

**ST. STEPHEN THE MARTYR LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**Saturday, March 7, 2026 5:00pm**

**Sunday, March 8, 2026 9:30am**



# Third Weekend in Lent



*In today's gospel the Samaritan woman asks Jesus for water, an image of our thirst for God. Jesus offers living water, a sign of God's grace flowing from the waters of baptism. The early church used this gospel and those of the next two Sundays to deepen baptismal reflection during the final days of preparation before baptism at Easter. As we journey to the resurrection feast, Christ comes among us in word, bath, and meal—offering us the life-giving water of God's mercy and forgiveness.*

*Please note: Sunday Service is streamed, recorded and posted on YouTube beginning with the prelude and continuing through the postlude. Be aware that you may be recorded when coming up the center aisle for communion.*

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

**SSM is equipped with hearing assistance devices. If you would like more information on how to gain access please see an usher for the instructions and assistance.**

**PRELUDE: (5:00)** “As the Deer Thirsts for the Water” -arr. D. Wagner  
**(9:30)** “Ich ruf zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ” -arr. J. S. Bach BWV 639

## **WELCOME**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

**P:** Creator God, we come, thirsty for your Word.

**C: You offer to us flowing water, and we give you praise.**

**P:** Loving Christ, we come to you hungry for your grace.

**C: You touch living springs within us, and we give you thanks.**

**P:** Holy Spirit, we come to you thirsty, yet you hunger for us to be vessels for you.

**C: You nourish us for service, and we give you our lives. Thanks be to God.**

### **GATHERING HYMN: ELW #320 The Glory of These Forty Days**

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**P:** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**C: Amen.**

**P:** Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**P:** Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

**P:** For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

**P:** For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

**P:** For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit:  
Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

**P:** For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdaining the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

**P:** For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

**P:** For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

**P:** God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace.

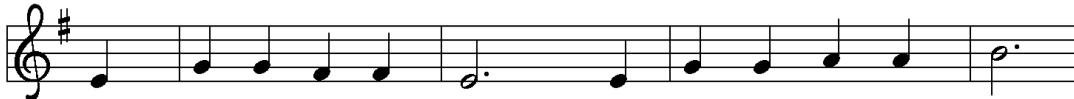
**C: Amen.**

## 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.**

## 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!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**C:** Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (9:30)** *(Please be seated)*

Kelly Sachse

## **FIRST READING: Exodus 17:1-7**

*Because the thirsty Israelites quarreled with Moses and put God to the test, Moses cried out in desperation to God. God commanded Moses to strike the rock to provide water for the people. The doubt-filled question—“Is the Lord among us or not?”—received a very positive answer.*

<sup>1</sup> From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup> The people quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?” <sup>3</sup> But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” <sup>4</sup> So Moses cried out to the Lord, “What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” <sup>5</sup> The Lord said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. <sup>6</sup> I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup> He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?”

**L:** The Word of the Lord

**C:** Thanks be to God

## **SECOND READING: Romans 5:1-11**

*Though we often hear that God helps those who help themselves, here Paul tells us that through Jesus’ death God helps utterly helpless sinners. Since we who had been enemies are reconciled to God in the cross, we now live in hope for our final salvation.*

<sup>1</sup> Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup> through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup> And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, <sup>4</sup> and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup> and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

<sup>6</sup> For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. <sup>8</sup> But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup> Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup> For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. <sup>11</sup> But more than that,

we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

**L:** The Word of the Lord

**C:** Thanks be to God

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** (*please stand as you are able*)



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

**GOSPEL: John 4:5-42**

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

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

A Presentation of the Woman at the Well

**Readers**

**5:00pm**

**9:30am**

Narrator

John Rech

Bonnie Zimmermann

Jesus

Pastor Hooper

Pastor Hooper

Woman

Judy Merritt

Jullia Suchy

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

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

**MESSAGE:** "Wooed"

Rev. Brian Hooper

**HYMN OF THE DAY ELW #777 Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty**

**APOSTLE'S CREED:** (*please stand as you are 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:** Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

*A brief silence.*

**L:** O God, when suffering arises, preserve your church. Give to pastors, deacons, bishops, and all servants of your gospel the endurance that produces character and the hope that will never disappoint. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

