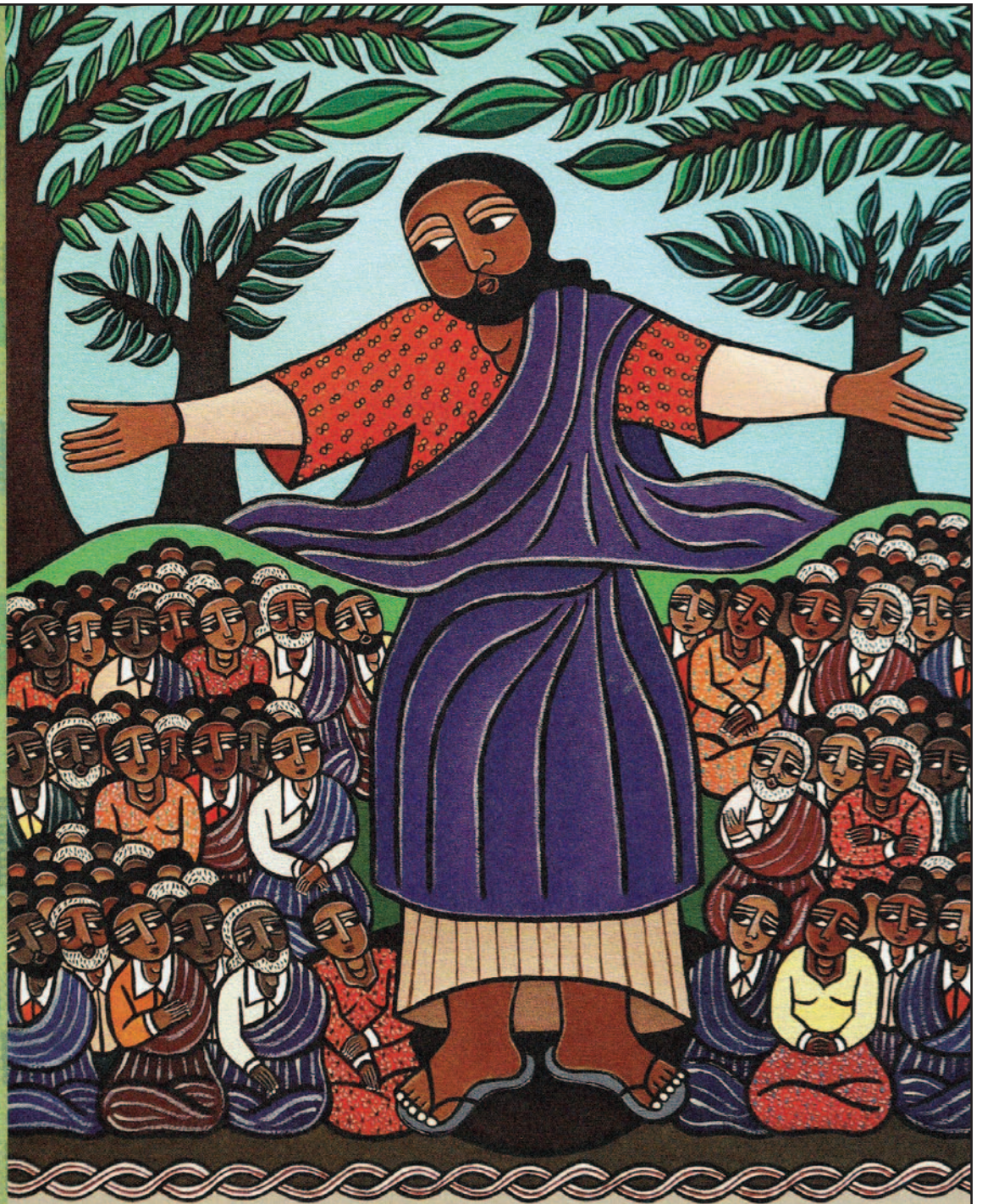


# St. John Lutheran Church



*I will give you rest*

MATTHEW 11:28

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# ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Rev. Tammy P. Harmer

