**in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.**

**Amen.**

**P:** Beloved in Christ,

God’s justice stretches beyond all understanding.

God’s compassion is beyond compare.

In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.

In ✠ Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

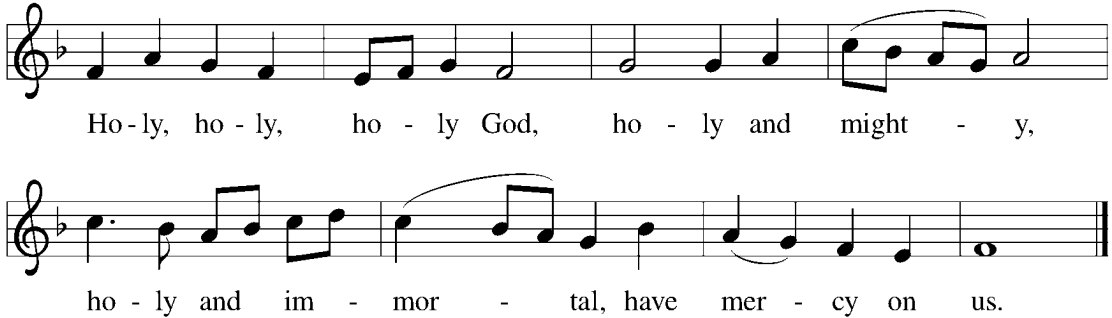
**C: Amen.**

**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.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE ELW HYMN #160 Holy God



Music: Russian Orthodox traditional

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**C:** O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE AND BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

*(please be seated)*

### BACK TO LEARNING PRAYER

**Leader:** Loving God, the time is come when school begins. As these your children begin their studies, we ask a blessing on their backpacks in which they carry the books and notebooks, markers and pens and pencils they will use to learn. O Lord of Life and Love,

**People:** Hear our prayer.

**Leader:** Bless, O God, all who will teach our children in schools and in Sunday school. Give them the wisdom to find inspiration for each child. Give them the energy and creativity and love that will make their work a blessing. O Lord of Life and Love,

**People:** Hear our prayer.

**Leader:** Bless, O God, all that serve in schools: teachers, principals, secretaries, school boards, custodians, cafeteria workers, and librarians. Give them strength for their vocations. O Lord of Life and Love,

**People:** Hear our prayer.

**Leader:** Bless, O God, each one gathered here that we will seek every opportunity to grow in our knowledge and love of you. Grant that we may see you more clearly, love you more dearly, follow you more nearly. O Lord of Life and Love,

**People: Hear our prayer.**

**Leader:** And bless, O God, these our cherished children, those whom we have promised to love and nurture at their baptism. Keep them safe, keep them excited, keep them ever seeking to learn more and to develop their gifts. Grant that through their study, they may gain the tools to grow in love and faith and service, all their days. O God, these backpacks and the children who carry them.

**People: Amen**

**FIRST READING: Jeremiah 15:15-21**

*Jeremiah's delight in the word of the Lord is contradicted by the heaviness of God's hand upon him and God's seeming unfaithfulness. God's tough love to Jeremiah says that if he repents, he will be allowed to continue in his strenuous ministry. Jeremiah is strengthened by the simple words, "I am with you."*

<sup>15</sup>O Lord, you know;  
remember me and visit me,  
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.

In your forbearance do not take me away;  
know that on your account I suffer insult.

<sup>16</sup>Your words were found, and I ate them,  
and your words became to me a joy  
and the delight of my heart;

for I am called by your name,  
O Lord, God of hosts.

<sup>17</sup>I did not sit in the company of merry-makers,  
nor did I rejoice;  
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,  
for you had filled me with indignation.

<sup>18</sup>Why is my pain unceasing,  
my wound incurable,  
refusing to be healed?

Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,  
like waters that fail.

<sup>19</sup>Therefore thus says the Lord:

If you turn back, I will take you back,  
and you shall stand before me.

If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,  
you shall serve as my mouth.

It is they who will turn to you,

not you who will turn to them.  
<sup>20</sup>And I will make you to this people  
a fortified wall of bronze;  
they will fight against you,  
but they shall not prevail over you,  
for I am with you  
to save you and deliver you,  
says the Lord.