**L:** When the waters run dry, sustain this earth. Send water to places languishing with drought, and bring relief to places damaged by floods. Bring aid to all of those experiencing extreme weather. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

**L:** When quarrels ensue, soften our hearts. Quell hostilities between nations and peoples, and reconcile all humans across the lines of race, class, nationality, moral conviction, religion, and all else that divides or oppresses. Protect those living under the shadow of war or conflict especially the people of Ukraine, Iran, Israel and all of the Middle East and anywhere that there is violence being perpetrated. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

**L:** When your people thirst, satisfy their needs. Send water and food to all who need nourishment. Grant welcome to all who are excluded or oppressed. Heal all who are troubled or sick, especially those we name before you now (*pause*). Show your mercy to any in need. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

**L:** When we gather to worship, send us your Spirit. Renew our hearts through the joyful noise we make and bless the work of our church musicians and worship assistants. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

**L:** O God, when death draws near, we rejoice in the promise of life with you. We remember all who have entered eternal rest, and we pray that you bring us the hope of sharing in your glory. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

**L:** Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

**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.**

## OFFERINGS

*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:*



*for Google*



*for iPhone*

## CHOIR ANTHEM: "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say" -Schulz-Widmar

## OFFERING PRAYER

**P:** O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name.

**C: Amen**

## CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *(Please stand as able)*

**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.**

**P:** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS



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.

*7 - Welcoming all, Worshipping God, Serving others*

**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.**

**AGNUS DEI**



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.

**COMMUNION HYMN ELW #621 Jesus Lives, My Sure Defense**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**P:** God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ’s body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** *(Please be sure to read the printed announcements.)*

**BLESSING**

**P:** God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, ✠ bless you now and always.

**C: Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN: ELW #623 Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

### DISMISSAL

**P:** Go in peace. Believe the good news.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE: (5:00)** “Let Us Glorify His Name” -D. Moore

**(9:30)** “Prelude in A Minor” -J. S. Bach BWV559

*From sundaysandseasons.com*

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

**Ushers: (5:00)** Larry & Sue Stasiewski

**(9:30)** Dan Resterhouse, Mason Resterhouse, Tom Zuleger

**Reader: (5:00)** John Rech **(9:30)** Karen Rasmussen

**Communion: (5:00) Set Up** Betty Kroll **Server** Patti Nelson

**(9:30)** Cheryl & Dan Stefanski

**Streaming Technician: (9:30)** Eric Sanders

**Coffee Hour (Sunday):** Joan & Richard Sontvedt

<b><i>This Week at SSM</i></b>			
<b>Tuesday, 3/10</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>	Mega/Council Meeting	
<b>Wednesday, 3/11</b>	<b>10:15am</b>	Women’s Bible Study	
	<b>5:30pm</b>	Handbell Rehearsal	
	<b>6:30pm</b>	Lenten Worship – Holden Evening Prayer	
	<b>7:00pm</b>	Choir Rehearsal	
<b><i>2<sup>nd</sup> Weekend in Lent</i></b>			
	<b>10:00am</b>	Visit to the Black Holocaust Museum	
<b>Saturday, 3/14</b>	<b>5:00pm</b>	Worship	Ushers: Cheryl & Dan Stefanski
			Reader:
			Communion Set Up: Bonnie Court
			Communion Server: Patti Nelson
<b>Sunday, 3/15</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	Worship	Ushers: Jack Kalman, Jim Palasz, Adam & Andrea Woerpel
			Reader: Julie Starks
			Communion: Julie Starks, Faith O’Connell
		Sunday School	

### ***Announcements***

**Food donations for the month of March** will go to Faith Santa Fe. Monetary donations are always welcome and allow the pantries to fill in needed items that have not come in otherwise. You can mark your contribution “Food Ministry” or use the Food Ministry envelope found on the giving station board.

Once again we will be fortunate to host the **Children's Christian Theatre** this year on Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:00pm. They will present a play titled "Tell Me the Truth". Their presentations have been wonderful when they have been here for the past few years, please plan on being here.