Deacon Betsey Eley & Deacon Ken Weaver

6TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST • JULY 5, 2026

## Reverent Reflection

## Prelude

## Welcome

## Church Announcements

## Confession and Forgiveness

- D. Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
- C. **Amen.**
- D. Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C. **Amen.**
- D. Most merciful God,
- C. **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**
- Amen.**
- D. God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.
- C. **Amen**

**Gathering Hymn:** What A Friend We Have In Jesus (#742)

## Greeting

- D. 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 p. 147

- D. In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- C. **Lord, have mercy.**
- D. For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
- C. **Lord, have mercy.**

- D. 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.**
- D. For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
- C. **Lord, have mercy.**
- D. Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C. **Amen.**

## **Canticle p. 149**

- D. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.  
**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.**  
**Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation:**  
**Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**  
**This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.**
- D. The Lord be with you.
- C. **And also with you.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray:

*You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

## **Word**

### **First Reading: Zechariah 9:9-12**

<sup>9</sup> Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

<sup>10</sup> He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth.

<sup>11</sup> As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

<sup>12</sup> Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 145:8-14**

**Response: "The Lord is gracious and full of compassion."**

<sup>8</sup> The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

<sup>9</sup> **Lord, you are good to all, and your compassion is over all your works. R**

<sup>10</sup> All your works shall praise you, O Lord, and your faithful ones shall bless you.

<sup>11</sup> **They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your power,**

<sup>12</sup> that all people may know of your power and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

<sup>13</sup> **Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures throughout all ages. You, Lord, are faithful in all your words, and loving in all your works.**

<sup>14</sup> The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up those who are bowed down. **R**

## **Second Reading: Romans 7:15-25a**

<sup>15</sup> I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. <sup>16</sup> Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. <sup>17</sup> But in fact it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. <sup>18</sup> For I know that the good does not dwell within me, that is, in my flesh. For the desire to do the good lies close at hand, but not the ability. <sup>19</sup> For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. <sup>20</sup> Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me.

<sup>21</sup> So I find it to be a law that, when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. <sup>22</sup> For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, <sup>23</sup> but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. <sup>24</sup> Wretched person that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? <sup>25a</sup> Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Acclamation p. 151**

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

## **Gospel: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30**

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] <sup>16</sup> "To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

<sup>17</sup> 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.'

<sup>18</sup> "For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon'; <sup>19</sup> the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds."

<sup>20</sup> Then he began to reproach the cities in which most of his deeds of power had been done because they did not repent. <sup>21</sup> "Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the deeds of power done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. <sup>22</sup> But I tell you, on the day of judgment it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon than for you. <sup>23</sup> And you, Capernaum, will you be exalted to heaven? No, you will be brought down to Hades.

"For if the deeds of power done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. <sup>24</sup> But I tell you that on the day of judgment it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom than for you."

<sup>25</sup> At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; <sup>26</sup> yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. <sup>27</sup> All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

<sup>28</sup> "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

### Children's Sermon

### Anthem

### Apostles' Creed

*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

Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

God our unity, your church flourishes in different languages, cultures, and movements. Grant us wisdom to discern when our yokes are too heavy, that we may live and serve in the freedom of your rest.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our life-giver, we grieve the pains placed upon our common home through war and neglect. What you have lovingly crafted, guide us to lovingly tend.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our freedom, you are no tyrant but bring peace. As this nation marks its declaration of independence, teach us our part in announcing peace for future generations.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our comfort, liberate all in our community who are captive to fear, who have become isolated or ill, or who are in any need (especially).

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our guide, we do not always have the strength to do the good we wish to do. Free us from the cycles of violence that bind us, that all know your liberation.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for peace throughout the world: in our nation, Ukraine, Israel, Gaza, Lebanon, Sudan, and all war-torn areas. We pray for our military and their families.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our home, you model freedom through the love shared across communities of trust and goodwill. As we remember those now gone to eternal rest (especially), we thank you for the gifts of life together.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

## Sharing of the Peace

## Thanksgiving for the Word p. 220

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

Let us pray:

*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, for ever and ever. Amen.*

