

“Growing God’s Kingdom”



THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 25th, 2021

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

3 SOUTH THIRD STREET
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TODAY’S INTRODUCTION: *The image of the good shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sibling in need.*

Messiah Lutheran Church

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

Samuel Leister
Bob St. Clair
Andrea Cameron
Linda Bahorik
Diana Wise & Cynthia Smith
Thea Beward
Brea Beward

Vicar
Organist
Choir Director
Lector
Altar Guild
Acolyte
Offering Ushers

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 25, 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.]

GATHERING

- * GATHERING HYMN “Blest Be the Tie That Binds” bulletin, pg. 11
- * GREETING
 - P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
 - C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**
 - 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 (**C - sung**)
 - P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
 - C Lord, have mercy.**
 - P For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
 - C Lord, have mercy.**
 - 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.
 - C Lord, have mercy.**
 - P For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
 - C Lord, have mercy.**
 - P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
 - C Amen.**

* CANTICLE OF PRAISE (“Lord God, Heavenly King” -- In Unison)

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,
 we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.
 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,
 you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;
 you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.
 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
 you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,
 in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

* PRAYER OF THE DAY (In Unison)

P Let us pray...

C O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

Peter and John had been arrested the previous day because they were proclaiming the news of the resurrection to the people. In today's reading, Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit so that he can proclaim salvation in Jesus' name to the religious authorities.

FIRST READING Acts 4:5-12

⁵The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. ¹¹This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.'

¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

L: Here ends the reading.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 23 (*responsively*)

¹The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

²The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.

³You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Jesus' death on our behalf is the clearest demonstration of divine love. This is the very love we share with others, not just through our words but especially through our deeds. In sharing such love we fulfill God's commandments.

SECOND READING..... 1 John 3:16-24

¹⁶We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

L: Here ends the reading.

C: Thanks be to God.

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (In Unison)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.
Alleluia.

In language that recalls the twenty-third psalm, Jesus describes himself as the shepherd who cares for his sheep. He is willing to die for them, and he is able to overcome death for them.

* GOSPEL John 10:11-18

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 10th chapter.

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

[Jesus said:] ¹¹"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

Vicar Leister

* HYMN OF THE DAY "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!" (vss. 1-4) bulletin, pg. 12

* 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 ('vineyards')

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, Lord, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

* OFFERING PRAYER

P God of love,
you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

SENDING

* BLESSING

P May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus. The God of life, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen, Amen, Amen. (sung)

* SENDING HYMN "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!" (vss. 5-7) bulletin, pg. 12

* HOLY COMMUNION

P Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

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 With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

C Come, Holy Spirit.

P We praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

C Amen.

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

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

P Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to the entire world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

C Amen.

* DISMISSAL

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

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

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WELCOME TO ALL!

JUST A THOUGHT – St. Theresa of Alvila, Spanish Nun and Mystic (1515 – 1582): My soul is like a mirror in which the glory of God is reflected, but sin, however insignificant, covers the mirror with smoke.

ALTAR FLOWERS are presented to the Glory of God and in honor of Michelle Stoner and Butch Pines' birthdays by Sandy, Dan and Braedon.

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.

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. 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 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.

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.

COPIES OF JANUARY 13, 2021 PPC MINUTES are available in the Adult Sunday School Room.

APRIL’S “MISSION OF THE MONTH” at Messiah will be for our campers at Camp Mount Luther this summer. The monies will be sent from Messiah directly to Camp Mount Luther. In addition to your generosity, the PPC allocated funds to match congregational donations up to \$1,000.00. This is just one way in which we can extend our mission in Christ’s love beyond the walls of our church building.

WEEKLY OFFERING REPORT:

April 11, 2021 Attendance – 41

Total Offering	\$2,632.00		
Other Funds	<u>750.00</u>		
General Fund	\$1,882.00		
		<u>Other Funds</u>	
		Summer Camp	\$ 425.00
		Building Fund	200.00
		Memorial Fund	50.00
		Benevolence	<u>75.00</u>
		Total	\$ 750.00

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.

SUMMER SERVICES WILL BEGIN on Sunday, June 6th at 9:15 a.m. Regular 10:30 a.m. worship services will resume on Sunday, September 5th.