**Our annual SSM Easter/Youth trip fundraiser** will take place on March 24, 2026 at Billy Sims BBQ located at 7358 West Rawson Avenue in Franklin. Billy Simms will donate 10% of **all** sales that day to SSM. Make sure you tell your friends, co-workers and family to come out. Sales include carry-out orders as well as dining in. Join us for some great eats! Hope to see everyone on the 24<sup>th</sup> and remember to bring your appetites.

**Join us for Easter Breakfast, April 5th!** Relax and let us make you breakfast with a menu of ham and rolls, pancakes and sausage, and more. Share a time of fellowship with the SSM community between the Easter worship services. Breakfast will be served from 8:15 to 9:15. There is no cost, but donations are encouraged. All proceeds will support the youth mission trip to Montgomery, Alabama. Please sign up on the bulletin board (or email the office) so we have a good estimate.

**Easter Breakfast Volunteers Needed.** Volunteers are needed to assist with various breakfast responsibilities, including set-up in advance of Easter Sunday. Please see the bulletin board for ways you can help.

**2026 SSM Rummage Sale** - We are thinking about holding another church rummage/lemonade/brat fry in mid to late April. In order to do so I need to try and get an idea of how many donors and volunteers we might have for the event. At this time, I just need to know if you **might** be interested in volunteering for set-up, sales, or take-down. This would be between Wednesday and Saturday. This is not any sort of commitment at this time, just to see if there may be enough interested volunteers to hold the event and then to set a date. Last year the volunteers were amazing. Look for rummage interest/sign-up sheets on the bulletin board or feel free to email me directly if you are interested. Please sign up if you think you might be able to help out. If it turns out later that you can't that is fine. Thanks for your consideration. Lorin [lorinschu@gmail.com](mailto:lorinschu@gmail.com)

The third Wednesday of every month the **Unity Food Ministry** serves an evening hot meal. Clean-up help is needed between 6 and 7 pm. You are welcome to join the guests at 5:30 pm for food and fellowship. If you are interested in volunteering, please see me in church. Thank you! Shelly Rosenstock

Save the dates for **Vacation Bible School – Weird Animals – Where Jesus' Love is One-of-A-Kind.** Monday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> to Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup>. Bring all of the kiddos you know.

**Explore the Journey of Martin Luther in Germany:** Plans are coming together for our trip to Germany, scheduled for October 13–23, 2026. This adventure will take us through key locations connected to Martin Luther's ministry in the early 1500s while also showcasing the beauty and culture of Germany.

Highlights include: A scenic cruise on the Rhine; a visit to Nuremberg and Berlin, visiting castles and cathedrals along the way; a stop in Eisenach, where Luther spent his exile translating the New Testament from Greek into German; and a visit to Wittenberg to see the famous Castle Church door

Printed itineraries and brochures are available at the church. For more information, please contact Pastor Brian at [pastorbrianhooper@gmail.com](mailto:pastorbrianhooper@gmail.com) or 414-421-3543.

**Midweek Lenten Worship - Holden Evening Prayer**  
*Every Wednesday during Lent 6:30pm*

**Easter and Holy Week Worship Schedule**

*The Passion of Our Lord/Palm Weekend*

*Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm and Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am*

*Maundy Thursday - Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30pm*

*Good Friday Cross Walk beginning at St. Luke's at 2:00pm*

*Ecumenical Worship at St. Lukes in the Village 3:00pm*

*Good Friday - Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30pm*

*The Easter Vigil - Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm*

*Easter Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup> - Sunrise Worship at 7:00am and Worship at 9:30am*  
*Easter Breakfast at 8:15am*

### **St. Stephen the Martyr Welcome Statement**

St. Stephen the Martyr Lutheran Church is a spiritual community grounded in the belief of Welcoming all, Worshipping God, Serving others.

Recognizing that there are those who have historically experienced rejection within congregational life, we strive to welcome and affirm the participation of all people into our community of faith – people of all ages, races and ethnicities, sexual orientations, gender identities, gender expressions, physical and mental abilities, educational backgrounds, family statuses, and economic circumstances.

We are driven to be a welcoming congregation, offer a safe place to worship, and celebrate the diversity of God's family. We are committed to racial equity and invite all people to join us in our faith journey toward greater love, understanding, and mutual respect.