## Blessing

**Sending Hymn:** Joyful, Joyful (#836)

## Dismissal

## Postlude

### **ALTAR FLOWERS DEDICATION FOR SUNDAY, JULY 5<sup>th</sup>**

*In Memory of Tom Rodgers honoring a legacy of love on my parent's anniversary.*

*Dedicated by Cathy Torbik.*

*John Muller in honor of his birthday.*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday	10:00 am	Sunday Morning Worship Service (Summer)
	After Worship Service	Summer Sundays (casual youth activities) thru Sept. 13th)
	11:30 am	Band Rehearsal
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Band Rehearsal
Ongoing		Shelf Stable Milk Collection Diaper Collection for Pantry, Holy Communion, Berlin
Tuesday, July 7th	7:00 pm	Bible Study in the Parish House
Saturday, July 11th	11:30 am	Community Luncheon in the Ed. Building

*Please note: All activities, dates and times are subject to change.*

## PRAYER LIST

*Please keep the following in your prayers for healing:*

Jen Bailey	Marie Lentine Douglas	Quincy Jones	Bill Murray	Eric Sprengel
Krystal Booras	Tracey Drew	Ed Kagen	Renate Murray	Bill Steel
Michael Botti	Indie Fisher	Tracey Kelly	Erica Polito	Carol Taylor
Brian Byrnes	Stephanie Friant	Carl Knopp	Samantha Reed	Henry Tesone
Meadow Cantoral	Rhea Fryor	Deb Kuhn	Kimberly Rickert	Bill Todt
Randy Cantoral	Ashley Fuhrman	Donna Leek	Ashley Rosser	George Vaneman, Sr.
Debbie Capasso	Bob Garner	Doug Levandowski	Dorcas Schellhas	George Van Wagner
Janet Cappuccio	Angela Guedes	Tim McCarthy	Jean Schlotz	Beverly Warming
Joe Condoli	Stan Harmer	Joanne McVelli	Finn Schureman	Mary White
Sandra DeRitis	Michelle Walk Hewitt	Melanie Miles	Gladys Sheppard	Helen Yezusko
Helen Dominic	Valerie Hoffmann	Kent Montford	Meilani Showell	Bob Zielsdorf
Frank Donovan	Makenzie Jack	Sue Murphy	Frank Siderio III	

*Please notify the office if you want to add or remove a person from this list.*

## ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION

Altar Flowers are available for dedication for \$30. Please fill out the envelope located in the pew rack at least one week before you wish to dedicate the flowers. The card may be placed in the offering plate or left in the office. Please be sure to note the date on the white board in the Narthex. Please leave payment in the Church Office.

## WORSHIP BULLETIN DEDICATION

The cost (\$23) of the Weekly Worship Bulletin to fully cover the cost of paper and printing is donated by Henry and Marie Fickenscher in memory of their loved ones.

This Worship Bulletin is printed on paper that is made with renewable resources from third-party certified, sustainably managed forests.

Please place any Worship Bulletins to be discarded in the recycle bin in the narthex.

## ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 1002 S. Main Street Williamstown, NJ 08094

**Pastor: The Rev. Tammy Harmer**

**Phone Number: 1-856-875-8742 • Email: [stjohnslutheran1002@yahoo.com](mailto:stjohnslutheran1002@yahoo.com)**

**Website: [www.stjohnselc1002.org](http://www.stjohnselc1002.org)**



Every Sunday from May 17<sup>th</sup> to September 13<sup>th</sup> after the Worship Service in the Ed. Building.

Bible verse theme every Sunday with crafts and outdoor games.

Please come and join the fun!

Tuesday, July 7<sup>th</sup>  
7:00 pm in the  
Parish House

Bible  
Study

COMMUNITY  
LUNCHEON

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Saturday, July 11<sup>th</sup> 11:30 in the Ed. Building.



Please help us . . .

Donate Shelf Stable Milk for  
Our Lady of Peace Food Bank.

Donations in the form of cash or check will also be welcome.

Holy Communion Lutheran Church of Berlin Baby Pantry need:



BABY DIAPERS  
(especially larger sizes)

Collection is in the Narthex.

