

# *“Growing God’s Kingdom”*



## ***FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT***

February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021

## ***MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH***

3 SOUTH THIRD STREET  
MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059  
(717)-436-6213

**RADIO:** AM 1700

**OFFICE EMAIL:** mlchurchoffice@gmail.com

**WEBSITE:** mlcmifflintown.org

**TODAY’S INTRODUCTION:** *On Ash Wednesday the church began its journey toward baptismal immersion in the death and resurrection of Christ. This year, the Sundays in Lent lead us to focus on five covenants God makes in the Hebrew Scriptures and to use them as lenses through which to view baptism. First Peter connects the way God saved Noah's family in the flood with the way God saves us through the water of baptism. The baptismal covenant is made with us individually, but the new life we are given in baptism is for the sake of the whole world.*

# Messiah Lutheran Church

3 South Third Street  
Mifflintown, PA 17059  
Church Office: 717-436-6213

Samuel Leister  
Bob St. Clair  
Andrea Cameron  
Andrea Cameron  
Linda Clark & Chris Martin  
Olivia Mummah  
Hope Miller

Vicar  
Organist  
Choir Director  
Lector  
Altar Guild  
Acolyte  
Offering Presenter

## THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT February 21, 2021 – 10:30 a.m.

\*Please Stand as **YOU** Are Able

### PREPARATION

CHIMES

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

[Please use the prelude as a quiet time to prepare yourself for worship.]

### \* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer.

**C Amen.**

P God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Fountain of living water,

**C pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen.**

P Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are + forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus.

**C Amen.**

### GATHERING

\* GATHERING HYMN

“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

bulletin, pg. 12

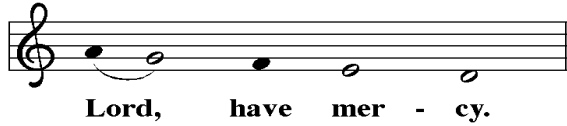
\* GREETING

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

C **And also with you.**

\* KYRIE (Congregation sings responses)

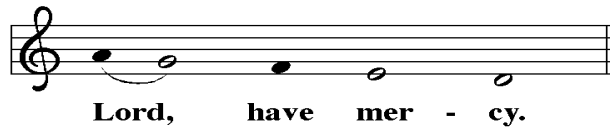
P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



P For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



P For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



\* PRAYER OF THE DAY (In Unison)

P Let us pray...

C **Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**WORD**

*Today's reading is the conclusion to the flood story. Because of human sin, God destroys the earth by flood, saving only Noah, his family, and the animals on the ark. Yet divine destruction gives way to divine commitment. As in the first creation, God blesses humanity and establishes a covenant with all creatures.*

FIRST READING.....Genesis 9:8-17

<sup>8</sup>Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, <sup>9</sup>"As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, <sup>10</sup>and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. <sup>11</sup>I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." <sup>12</sup>God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: <sup>13</sup>I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. <sup>14</sup>When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, <sup>15</sup>I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. <sup>16</sup>When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." <sup>17</sup>God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

L: Here ends the reading.  
C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM:.....Psalm 25:1-10 (*responsively*)

<sup>1</sup>To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.  
**<sup>2</sup>My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.**  
<sup>3</sup>Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.  
**<sup>4</sup>Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths.**  
<sup>5</sup>Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.  
**<sup>6</sup>Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.**  
<sup>7</sup>Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.  
**<sup>8</sup>You are gracious and upright, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners in your way.**  
<sup>9</sup>You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.  
**<sup>10</sup>All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.**

*As God acted through Christ's suffering and death to bring us to God, so God acts through baptism to save us from a sinful existence. This spiritual cleansing marks our new life in Christ.*