We proclaim that we are an open and affirming congregation, and you are invited to join us.

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

Sharon Behling, Pastor Gail Brodersen-Heins, Diana Gastrau, Sue Jarchow,  
Ken & Carolyn Kahl, Joy Kilimann, Sally Kowalewski, Carol Kucharski,  
Billie Jo Kunesh, Shirley Lieske, Larry Petricek, Joan Retzlaff,  
Eleanor Salb, Bob Soderstrom, Richard Sontvedt,

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

Brent, grandson of Dennis & Geri Lucchesi

Carol, sister of Heidi Hennessy

Cheryl, sister-in-law of Larry & Sue Stasiewski

Helen, mother of Jenny Koeff

Pam Baranowski, friend of Kelly and Greg  
Sachse

Irene Bonnert, mother of Deb Perl

Arlene Cich, cousin of Don Manning

Corstan Court, son of Bonnie Court

Jennifer F and her family, friends of Kelly  
Sachse

Julie Francis, daughter-in-law of Sally  
Kowalewski

Marcia Gabriel, friend of Nancy Mineau &  
Marion Walton

Mimi Garcia, former administrative assistant at  
SSM

Karen Gastrau, daughter-in-law of Diana Gastrau

Liane Guthrie, daughter of Dianne Niese

Tim Ingram, grandson of Ron Ropel

Robert Koenen, friend of Don & Carol Manning

Beth Klosinski, daughter of Linda Schmidt

Jon Kowalewski, husband of Sally Kowalewski

John O'Connell, husband of Faith O'Connell

Ted & Ellen P., family of Gail Jakus

Paul R, friend of Shelly Rosenstock

Leroy Robinson, father of Linda Schmidt

Deb Rusch, friend of Kelly & Greg Sachse

John Schatzman, nephew of Marion Walton

Sue Seidemann, friend of Karen Hoffman and  
former SWO president

Gloria Simley, sister of Dave and Rae Ann  
Simley

Richard Sorenson, friend of Jim & Heidi  
Hennessy

Barb Starks, mother of Julie Starks

Lynne Turnquist, friend of Carol Manning

David Vento, friend of Al Behling

Billy Waters, Stepdad of Lori Salas

Chrissy White, daughter of Sue Herman

Susan White, sister of Sally Kowalewski

Cohen Zettle, family of Pam Young

Rev. Brian Hooper, Pastor

Tabitha Moldenhauer, Music Director

Mark Breutzmann, Saturday Musician

Jim Hennessy, Church Maintenance

Bonnie Zimmermann, Ministry Assistant

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Website – [www.ssmelca.org](http://www.ssmelca.org)

Facebook - <https://m.facebook.com/SSMELCA/>

## HYMN ELW 320 The Glory of These Forty Days

1 The glo - ry of these for - ty days we cel - e -  
 2 A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw the lov - ing  
 3 So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, de - liv - ered  
 4 Then grant, O God, that we may, too, re - turn in

brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all  
 God who gave the law; and to E - li - jah,  
 from the li - ons' might; and John, the Bride - groom's  
 fast and prayer to you. Our spir - its strength - en

things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.  
 fast - ing, came the steeds and char - i - ots of flame.  
 friend, be - came the her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.  
 with your grace, and give us joy to see your face.

Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.; tr. Maurice F. Bell, 1862–1947, alt.

Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

Outside USA: Text from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

## HYMN ELW #777 Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty

1 "Come to me, all pil-grims thirst - y; drink the wa - ter I will give.  
 2 "Come to me, all trav - lers wea - ry; come that I may give you rest.  
 3 "Come to me, be - liev - ers bur - dened; find re - fresh - ment in this place.  
 4 "Come to me, re - pen - tant sin - ners; leave be - hind your guilt and shame.

If you knew what gift I of - fer, you would come to me and live."  
 Drink the cup of life I of - fer; at this ta - ble be my guest."  
 Come, re - ceive the gift I of - fer, turn to me and seek my face."  
 Come and know di - vine com - pas - sion, turn to me, I call your name."

