## "Growing God's Kingdom"



# THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## August 22<sup>nd</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:** In today's gospel many people take offense at Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh and drink his blood; even many of Jesus' disciples peel off. This is the backdrop in John's gospel for Peter's confession of faith. "To whom can we go?" asks Peter, in words we sometimes sing just before the gospel is read. "You have the words of eternal life." In order to take such a stand, as Peter and Joshua did, Paul tells us to arm ourselves with the word of God. We pray in the Spirit that we might be bold ambassadors of the gospel.

#### Messiah Lutheran Church

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

Samuel Leister
Andrea Cameron
Bob St. Clair
Slone Smith
Ron Yorks
Sandy Pines & Michelle Stoner
Grace Miller & Brea Beward
Thea Beward & Julia Martin

Vicar Choir Director Organist/Pianist Organist/Pianist Lector Altar Guild Acolytes Offering Presenters

## THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST August 22, 2021 – 9:15 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 In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
  - C Amen.
  - P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
  - C Amen.
  - P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
  - P Gracious God,
  - C have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in the newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### **GATHERING**

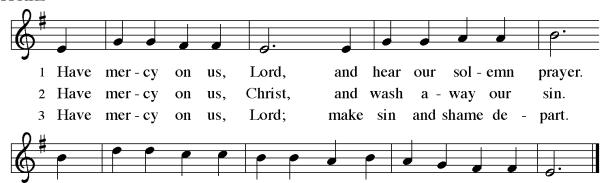
**GATHERING HYMN** 

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

bulletin, pg. 11

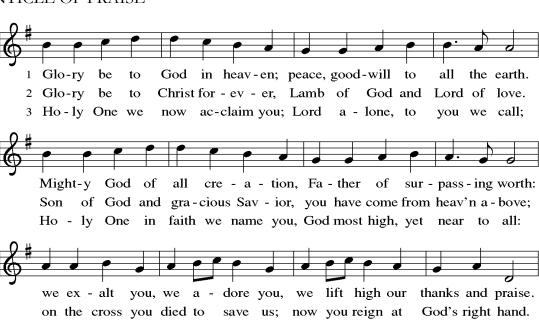
- GREETING
  - P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
  - C And also with you.

#### **KYRIE**



come to hear your liv-ing word; it saves us from de-spair. We out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin. Re - new us with your sav-ing pow'r; cre - ate us new hearts! in

#### CANTICLE OF PRAISE



Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa-ther's splen-dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise. Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom-ise firm we stand. the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be God on high!

- \* PRAYER OF THE DAY (In Unison)
  - P Let us pray...
  - C Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

#### **WORD**

In the Near East, covenant means "agreement" or "alliance." It describes relationships and is the primary word used to characterize the relationship between God and Israel. By delivering Israel, God has already begun the relationship. Joshua calls upon the people to respond.

<sup>16</sup>Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; <sup>17</sup>for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; <sup>18</sup>and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God."

- L: The word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

<sup>15</sup>The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and God's ears are open to their cry.

<sup>16</sup>The face of the LORD is against those who do evil, to erase the remembrance of them from the earth.

<sup>17</sup>The righteous cry, and the LORD hears them and delivers them from all their troubles.

<sup>18</sup>The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves those whose spirits are crushed.

<sup>19</sup>Many are the troubles of the righteous, but the LORD delivers them from every one.

<sup>20</sup>God will keep safe all their bones; not one of them shall be broken.

<sup>21</sup>Evil will bring death to the wicked and those who hate the righteous will be punished.

<sup>22</sup>O LORD, you redeem the life of your servants, and those who put their trust in you will not be punished.

Like a general giving a rousing speech to troops before battle, this letter closes by calling on Christians to be equipped for spiritual warfare against evil. The full armor of God includes truth, righteousness, peace, faith, the gift of salvation, and the word of God inspired by the Spirit.