<sup>21</sup>I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked,  
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

**L: The Word of the Lord**

**C: Thanks be to God**

**SECOND READING: Romans 12:9-21**

*Paul presents benchmarks for faithful relationships with Christians and non-Christians. Love is the unflagging standard of our behavior. When we encounter evil, we do not resort to its tactics but seek to overcome it with good. While Christians cannot control the actions and attitudes of others, we seek to live at peace with all people.*

<sup>9</sup>Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; <sup>10</sup>love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup>Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. <sup>13</sup>Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

<sup>14</sup>Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup>Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. <sup>17</sup>Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup>If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. <sup>19</sup>Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." <sup>20</sup>No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." <sup>21</sup>Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

**L: The Word of the Lord**

**C: Thanks be to God**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW HYMN #175

(please stand as able)

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

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

Music: "Alleluia 7," Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994, and the Taizé Community  
Music © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent, 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. [www.giamusic.com](http://www.giamusic.com). 800.442.3358.  
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## GOSPEL: MATTHEW 16:21-28

*After Peter confesses that Jesus is “the Messiah, the Son of the living God” (16:16), Jesus reveals the ultimate purpose of his ministry. These words prove hard to accept, even for a disciple whom Jesus has called a “rock.”*

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

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

<sup>21</sup>From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup>And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” <sup>23</sup>But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

<sup>24</sup>Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup>For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

<sup>27</sup>“For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. <sup>28</sup>Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

**P:** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**MESSAGE:** “Loser”

Rev. Brian Hooper

## **HYMN OF THE DAY: #660 Lift High the Cross**

**APOSTLE’S CREED** (*please stand as able*)

**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**

**L:** Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

*A brief silence.*

**L:** God of life, your words are the joy at the heart of your church. Draw the seeker to you, place messages of hope and healing in the mouths of your witnesses, and open your children to your truth when we stumble. Merciful God,

**C:** **receive our prayer.**

**L:** God of steadfast love, renew the earth by your Spirit, that lands and oceans reveal the beauty of your creation. Challenge us to live humbly and peaceably as part of your world. Be with all of those who suffer from the effects of climate change and from severe storms, extreme temperatures, droughts, floods, wildfires and all natural disasters. Merciful God,

**C:** **receive our prayer.**

**L:** God of patience, lead those who govern to hold fast to what is good. Guide them to show honor to the people in their care. Overcome evil in all nations and grant peace to peoples and places mired in conflict, especially in Ukraine, Libya, Syria, and Palestine. Merciful God,

**C:** **receive our prayer.**

- L:** God of deliverance, remember all who are suffering, lonely, and in pain. Liberate your people being insulted, persecuted, or in the grasp of the ruthless. Give endurance to workers who persevere on this Labor Day and ensure fair wages and safe working environments. Merciful God,
- C:** **receive our prayer.**
- L:** God of justice, equip this congregation to boldly follow you in uncertain times and to remain faithful in prayer when facing challenges. Show us how best to love and care for one another and our communities. Merciful God,
- C:** **receive our prayer.**
- L:** God of glory, we give thanks for the saints who now dwell with you in splendor. Nurture us in faith until the day we join their heavenly song. Merciful God,
- C:** **receive our prayer.**
- L:** Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.
- C:** **Amen.**

### **SHARING OF THE PEACE** *(please be seated after sharing the peace)*

**P:** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C:** **And also with you.**

### **OFFERING**

*Offering plates are located at the entrance to the sanctuary. Thank you for sharing your gifts. Offerings can also be made electronically using the Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app. More information can be found on our website [ssmelca.org](http://ssmelca.org). or use the QR codes listed here:*



### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**P:** God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C:** **Amen.**

### **CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

*Partaking of the elements will occur after the Lord's Prayer.*

*You will have the option of coming forward to receive communion, otherwise prepare your elements by opening the two separate parts, wafer and juice (if you need assistance, please wave to an usher). The Pastor will recite the words of institution and consecrate the elements.*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

- 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.**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION:** “In the night...”

## 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**

**COMMUNION HYMN: #808 Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- P:** Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus’ name we pray.  
**C:** **Amen.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** *(Please be sure to read the printed announcements at the end of the bulletin. Also, check out the information on the kiosk and bulletin board outside of the office.)*

## BLESSING

- P:** The God of glory, ✠ Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.  
**C:** **Amen**

## **SENDING HYMN: ELW #666 What Wondrous Love is This**

*(please stand as able)*

### **DISMISSAL**

**P:** Go in peace. God is at work in you.

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

*Reminder: Sunday Morning Service streaming and recording continues through the postlude with the room microphone on. Conversations do get picked up by that microphone. If you would prefer that your conversation not be recorded and posted on YouTube, please refrain from speaking in the sanctuary until after the postlude.*