SAVE TIME . . . no need for checks or envelopes

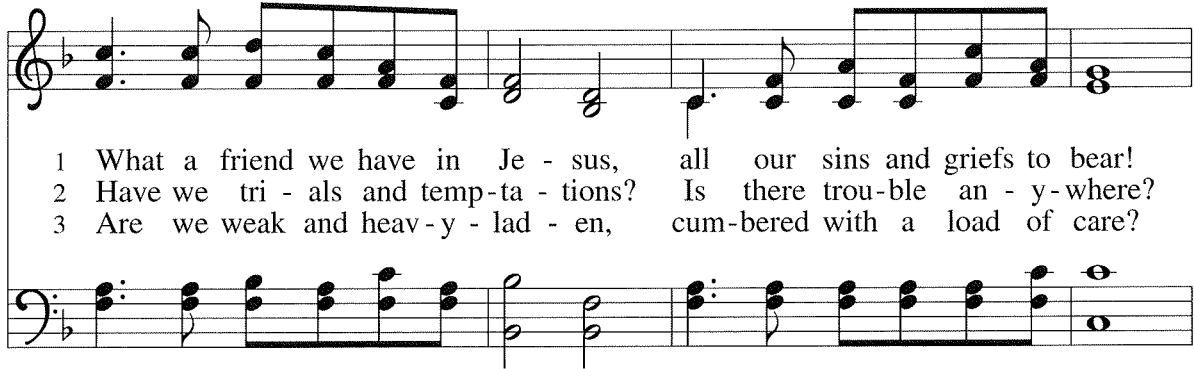
ELCA-Endorsed Tithely giving platform enables you to tithe online or using the app.

- From your checking account or using your debit/credit card
- One-time donation or set up for recurring giving
- Designate specific ministry for your donation
- Scan the QR code to get started
- For assistance or questions, contact Tom Schofield or Henry Fickenscher



# What a Friend We Have in Jesus


742



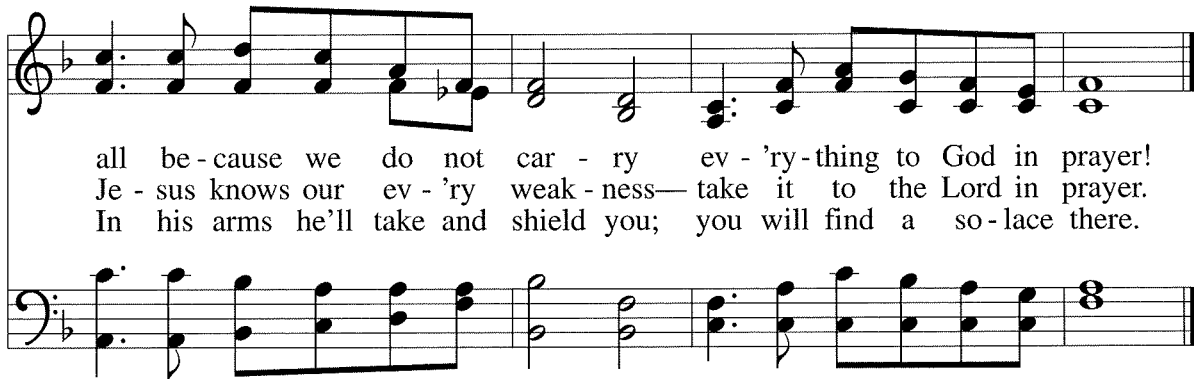
1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!  
2 Have we tri - als and temp-ta - tions? Is there trou-ble an - y - where?  
3 Are we weak and heav - y - lad - en, cum-bered with a load of care?



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.



