

Sunday, March 16, 2025

Second Sunday in Lent

WELCOME to Emanuel's Lutheran Church!
It is our joy to have you worship with us today.



PRELUDE

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

GATHERING HYMN

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

ELW 834

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 return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.
Compassionate One,

C: you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross.

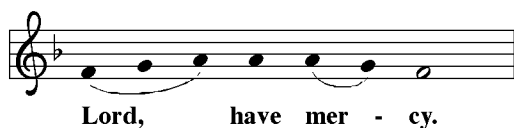
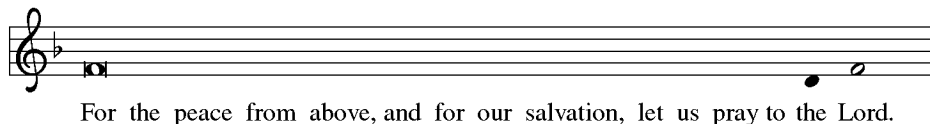
Amen.

P: Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In † Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever.

C: Amen.

Children's Church: Kindergarten to 5th Grade gathers in the Chapel.

KYRIE



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.
Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**
Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Vicar: Let us pray together.

C: God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Genesis 15:1-12; 17-18

L: A reading from Genesis.

¹After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ²But Abram said, "O Lord God,

what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³ And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴ But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵ He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶ And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness. ⁷ Then he said to him, "I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." ⁸ But he said, "O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" ⁹ He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." ¹⁰ He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. ¹¹ And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. ¹² As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him. ¹⁷ When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸ On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Philippians 3:17—4:1

L: A reading from Philippians.

¹⁷ Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸ For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. ¹⁹ Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. ²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹ He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. ^{4:1} Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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



GOSPEL: Luke 13:31-35

P: The holy gospel according to Luke.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." ³²He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' ³⁴Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'" The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

"The Fox, the Hen, and the Cross"

Pastor Marcus

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Lead Me, Guide Me"

ELW 768

APOSTLES CREED

AM: Let us confess the faith of the church, using the words of the Apostles Creed.

C: 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

AM: Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need. Holy God, you long to gather your church under your wings. Bless the churches of Jerusalem, and all persecuted churches, that your people may take heart and stand firm as they witness and minister in your name.

Response to each petition: AM: God, in your mercy, **C: receive our prayer.**

AM: Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING HYMN

"Thy Holy Wings"

ELW 613

Giving information is located on the back of the bulletin.

OFFERING PRAYER

Vicar: Let us pray.

Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

AGNUS DEI

"Lamb of God"



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION

Communion will take place via continuous line (right side) and continuous kneeling (left side). We welcome all baptized persons to the Lord's Table who believe Christ is truly present in the bread and wine. Children are welcome to be brought forward to receive a blessing. Participants to the right will be offered a wafer and invited to eat with these words, "the body of Christ given for you." Gluten free wafers are available. Next, step to the right, to the silver tray that contains glasses of white grape juice at the center and outer empty glasses for wine. Lastly, participants will step to the last assistant who will pour the wine and share these words, "the blood of Christ shed for you." Place your glass in the small silver bowl at the end of the first pew as you return to your seat. If you wish to come forward and not receive either element, simply cross your arms for a blessing.

COMMUNION HYMNS

"My Hope is Built on Nothing Less"
"As the Deer Runs to the River"

ELW 597
ELW 331

TABLE BLESSING

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Vicar: Let us pray.

Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

P: God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling spirit, † bless you now and forever.

C: Amen

SENDING HYMN

“On Our Way Rejoicing”

ELW 537

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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SANCTUARY FLOWERS are in honor of Janelle and Luke Leon-Weinman's wedding given by the bride and groom's families.