<sup>10</sup>Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. <sup>11</sup>Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. <sup>12</sup>For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

<sup>13</sup>Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. <sup>14</sup>Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. <sup>15</sup>As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup>With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup>Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

<sup>18</sup>Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. <sup>19</sup>Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup>for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

L: The word of the Lord.

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.

The "hard saying" that offends Jesus' disciples is his claim that his followers must eat his flesh and drink his blood. The followers who return to their old lives know something about how odd this sounds. Simon Peter, on the other hand, knows something about the scarcity of living, gracious words. He asks the most important question: "To whom shall we go?"

- - P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 6th chapter.
  - C Glory to you, O Lord. (spoken)

[Jesus said,] <sup>56</sup>"Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. <sup>57</sup>Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. <sup>58</sup>This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." <sup>59</sup>He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

<sup>60</sup>When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" <sup>61</sup>But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? <sup>62</sup>Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? <sup>63</sup>It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. <sup>64</sup>But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. <sup>65</sup>And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father."

<sup>66</sup>Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. <sup>67</sup>So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" <sup>68</sup>Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we

go? You have the words of eternal life. <sup>69</sup>We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

- P The Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ. (spoken)

SERMON Vicar Sam Leister HYMN OF THE DAY "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus" 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 Lord, in your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.

#### 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 Let us pray. Merciful God,
- C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### \* HOLY COMMUNION

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C Amen.

#### \* THE LORD'S PRAYER (all)

- P Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:
- 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.

- P The Body of Christ given for you. (Wafer)
- P The Blood of Christ shed for you. (Juice)

#### \* COMMUNION BLESSING

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C Amen.

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Let us pray,

Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever.

C Amen.

#### **SENDING**

- \* BLESSING
  - P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
  - C Amen, Amen, Amen. (sung)
- \* SENDING HYMN

"Jesus, the Very Thought of You"

bulletin, pg. 13

- \* DISMISSAL
  - P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
  - C Thanks be to God.

#### POSTLUDE

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

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NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR - Diana Wise

NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD - Sandy Pines & Michelle Stoner (8/2/21—8/29/21)

NEXT WEEK'S ACOLYTES - Paige Martin & Nick Reed

NEXT WEEK'S OFFERING PRESENTERS - Gabby Reed & Hannah Ehrisman

#### **WELCOME TO ALL!**

JUST A THOUGHT – St. Augustine of Hippo, Bishop of Hippo (354 – 430): The confession of evil works is the first step of good works.

#### **CONGREGATIONAL NEWS**

THE DEADLINE FOR ALL ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE SUNDAY BULLETIN IS <u>THURSDAY</u> 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 <a href="mailto:sleister@gmail.com">sleister@gmail.com</a>.

PRAYER REQUESTS will be placed in the Sunday bulletin for <u>one month</u>. If you wish to have someone included in the prayer list for an additional month, please contact the church office at 436-6213 or <u>mlchurchoffice@gmail.com</u>. 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 <a href="mailto:mlchurchoffice@gmail.com">mlchurchoffice@gmail.com</a> 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 <a href="mailto:sleister@gmail.com">sleister@gmail.com</a>.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION - 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 MAY 23, 2021 PPC MINUTES are available in the Adult Sunday School Room.

AUGUST'S "MISSION OF THE MONTH" at Messiah will again be Lutheran Disaster Relief. The monies will be sent from Messiah directly to Lutheran Disaster Relief by way of the Upper Susquehanna Synod. These funds will help those across the United States, from the building collapse in Miami Beach to flooding and tornado victims among many others. 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 continue to extend our mission in Christ's love beyond the walls of our church building.

WEIS AND GIANT GIFT CARDS are available to purchase from the Disciples Class. This is a very important outreach ministry that helps neighbors in need in our own community. We thank each and every one for continued support of this very worthwhile project.