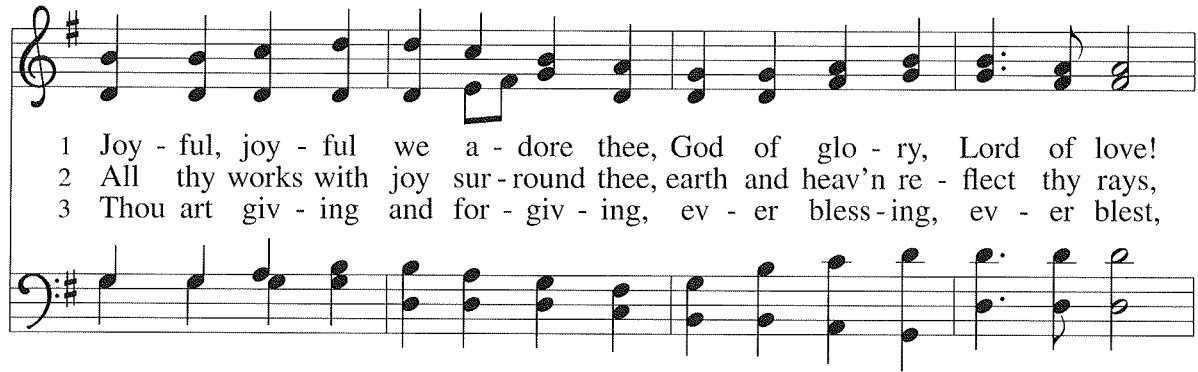
Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need-less pain we bear—  
Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - rows share?  
Do your friends de-spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



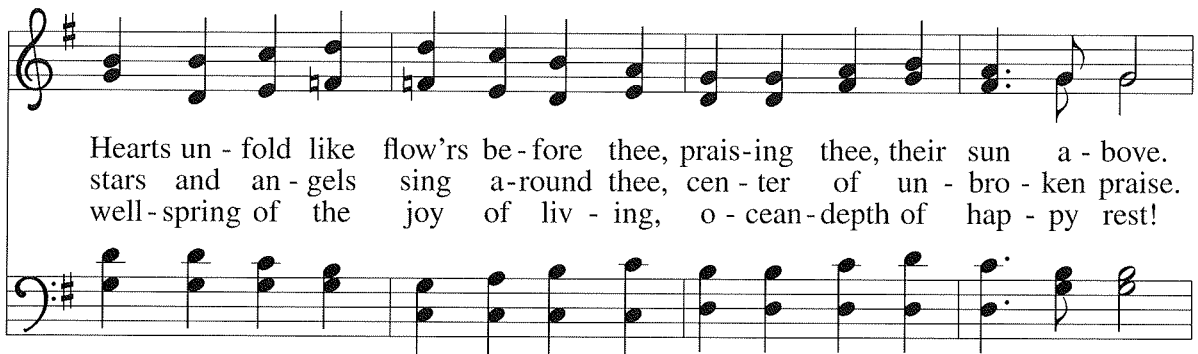
all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!  
Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness— take it to the Lord in prayer.  
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so - lace there.

# Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

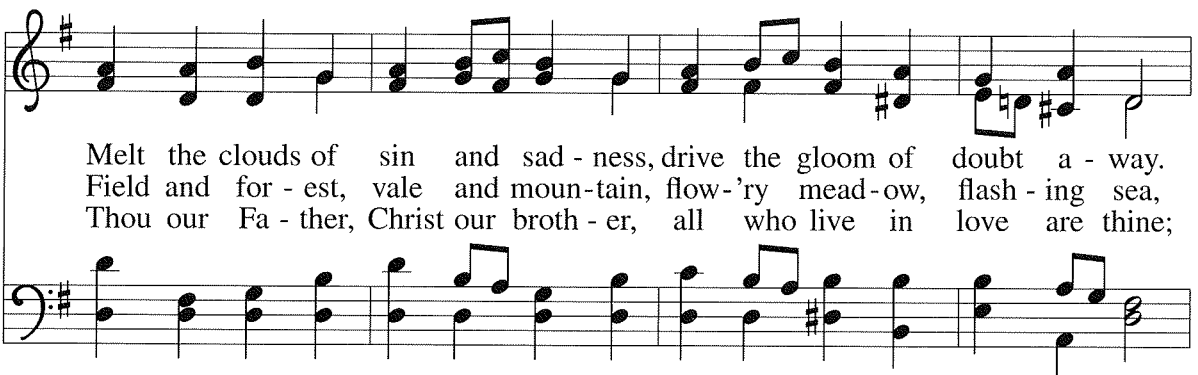
836



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!  
2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,  
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.  
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.  
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.  
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,  
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.  
chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.  
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!