Musician: Edward Workmon, organ

WORSHIP LEADERS for today, March 16, 2025: Preaching and Presiding: Pastor Marcus;
Assisting Ministers: Vicar Rudy, Stephanie Robbins; **Communion Assistants:** Dave English, Cindy Pique, Bev Seidenschwarz, Marsha Schroeder, Emily Prochnow; **Reader:** Allison Eladhari; **Ushers:** Karen Weinstein, Allan Bode, Ilene Cherry, Darlene Zies; **Altar Guild:** Cindy Pique, Dave English, Sheila English;
A/V Tech: NEEDED; **Council Greeter:** Bill Salt; **Hospitality:** Gloria Hanna, Barbara Haas, Doris Jefferies;
Safety Attendants: TBD

WORSHIP LEADERS for Sunday, March 23, 2025: Preaching: Vicar Rudy; **Presiding:** Pastor Marcus;
Assisting Ministers: Vicar Rudy, Gerry Harrison; **Communion Assistants:** Fran Vinyard, Liz Witten, Darlene Zies, Elizabeth Jandt, Janelle Leon-Weinman; **Reader:** Tim Kent; **Ushers:** Time Troell, Joe Kane, Deborah Almquist, Bev Seidenschwarz, Barbara McCall; **Altar Guild:** Cathy Anderson, Tonya Darnell, Jimed Darnell; **A/V Tech:** Allan Bode; **Council Greeter:** Tim Kent; **Hospitality:** Deborah Almquist, Gerry Harrison, Carolyn Blumberg, Sheila English; **Safety Attendants:** TBD

EMANUEL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY WORSHIP is in the sanctuary, online, and aired on KWED AM 1580 radio at 10:30 a.m.

SUNDAY STUDIES:

- **THE HERITAGE CLASS** (307): 9:15am. This quarter we are studying the Beatitudes from the Sermon on the Mount with Bible texts appropriate for Lent. Please join us.
- **JOY CLASS:** Bible stories and songs for adults with intellectual disabilities. Class meets the first Sunday of each month in the WMR at 9:00am.
- **HABAKKUK: FAITH IN TOUGH TIMES** (Family Life Center): March 9 – April 13 at 9am. Join us for our Lenten study as we study together through the book of Habakkuk and other related Biblical texts as we ponder God's work during challenging times and how we can respond faithfully.
- **CHILDREN'S CHURCH:** During worship Children's Ministry Coordinator Jordana leads our PK to 5th grade learners to the Children's Church room, just down the hall from the sanctuary, and returns as we share the peace.
- **THE COMPASS COOPERATIVE** gathers on Sundays with our four church partners- Emanuel's, St. Andrew's, Spirit of Joy, and Friedens Church - at Spirit of Joy campus. Middle School (6-8 grades) from 4-5pm, dinner for everyone at 5pm, and High School (9-12 grades) from 5:30-6:30pm.'
- **CONFIRMATION CLASSES** for our 6th to 8th graders meet this year on the 4th Sunday of every month after worship in the Women's Ministry Room.

WEEKDAY STUDIES:

Faith Circle (Women's Ministry Rm): 3rd Tuesdays at 2:00

Joy Circle (Women's Ministry Rm): 2nd Thursday at 9:30

Ladies Aid (Women's Ministry Rm): 1st Wednesdays at 2:00

MAKING YOUR GRIEF COUNT is a three-week grief program for those who have experienced loss of any kind to work through their grief, learn about healthy coping tools, and discover a path to healing in a supportive environment. Pastor Darwin Huartson facilitates this program at Emanuel's in the Family Life Center on **Sundays, March 2, 9, and 16** from 2-4pm.

THE CAREGIVER CAFE is a support group for caregivers meeting on the 3rd Sunday of the month from 2-4 pm at Emanuel's and 2nd Tuesdays of the month at 6pm at Argent Court Assisted Living. Please contact Donna Simmons at donna@elcseguin.org for more information.

SEGUIN POLICE DEPARTMENT to speak at the next Safety Team meeting on **Sunday, March 16** in the Family Life Center following worship. Officer Stephanie Laramore will address church safety awareness and answer any questions. The congregation is invited to attend this informative meeting.

YOUNG COUPLES NIGHT OUT is headed to Top Golf in San Antonio on **Saturday, March 22**. Let Pastor Marcus know by March 19th if you can join us!