THE NEW ALTAR GUILD SCHEDULE for July, 2021 through June, 2022 will be completed soon. We are currently in need of more people to serve on Altar Guild, as a few of our long-serving members are no longer able to help. If you would like to serve or have any changes you would like to make, please contact Diana Wise. All Altar Guild members will be sent a copy of the annual schedule in June. Thanks to all for your willingness to serve.

THE NEW LECTOR SCHEDULE for July, 2021 through June, 2022 will be completed soon. If you are not already serving as a lector and you would like to read the weekly scripture readings, please notify the church office. Any young people who would like to read on the first Sunday of the month are also asked to notify the church office. If you would like to be deleted from the list, again let the office know. All lectors will be sent a copy of the annual schedule in June. Thanks to all of you who volunteer for this role in our worship service.

CAMP MOUNT LUTHER – Kate Swailes is serving as our congregation’s camperson with Camp Mount Luther again this year. She has information on programs for the summer. If you have additional questions, you can contact her or the camp office at 570-922-1587 or cml@campmountluther.org. Since our congregation has a camperson, each camper from our church will receive Camel Bucks from Kate for use at the camp store this summer! Campers who attended camp at Mount Luther in the past should have already received the camp brochures in the mail (additional brochures are available in the Adult Sunday School Room). For more information on Camp Mount Luther or to print the camp registration form, visit www.campmountluther.org. Submit your camp registration form to Kate along with a \$50 payment payable to Messiah Lutheran Church which will go toward the non-refundable deposit. The remaining portion of the cost of camp will be covered by various fundraising events, donations, etc. Kate will submit the registration forms to Mount Luther. Because Camp Mount Luther is accepting a lower number of campers this summer, Chad Hershberger recommends that families register their campers as soon as possible. Registration will not be accepted within the two weeks prior to each camp week.

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 APRIL:

ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS, SHAMPOO, DEODORANT, CLEANING SUPPLIES, LAUNDRY DETERGENT, DISH SOAP, ALL-PURPOSE HOUSEHOLD CLEANERS. DONATIONS OF CASH/CHECKS ARE ALSO APPRECIATED!

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

- Today:** -10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion.
- Monday:** -7:00 p.m., AA in Youth Area.
- Wednesday:** -9:00 a.m., “The Needlers” in Fellowship Hall.
- Sunday:** -10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion.

PRAYER LIST

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

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

370

F Gm7 Dm Bb

1 Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in
 2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne We pour our
 3 We share our mu - tual woes, Our mu - tual
 4 From sor - row, toil, and pain, And sin we

F Bbmaj7 C Bb6 F

Chris - tian love; The u - ni - ty of
 ar - dent prayers; Our fears, our hopes, our
 bur - dens bear, And of - ten for each
 shall be free; And per - fect love and

Bb6 C7 Dm Bb6 F Bb F C7 F

heart and mind Is like to that a - bove.
 aims are one, Our com - forts and our cares.
 oth - er flows The sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
 friend - ship reign Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: John Fawcett, 1740-1817, alt.
 Tune: Johann G. Nägeli, 1773-1836, adapt.

DENNIS
 SM

328

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros - trate fall;
 2 Crown him, you mar - tyrs of our God, Who from his al - tar call;
 3 O seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race Now ran - sored from the fall,
 4 Hail him, you heirs of Da - vid's line, Whom Da - vid Lord did call—

Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown him Lord of all.
 Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod And crown him Lord of all.
 Hail him who saves you by his grace And crown him Lord of all.
 The God In - car - nate, man di - vine—And crown him Lord of all.

Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown him Lord of all.
 Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod And crown him Lord of all.
 Hail him who saves you by his grace And crown him Lord of all.
 The God In - car - nate, man di - vine—And crown him Lord of all.

5 Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget
 The wormwood and the gall,
 Go, spread your trophies at his feet
 And crown him Lord of all.

6 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe
 On this terrestrial ball
 To him all majesty ascribe
 And crown him Lord of all.

7 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
 We at his feet may fall!
 We'll join the everlasting song
 And crown him Lord of all.