*Refrain*

Je - sus, ev - er - flow - ing foun - tain, give us wa - ter from your well.

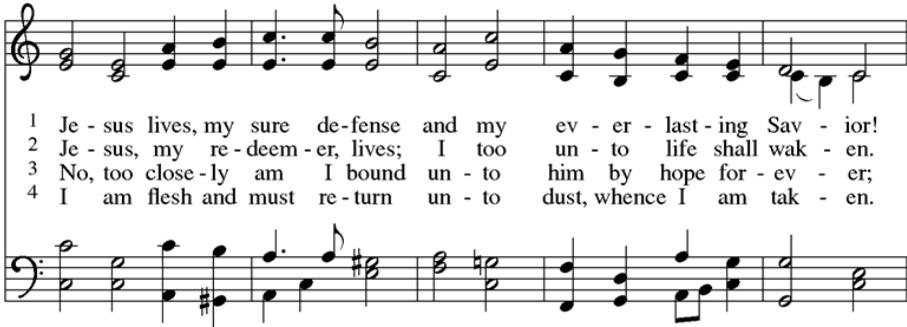
In the gra - cious gift you of - fer there is joy no tongue can tell.

5 "Come to me, distressed and needy;  
 I would be your trusted friend.  
 Come and seek the gift I offer,  
 come, your open hands extend." *Refrain*

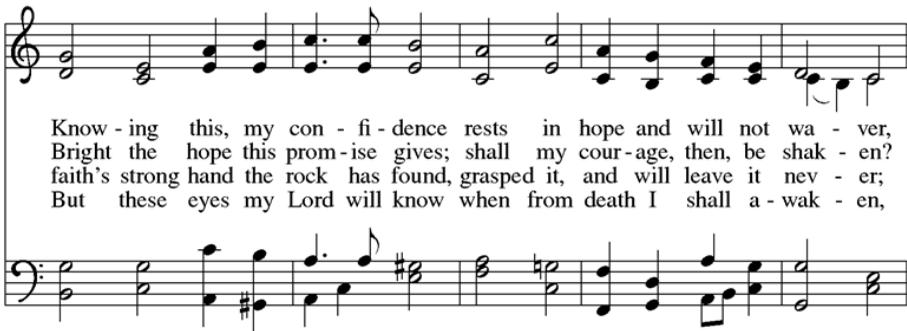
6 "Come to me, abandoned, orphaned;  
 lonely ways no longer roam.  
 Come and take the gift I offer,  
 let me make in you my home:" *Refrain*

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939  
 Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. *Selected Hymns*, 1985  
 Text © 1992, 1996 Sisters of St. Benedict, 104 Chapel Lane, St. Joseph, MN 56374.  
 Arr. © 1985 Augsburg Fortress.

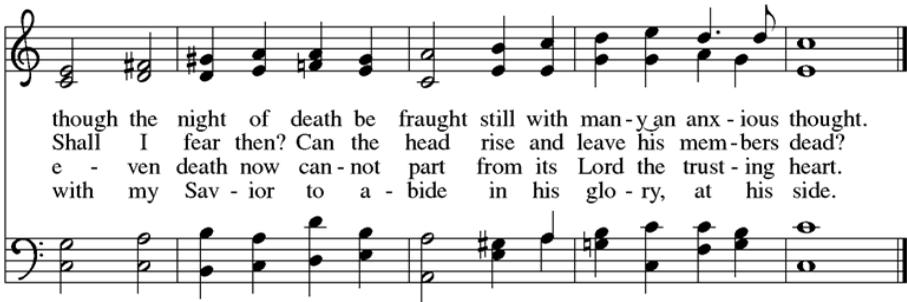
## HYMN ELW #621 Jesus Lives, My Sure Defense



1 Je - sus lives, my sure de - fense and my ev - er - last - ing Sav - ior!  
2 Je - sus, my re - deem - er, lives; I too un - to life shall wak - en.  
3 No, too close - ly am I bound un - to him by hope for - ev - er;  
4 I am flesh and must re - turn un - to dust, whence I am tak - en.