### **POSTLUDE: “Life High the Cross” -arr. Donald Busarow**

*From sundaysandseasons.com*

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***The Eternal Candle for September is given by Bonnie Court  
in memory of her Parents and Sister***

### **THANK YOU FOR SERVING IN THE WORSHIP**

**Ushers:** Jack Kalman, Kim Sussman and Adam Woerpel

**Reader:** Bonnie Daleness

**Communion Set Up:** Shelly Rosenstock and Faith O’Connell

**Communion Servers:** Denise Sanders and Kipp Zimmermann

**Streaming Technician:** Eric Sanders

**Coffee Hour:** Hosts – The Dose Family

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Loose Ends Lunch** will resume on Wednesday, September 13<sup>th</sup> and will continue to meet at noon on the second Wednesday of each month. Check bulletin announcements and the newsletter every month for the name of the restaurant and who to contact to reserve your spot. In September, lunch will be held at That’s Amore. Please let Karen Hoffman (414-421-9249) know if you can make it so reservations can be made.

**Important Notice about Men’s Bible Study** – Because of an unexpected conflict the Men’s Bible Study for this week only will meet at 9:00am, one half hour earlier than usual. After this one-time adjustment Men’s Bible Study will resume meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 9:30am. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> as usual.

**New Directories**, updated as of July 2023 are available in the kiosk in the Narthex.

**Food Donations** for the month of September will go to Unity. They have specifically requested food items that can be accessed without a can opener. Cans with pull tabs, things in boxes or tear open pouches work well. Personal care items, such as soap, toothpaste or brushes, toilet paper, shampoo and the like are always needed. *Thank you, you have been very generous.*

**School bag kits** – Supplies are coming in and we have almost everything we need. About 50 notebooks are still needed. The Sunday School will assist with packing the school kits on September 24<sup>th</sup> during Sunday School time, so please have any remaining items brought in before then. *The children of the world thank you.*

Beginning October 2<sup>nd</sup> and continuing until November 13<sup>th</sup>, the Greendale Public Health Department is sponsoring the **Walk with Ease Program** at SSM from 10:00am to 11:00am every Tuesday and Thursday. See the bulletin board for more information. Call 414-423-2110 to register for this free program.

See the bulletin board for information on the one-day workshop sponsored by **The Lutheran Church of the Great Spirit** being held on September 16<sup>th</sup> at Unity Lutheran Church. Learn about Native Indigenous history and spirituality as presented by Vance Blackfox, ELCA Director of Indigenous Ministries and Tribal Relations.

The **Outreach for Hope Family Ride, Run, Walk** will be held on Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup> at four sites in the greater Milwaukee area. Pre-registration closes on Monday, September 25<sup>th</sup>. You can register as a Virtual Participant and have a fundraising page even if you are unable to participate. For more information and to register online visit: **OFWHRRW.org**.

<i><b>This Week at SSM</b></i>			
<b>Monday, 9/4</b>	<i><b>Memorial Day – Office Closed</b></i>		
<b>Tuesday, 9/5</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>	Mega Meeting	
<b>Wednesday, 9/6</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	Men's Bible Study	
	<b>5:45pm</b>	Handbell Rehearsal	
	<b>6:30pm</b>	Choir Potluck Supper	
	<b>7:00pm</b>	Choir Rehearsal	
<b>Saturday, 9/9</b>	<b>5:00pm</b>	Worship	Ushers: Larry & Sue Stasiewski
			Reader: John Rech
			Communion: Bonnie Court
<b>Sunday, 9/10</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	Worship	Ushers: Pat & Shelley Burns and Nancy Mineau
			Reader: Diane Moraza
			Communion: Cheryl & Dan Stefanski

## **KEEP THESE SSM MEMBERS IN PRAYER**

Bob Brownell, Penny Dowling, Mary Freiburger, Sue Herman,  
Sue Jarchow, Donna Kopplin, Sally Kowalewski, Carol Kucharski, Faith O'Connell,  
Sandy Peterson, Patrick Rafalski, Shirley Rau, Joan Retzlaff, Dick Rutzen, El Schneider,  
Bob & JoAnn Soderstrom, Richard Sontvedt, John Winter