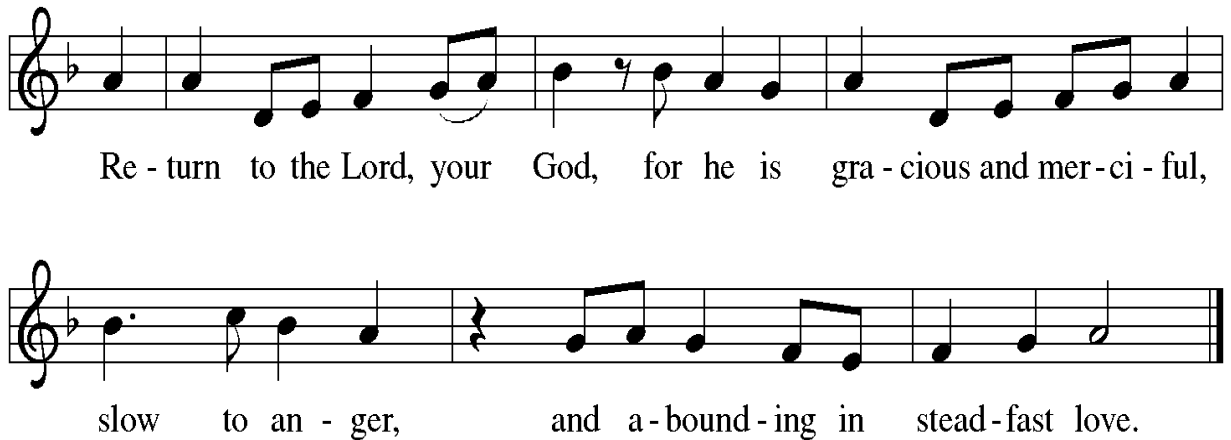
SECOND READING.....1 Peter 3:18-22

<sup>18</sup>For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. <sup>21</sup>And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

L: Here ends the reading.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

\* LENTEN ACCLAMATION (In Unison)



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,  
slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

*The Spirit that comes upon Jesus at his baptism sustains him when he is tested by Satan so that he might proclaim the good news of God's reign.*

\* GOSPEL.....Mark 1:9-15

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord. (spoken)**

<sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

<sup>12</sup>And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. <sup>13</sup>He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

<sup>14</sup>Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, <sup>15</sup>and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near, repent, and believe in the good news."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ. (spoken)**

\* HYMN OF THE DAY “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

\* APOSTLES’ CREED (In Unison)

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

P Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

\* THE LORD’S PRAYER (In Unison)

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.

OFFERING PRESENTATION

\* SUNG OFFERTORY (‘Create in Me’)

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take  
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of  
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

\* OFFERING PRAYER

P Faithful God, you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C Amen.**

**SENDING PRAYER**

\* BLESSING

P You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor. God bless you + that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.

**C Amen, Amen, Amen. (sung)**

\* HOLY COMMUNION

P Jesus draws the whole world to himself. Come to this meal and be fed.

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.

P 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.

P The Body of Christ given for you. (Wafer)

P The Blood of Christ shed for you. (Juice)

P God of steadfast love, at this table you gather your people into one body for the sake of the world. Send us in the power of your Spirit, that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C Amen.**

\* DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Share the good news.

**C Thanks be to God.**

CLOSING CHIMES

**PLEASE TAKE YOUR BULLETIN WITH YOU AND DISPOSE OF AT HOME!**

Reprinted from *Words for Worship*, copyright 2020 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. Scripture quotations (except psalms) from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA. All rights reserved.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship copyright 2006. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license #SB154530

**WELCOME TO ALL!**

JUST A THOUGHT – Blaise Pascal, French mathematician, physicist, inventor, writer and Catholic philosopher: What reason have atheists for saying that we cannot rise again?....Is it more difficult to come into being than to return to it?

**CONGREGATIONAL NEWS**

THE DEADLINE FOR ALL ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE SUNDAY BULLETIN IS THURSDAY NOON.

PRAYER CHAIN – If you wish to be included on the email recipient list for the Messiah Prayer Chain, please send an email to Vicar Leister at [sleister@gmail.com](mailto:sleister@gmail.com).

PRAYER REQUESTS will be placed in the Sunday bulletin for **one month**. If you wish to have someone included in the prayer list for an additional month, please contact the church office at 436-6213 or [mlchurchoffice@gmail.com](mailto:mlchurchoffice@gmail.com). If you have anyone who is a “last minute” addition after the bulletin has been printed on Fridays, please fill out an orange prayer card in the pew and lay it on the stand where the gluten free wafers are placed PRIOR to the morning worship service.

PLEASE NOTIFY THE CHURCH OFFICE for any change in addresses, phone numbers, email addresses, or for any requests for building usage. There are a lot of activities and some coordination is needed so events are not “overbooked” in any specific areas of the church (this also applies to church groups who meet in the church). Please contact the office at 436-6213 or email [mlchurchoffice@gmail.com](mailto:mlchurchoffice@gmail.com) for any changes or requests.