Know - ing this, my con - fi - dence rests in hope and will not wa - ver,  
Bright the hope this prom - ise gives; shall my cour - age, then, be shak - en?  
faith's strong hand the rock has found, grasped it, and will leave it nev - er;  
But these eyes my Lord will know when from death I shall a - wak - en,



though the night of death be fraught still with man - y an anx - ious thought.  
Shall I fear then? Can the head rise and leave his mem - bers dead?  
e - ven death now can - not part from its Lord the trust - ing heart.  
with my Sav - ior to a - bide in his glo - ry, at his side.

5 Then take comfort and rejoice  
for his people Christ will cherish.  
Fear not, you will hear his voice;  
dying, you will never perish;  
for the very grave is stirred  
when the trumpet's blast is heard.

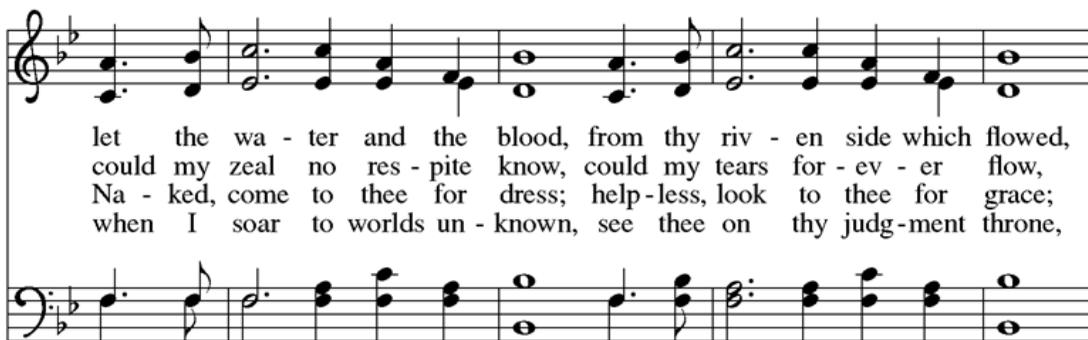
6 Here on earth, then, let your hearts  
rise from longings vain and hollow.  
Seek what Christ your Lord imparts  
while you in his footsteps follow.  
As you now still wait to rise,  
set your hearts beyond the skies!

Text: Otto von Schwerin, 1616–1679; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
Music: JESUS, MEINE ZUVERSICHT, attr. Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

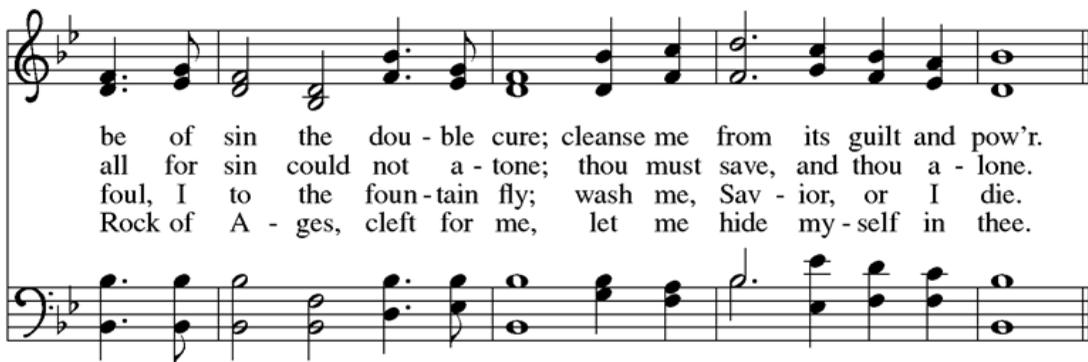
## HYMN ELE #623 Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me



1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee;  
2 Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill thy law's de - mands;  
3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; sim - ply to thy cross I cling.  
4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,



let the wa - ter and the blood, from thy riv - en side which flowed,  
could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,  
Na - ked, come to thee for dress; help - less, look to thee for grace;  
when I soar to worlds un - known, see thee on thy judg - ment throne,



be of sin the dou - ble cure; cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.  
all for sin could not a - tone; thou must save, and thou a - lone.  
foul, I to the foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.  
Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740–1778  
Music: TOPLADY, Thomas Hastings, 1784–1872