OUR SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE continues at 9:15 a.m. through August 30. Beginning on Sunday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, we will return to Sunday School and Catechetical classes beginning at 9:15 a.m. and Worship, Communion, and Junior Church beginning at 10:30 a.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS for the fall are needed in the youth department. The classes will be small in number, but if we have two teachers per class, six additional teachers will be needed. PLEASE consider helping out. Contact Linda at 717-348-8262 or email at lnclark13@embargmail.com.

#### 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.

Other Funds

#### WEEKLY OFFERING REPORT:

August 8, 2021 Attendance – 44

0 ,			
Total Offering	<b>\$2,511</b> .00	Benevolence	\$ 135.00
Other Funds	<u>315.00</u>	Building Fund	80.00
General Fund	\$2,196.00	Lutheran Disaster	 100.00
		Total	\$ 315.00

#### **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.

UPPER SUSQUEHANA SWO CONVENTION will be held at Camp Mt. Luther on September 25, 2021. The theme will be "Love One Another" from 1 John 4:11 and the hymns are "We Are Called," "Jesu, Jesu," and "Blest Be the Tie That Binds." Worship leader will be Pastor Lisa Barnes, Bible Study leader will be Jody Ellis, and Workshop presenter will be Barbara Schmouder. The group will be making a picture craft with flowers. Ingathering Offering will go to Lutheran Disaster Response (In-Kind donations will be provided later). The meal will be roast beef, vegetables, and pie. To register, contact Barb Geedey.

WELCA will be collecting items for school kits again this year. Each kit requires the following items:

- -Four (70 to 80 sheet) notebooks of wide or college-ruled paper 8 x 10½
- -One 30- centimeter ruler (or one with inches on one side and centimeters on the other)
- -One pencil sharpener
- -One pair of **blunt** scissors
- -Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- -Five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel pens)
- -One box of 16 or 24 crayons
- -One 2½" eraser

#### **COMMUNITY**

#### FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR AUGUST:

- --DISH SOAP, ANY CLEANING SUPPLIES, AND LAUNDRY DETERGENT
- --SCHOOL SUPPLIES (ESPECIALLY SPIRAL NOTEBOOKS AND SCISSORS)
- --DONATIONS OF CASH/CHECKS AND GIFT CARDS ARE ALSO GLADLY ACCEPTED

#### THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

**Today:** -9:15 a.m., Worship/Communion.

**Monday:** -7:00 p.m., AA in Youth Area.

Wednesday: -9:00 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall.

Friday: - NEWSLETTER DEADLINE.

Sunday: -9:15 a.m., Worship/Communion & Healing Service.

### PRAYER LIST Eddi Kav Gill

Shirley Aumiller Steve & Linda Bahorik Donna Barton Donna Bell Andy Berrier Chrissy Berrier & family Ken Berrier Roxanne Boyer Wanda Boyer Dan Brown Charlotte Burd Andrea Cameron Pam Campbell Karen Centini Ron Chambers Andrew & Daris Ciecierski Randy Clark Terry Coder Vincent Cramer Leann Crimmel Will DeLancy Fred & Dot Dowling Renee Dzikowski Tom Ernest

Neil & Pat Fisher

Janie Fogleman

Bentley Fulkroad

Joan Fulkroad

Dr. Mark G. from Israel

Terri Gaver

Linda Geedey

Sam & Diane Goshorn Amy Hart **Joyce Hart** Beth Harris Harry & Jennifer Heikes Sue Henderson Nox Hepburn Curt & Judy Houtz Dean Hutchinson Brenda Imes Annie Ingle Doc Johnston Guy Kerstetter Denny King Darvin Krouse Pam Lawson Chase Lehman Michael Lozano Carol Lyter Zaden Mabey Ryan Marker Anthony Martin Carlen McClure Alice McClure Messiah Mutual Ministry Cecilia Miller Ellwood Miller Larry Miller Shirley Miller Jim Minick