IF ANYONE HAS ANY NEEDS OR CONCERNS, please contact Vicar Sam Leister. If you or someone you know is ill or hospitalized, please let Vicar Leister know. He can be reached at 717-436-8589 (home), or 717-348-1020 (cell), or email at [sleister@gmail.com](mailto:sleister@gmail.com).

FEBRUARY’S “MISSION OF THE MONTH” at Messiah will continue to be for our local missions, specifically the Central Juniata EMS. The monies will be sent from Messiah directly to CJEMS. In addition to your generosity, the PPC allocated funds to match congregational donations up to \$1,000.00. This idea was born when budgeted funds were unused during the 2020 calendar year due to the shutdowns from the Covid-19 Pandemic. This is just one way in which we can extend our mission in Christ’s love beyond the walls of our church building.

COPIES OF OCTOBER 25, 2020 PPC MINUTES are available in the Adult Sunday School Room.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION will be offered following the sending hymn in order to minimize any contact during the meal. We will be using communion kits that are pre-packaged and sealed that include a wafer and grape juice. Each person desiring to share in the meal will take a packaged kit when you receive a bulletin.

**WEEKLY OFFERING REPORT:**

February 7, 2021 Attendance – 23

Other Funds

Total Offering	\$1,960.00
Other Funds	<u>650.00</u>
General Fund	\$1,310.00

Benevolence	\$ 20.00
Memorial Fund	530.00
CJEMS Mission for	
this month	<u>100.00</u>
Total	\$ 650.00



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Tuesday – 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.      Thursday – 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.      Friday – 12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF has launched the 75,000 Face Mask Challenge, a request for volunteers to sew cloth masks that will be sent overseas to slow the spread of COVID-19. If you are interested in participating in this challenge, you can make as few or as many as you would like. Please call or email Cynthia Smith for details about this project at 717-994-4999 or [gramcynthia49@yahoo.com](mailto:gramcynthia49@yahoo.com).

SYNOD ASSEMBLY DELEGATES NEEDED – Two members of Messiah are needed for the annual Synod Assembly on June 19, 2021 (virtually on zoom). If you are interested in serving, please contact Vicar Leister or the church office.

2021 LENTEN SERVICES – Vicar Leister will be conducting weekly Lenten services at Messiah this year, with the assistance of Lay Worship Leader Andrea Cameron. The services will be held each Wednesday during Lent starting at 7 p.m. The sermon topics are selected from the document from Pope Francis titled *"Do You Want to Fast this Lent?"*

- February 24 - Fast From Hurting Words
- March 3 - Fast From Anger
- March 10 - Fast From Pessimism
- March 17 - Fast From Bitterness
- March 24 - Fast From Selfishness

As with our Sunday services, masks and social distancing will be required. More information will be forthcoming regarding Holy Week services, so stay tuned!

A CARD SHOWER has been requested for Curt Houtz, who has been on our prayer list and is fighting cancer. Please send greetings to him and continue to keep him in your thoughts and prayers. His address is 116 Maple Road, Mifflintown, PA 17059.

**WOMEN OF THE ELCA**

NEW BATH-SIZE BARS OF SOAP (4 oz. to 5 oz., preferably Ivory or unscented Dove) is continuously collected as an on-going project for Lutheran World Relief. Please place soap in the basket on the blue table in the Adult Sunday School Room.

**COMMUNITY**

**FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR FEBRUARY:**

ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS, OVER-THE-COUNTER COLD AND FLU MEDICINES, PAPER TOWELS, COUGH DROPS, DISH DETERGENT, LAUNDRY DETERGENT, ANY CLEANING ITEM. DONATIONS OF CASH/CHECKS ARE ALSO APPRECIATED!