## **PRAY FOR OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY**

Roberta Henrichs, sister-in-law of Joan Retzlaff  
Laurence Freemont, friend of SSM  
Katie Stull, granddaughter of Phil &  
LaVerne Morgan  
Jerelie Caston, daughter of Joan Retzlaff  
Nancy & Mike Andritsch, sister/brother-in-law of  
Barbara & Dan Davies  
Billy Waters, husband of Darlene Waters &  
Stepdad of Lori Salas  
Ted P., brother-in-law of Gail Jakus  
Jay Lessing, friend of LaVerne Morgan  
Jeanne Jimenez, daughter of Shirley Rau  
Terry Betchner, friend of Dianne Niese  
Beth Klosinski, daughter of Linda Schmidt  
James Haas, friend of Mark & Patti Winter  
Mark Weber, son-in-law of Marian Walton  
Hartmut Barsnick, friend of SSM  
Julie Francis, daughter-in-law of Sally Kowalewski  
Judy Ventimiglia, friend of Shelly Rosenstock  
Tommy Schwietzer, friend of Deb Perl  
Mark Langhoff, friend of Shelly Rosenstock  
Gloria Simley, sister of Dave and Rae Ann Simley  
Sister Eileen Kazmierowicz who serves at St. Al's.

Susan White, sister of Sally Kowalewski  
Jon Kowalewski, husband of Susan Kowalewski  
Laurn Ramintho, great-granddaughter of  
Karen Miller  
Lucy Copeland, granddaughter of Dianne Niese  
Liane Guthrie, daughter of Dianne Niese  
Leroy Robinson, father of Linda Schmidt  
Ann Scorzynski, friend of LaVerne Morgan  
Kristin White, daughter of Sue Herman  
Tim Ingram, grandson of Ron Ropel  
Tim Drover, son of John Drover  
Bob Guiliani, brother of Char Guiliani  
Ethelyn Boardman, mother of Carol Manning  
Helen, mother of Jenny Koeff  
Bonnie Smyczek, cousin of Ruth Hoppe  
Andy Stein and his family, son of Barb Stein  
Alfred Waltke, father of Kelly Sachse  
Susan Kueny, friend of Mary Luedtke  
Karen Gastrau, daughter-in-law of Diana Gastrau  
Scott, co-worker of Mary Luedtke  
Tim Hainer, friend of Kelly and Greg Sachse  
Jim Busta, friend of Carol and Don Manning

Rev. Brian Hooper, Pastor - 262-271-8913  
Tabitha Moldenhauer, Music Director  
Mark Breutzmann, Saturday Musician  
Jim Hennessy, Church Maintenance

Bonnie Zimmermann, Ministry Assistant  
Office phone - 414-421-3543  
email - [office@ssmelca.org](mailto:office@ssmelca.org)  
Website – [www.ssmelca.org](http://www.ssmelca.org)

## HYMN #656 Blest Be the Tie That Binds

1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris - tian love;  
2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our ar - dent prayers;  
3 We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual bur - dens bear,  
4 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;

the u - ni - ty of heart and mind is like to that a - bove.  
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.  
and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.  
and per - fect love and friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.

Music: DENNIS, Johann G. Nägeli, 1773–1836, adapt.

# HYMN #660 Lift High the Cross

*Refrain*

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till

all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,  
 2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied  
 3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,  
 4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

*Refrain*

our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.  
 bear on their brows the seal of him who died.  
 as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.  
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827-1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874-1956  
 Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875-1947  
 Text and music © 1974 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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## HYMN #808 Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song



1 *Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te;*  
 1 Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney;  
 2 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.  
 3 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant,  
 4 I fear in the dark and the doubt of my jour - ney;



*Jé - sus, je vou - drais t'an-non - cer à mes voi - sins par - tout,*  
 I'll tell ev - 'ry - bod - y a - bout you wher - ev - er I go:  
 May all of my joy be a faith - ful re - flec - tion of you.  
 to car - ry your cross and to share all your bur - dens and tears.  
 but cour - age will come with the sound of your steps by my side.



*car toi seul es la vie et la paix et l'a - mour:*  
 you a - lone are our life and our peace and our love.  
 May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.  
 For you saved me by giv - ing your bod - y and blood.  
 And with all of the fam - 'ly you saved by your love,



*Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te.*  
 Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney.  
 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.  
 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant.  
 we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our jour - ney.

# HYMN #666 What Wondrous Love is This

1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when  
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to  
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and

won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this  
 I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down  
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,  
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,

that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my  
 be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my  
 who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will  
 I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing

soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?  
 soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.  
 sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.  
 on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.

Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Paul J. Christiansen, 1914–1997, alt.  
 Arr. © 1955 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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