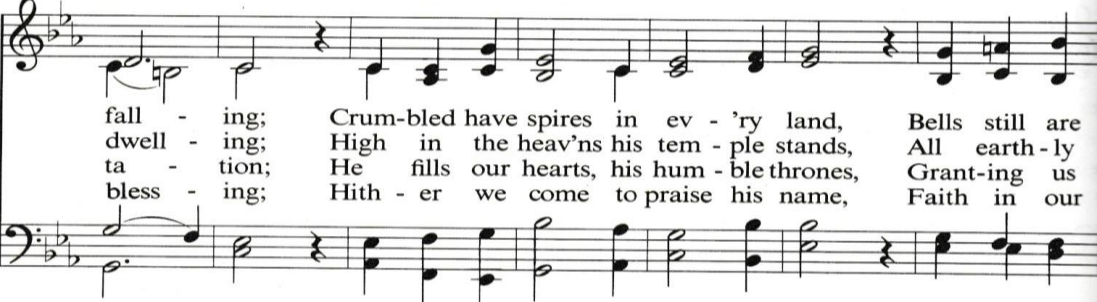
Text: Edward Perronet, 1726-1792, alt.
 Tune: Oliver Holden, 1765-1844

365

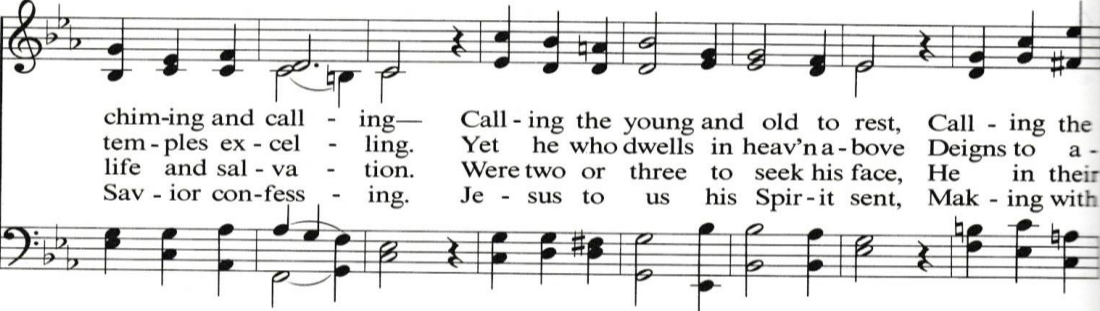
Built on a Rock



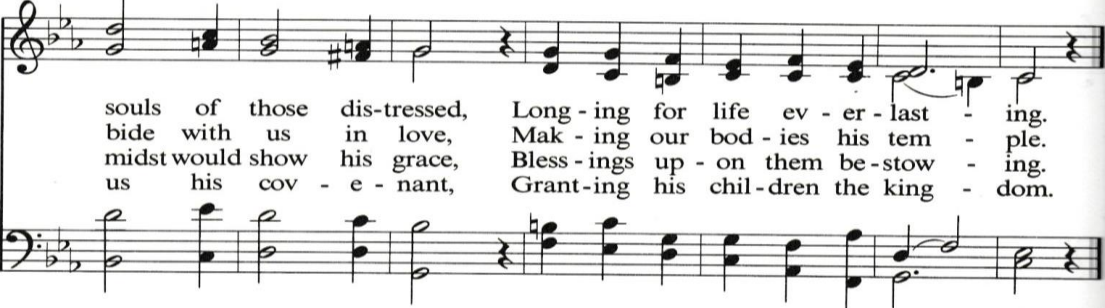
1 Built on a rock the Church shall stand, E - ven when stee - ples are
 2 Not in our tem - ples made with hands God, the Al - might - y, is
 3 We are God's house of liv - ing stones, Built for his own hab - i -
 4 Yet in this house, an earth - ly frame, Je - sus the chil - dren is



fall - ing; Crum - bled have spires in ev - 'ry land, Bells still are
 dwell - ing; High in the heav'ns his tem - ple stands, All earth - ly
 ta - tion; He fills our hearts, his hum - ble thrones, Grant - ing us
 bless - ing; Hith - er we come to praise his name, Faith in our



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



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

5. Grant, then, O God, Your will be done, That, when the church bells are ringing,
 Many in saving faith may come Where Christ His message is bringing;
 "I know My own; My own know Me. You, not the world, My face shall see,
 My peace I leave with you. Amen."