## PRAYER LIST

Shirley Aumiller	Terri Gayer	Shirley Miller
Tyson Aurand	Ken Geedey	Jim Minick
Carole Baker	Eddi Kay Gill	Claire Mummah
Donna Barton	Paul Goss	Landon Musser
Lindsey Barton	Amy Hart	Carole Nace
Gary Bechtold	Beth Harris	Darve Nace
Donna Bell	Harry & Jennifer Heikes	Austin Parker
Julie Berryman	Sue Henderson	Noel Peachey
Nick Beward	Ken Henry	Dave Phelan
Roxanne Boyer	Nox Hepburn	Butch & Sandy Pines
Charlotte Burd	Jason Hockenberry & Family	Betty Ranck
Andrea Cameron	Curt & Judy Houtz	Keith Ranck
Pam Campbell	Dean Hutchinson	Mackenzie Shearer
Ruth Cisney	Matt & Jennifer Hutchinson	Ronald Shearer
Curtis Clark	Brenda Imes	Bobby & Eva Sieber
Randy Clark	Annie Ingle	Mike Sparks
Terry Coder	Doc Johnston	Donald Speece
Jean Compton	Guy Kerstetter	Bob & Jeanette St. Clair
Leann Crimmel	Denny King	Charles Stump
Will DeLancy	Darvin Krouse	Alice Swartz
Guy Dillman	Pam Lawson	Dorothy Towsey
Fred & Dot Dowling	Carol Lyter	Rich Walters
Dixie Dressler	Anthony Martin	Dr. Glen Webb
Renee Dzikowski	Carlen McClure	Erma Williamson
Neil Fisher	Alice McClure	Jim Woltman
Janie Fogleman	Isabel Meinsler	Mackenzie Wray
Jerald (Jerry) Foltz	Messiah Mutual Ministry	George Zimmerman
Bentley Fulkroad	Cecilia Miller	Linda Zimmerman
Joan Fulkroad	Ellwood Miller	
Michal Gayer	Larry Miller	

## PRAY FOR OUR SHUT-INS

Ray Bramm	Minnie Minick
Ruth Cisney	Edith Nipple
Max Ernest	Carol Simonton
Margaret Guss	Sieber & Ona Stoner
Gail Henderson	Ken Stuck
Mona Lawson	Kitty Walters
Jane Marhefka	

**EASTER LILIES ORDER FORM  
MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**



Easter Sunday is April 4, 2021 and in keeping with Messiah Lutheran Church tradition, Lilies you purchase will be “planted” around our altar to help us celebrate the special occasion.

Please complete the order form below and attach **a check**, made payable to “**Messiah Lutheran Church**” and print **Easter Lilies** in the memo line. Then, please attach the check to the order form and place it in the offering plate or return to the church office by **March 25, 2021**. *PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY YOUR ORDER!!*

FLOWERS MAY BE PICKED UP FOLLOWING THE EASTER MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE AT 10:30 AM.

Thank you for helping to beautify our space and for supporting our church!

---

**EASTER LILIES ORDER FORM**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

LIST THE DEDICATION AS FOLLOWS:

Please check one: In Honor Of ( ) OR In Memory Of ( )

---

---

---

I would like to order the following:

Easter Lilies (4 to 6 blooms) \$8.50 # of plants \_\_\_\_\_ X \$8.50 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

293

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

1 My hope is built on noth - ing less Than Je - sus' blood and  
 2 When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I rest on his un -  
 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood Sus - tain me in the  
 4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, Oh, may I then in

right - teous - ness; No mer - it of my own I claim, But  
 chang - ing grace; In ev - 'ry high and storm - y gale My  
 rag - ing flood; When all sup - ports are washed a - way, He  
 him be found, Clothed in his righ - teous - ness a - lone, Re -

*Refrain*

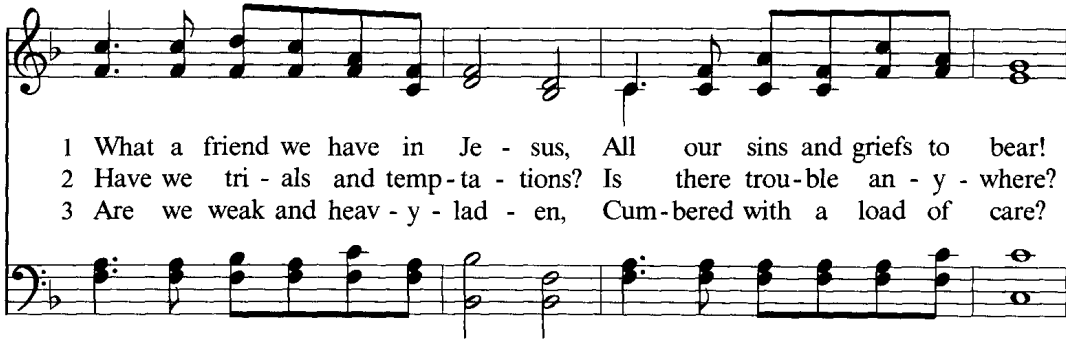
whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.  
 an - chor holds with - in the veil.  
 then is all my hope and stay. On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; All  
 deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