Claire Mummah Ken Mummah Darve Nace Paul Ogden Austin Parker Noel Peachev Rick & Audrey Peters Kari Ann (Reagen) Petrine Dave Phelan Family of Evelyn Phillips **Butch & Sandy Pines** Mia Raish Betty Ranck Keith Ranck Mike Rhoades Bill & Claudette Satzler Mackenzie Shearer Ron & Arlene Shearer Vicki Suoja Mike Sparks Andy Spigelmyer Bob & Jeanette St. Clair Dorothy Towsey George & Kay Varner Rich Walters Erma Williamson Jim Woltman Mackenzie Wray George Zimmerman Linda Zimmerman

#### **PRAY FOR OUR SHUT-INS**

Jane Marhefka – Brookline Retirement Village, 92 Village Drive, Mifflintown, PA 17059

Gail Henderson & Carol Simonton – Brookline Manor, 2 Manor Blvd., Mifflintown, PA 17059

Ruth Cisney & Ray Bramm - Honneman House, 58 Honneman House Dr., Apt. 108, Thompsontown, PA 17094

Max Ernest – 1099 William Penn Hwy., Mifflintown, PA 17059

Margaret Guss – 20 South Third St., Mifflintown, PA 17059

Mona Lawson – 2792 William Penn Hwy., Mifflintown, PA 17059

Minnie Minick – 187 JAM House Rd., Mifflin, PA 17058

Edith Nipple – 1482 William Penn Hwy., Mifflintown, PA 17059

Sieber & Ona Stoner – 23591 Rt. 35 North, Mifflintown, PA 17059

Ken Stuck – 66 Eighth St., Mifflintown, PA 17059

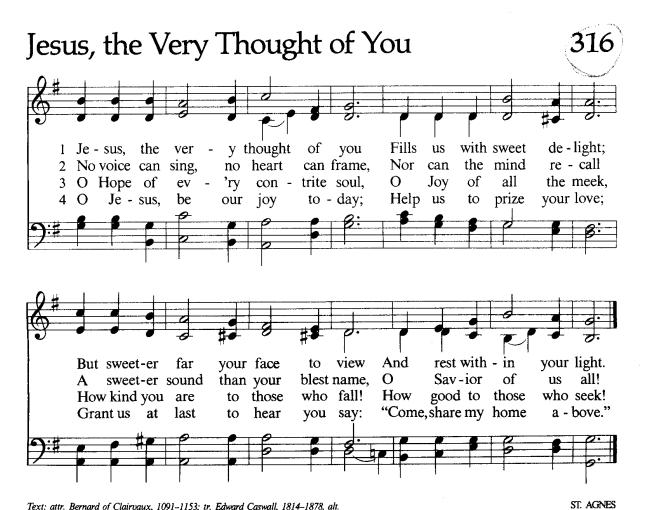
#### A Mighty Fortress Is Our God





#### Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus 389 1 Stand up, stand up for Je sus, As sol - diers of sus; The trum - pet call o - bey; 2 Stand up, stand up for Je sus, Stand in his strength a - lone; 3 Stand up, stand up for sus, The strife will not be long; 4 Stand up, stand up Je for suf - fer loss. Lift high his roy - al ban - ner; It must not glo - rious day. this his in might - y con - flict In Stand forth trust your own. You dare of flesh will fail you, not vic - tor's song. This day the din of bat tle, The next the he shall From vic - t'ry un - to vic - t'ry His ar - my his faith - ful serve him A - gainst un - num-bered foes; the Gos - pel ar - mor; Each piece put on with prayer. sol - diers, o - ver - com - ing, Their crown of life shall see, van - quished And Christ is Lord in - deed. Till foe ev - 'ry is dan - ger, And strength to strength op - pose. dan - ger, Be nev - er want - ing there. Let cour-age rise with Where du - ty calls or Shall reign e - ter - nal - ly. And with the King

Text: George Duffield, 1818–1888, alt. Tune: George J. Webb, 1803–1887 WEBB 76 76 D



Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091-1153; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814-1878, alt. Tune: John B. Dykes, 1823-1876

CM