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

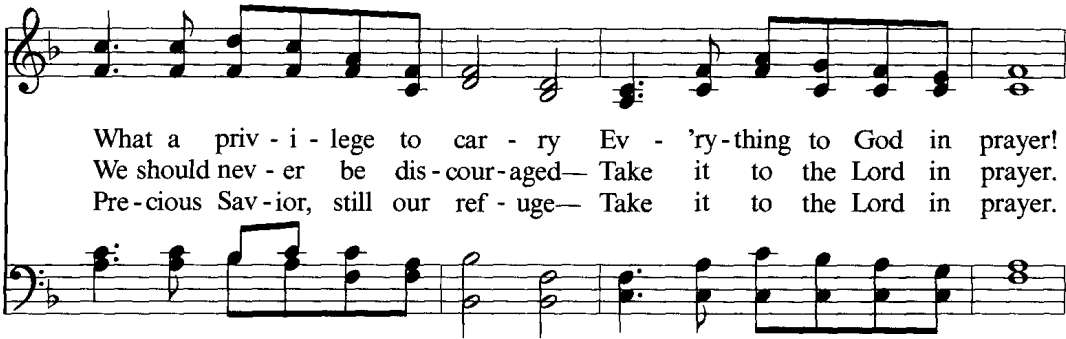
*Text: Edward Mote, 1787-1874, alt.  
 Tune: William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868*

439

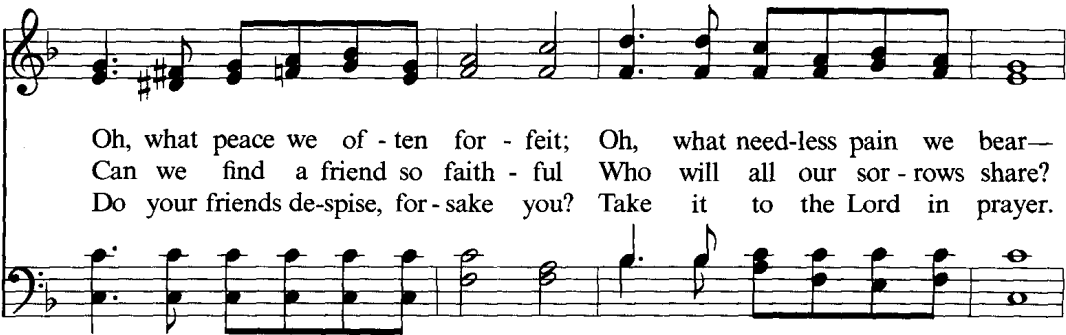
## What a Friend We Have in Jesus



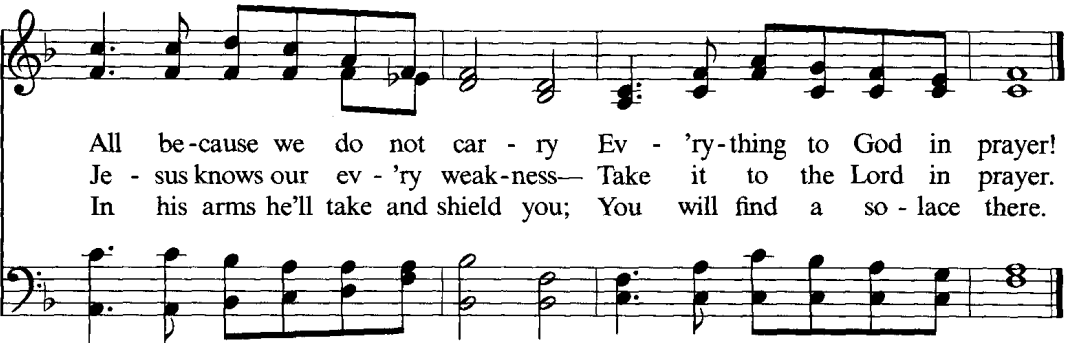
1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, All our sins and griefs to bear!  
 2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?  
 3 Are we weak and heav - y - lad - en, Cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!  
 We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged— Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
 Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— Take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; Oh, what need - less pain we bear—  
 Can we find a friend so faith - ful Who will all our sor - rows share?  
 Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



All be - cause we do not car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!  
 Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness— Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
 In his arms he'll take and shield you; You will find a so - lace there.

Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820-1886  
 Tune: Charles C. Converse, 1832-1918

CONVERSE  
 87 87 D