HISTORIC BUFFALO SOLDIERS PRESENTATION. The Senior Social Club will enjoy a potluck lunch and visit from the Bexar County Buffalo Soldiers Association of San Antonio on **Thursday, March 20** at 11:30am in the Fellowship Hall. The Buffalo Soldiers were created by Congress back in 1866. They started with six all-Black Army regiments - later consolidated to four - that became known as the buffalo soldiers. Please bring a dish and come to see the wonderful presentation. Friends and family are welcome!

SENIOR SOCIAL CLUB TRAIN TO BURNET is **Saturday, May 3!** Riding on a historic train is a unique experience. Join the Senior Social Club as we take a chartered bus to Cedar Park and board the Hill Country Flyer headed to Burnet, Texas. There will be two hours to sightsee, shop, and dine around the historic town square. Relax with your friends on the way back home. It's going to be a great spring day! **RSVP by March 16** to donna@elcseguin.org.

LENT AT EMANUEL'S

LENTEN EVENING DINNER CHURCH is **Wednesdays, March 12 – April 9**

"Created for Community: A Midweek Lenten Series," enveloped in the *Holden Evening Prayer* liturgy. Ash Wednesday reminds us that we enter this season together "with the whole church." Though many common Lenten practices rightly invite us to individual acts of "repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love," Lent is also a time for the deepening of community. Using readings from Mark's gospel, this midweek series invites the congregation to reflect on what it means to be in community with one another, with the world, with creation, and with God. Our evening will begin at 6:00pm with a communal meal. There is a place for you at the table.

HABAKKUK: FAITH IN TOUGH TIMES is **Sundays, March 9 – April 13** at 9am

Join us for our Sunday morning Lenten study in the Family Life Center. We will read together the book of Habakkuk and other related Biblical texts as we ponder God's work during challenging times and how we can respond faithfully.

HERITAGE BIBLE CLASS SPRING STUDY is **Sundays at 9:15am**

This spring, our Bible lessons follow the theme "Exclusion and Embrace," a series in two units during Lent and the weeks following that encourage us to consider what we need to let go of and what we need to take on as followers of Jesus.

THERE IN GOD'S GARDEN 2025 Lenten Devotional

Everyone is invited to download a copy of the Luther Seminary 2025 Lenten devotional using the QR code here. Save to your phone, tablet, or computer. We are grateful for this complementary resource to use during the beautiful, prayerful, and meditative journey of Lent.



EASTER LILIES. Emanuel's will welcome Easter with beautiful lilies at our 10:30 worship service. You may donate Easter lilies as you rejoice the season, or in memory or honor of loved ones. Plants may be taken home following the service on Sunday, April 20. Giving forms are available in the narthex, the office, and online. Return forms and payment to an offering basket or the church office by April 8. Each plant is \$15.

EGGAPALOOZA: The 3rd annual community wide EGGAPALOOZA is **Saturday, April 12** and we are back at TLU Bulldog Stadium! The egg hunt is free and open to everyone, of all abilities, from ages 2 to 12 years old. Invite your friends, your neighbors, your family, or someone who just looks like they would have fun at an egg hunt and help us have the biggest and best egg hunt in Seguin to date!



HOLY WEEK

Emanuel's Lutheran Church

Palm Sunday, April 13: 10:30 am

Maundy Thursday, April 17: 6:30 pm

Good Friday, April 18: 6:30 pm



Easter Sunday, April 20

Sunrise Service at Spirit of Joy, 7:00 am

Continental Breakfast, 8:30 am

Worship with Communion, 10:30 am

Egg Hunt on the Lawn, 11:45 am

EMANUEL'S CONGREGATION COUNCIL and Ministry Team Liaisons

President, Rissa Springs, *Worship Team*
Vice President, Bryce Kennedy, *Outreach & Service Team*
Secretary, Paul Sims, *Education Team*
Treasurer, Susan Yeatts, *Congregational Care Team*
Tonya Darnell, *Outreach & Service Team*
Sheila English, *Congregational Care Team*
Charles Jobe, *Safety Team*
Tim Kent, *Congregational Care Team*
Janelle Leon-Weinman, *Congregational Care Team*
Bill Salt, *Education Team*
Darlene Zies, *Outreach & Service Team*

ALL TEAM MEETING NIGHT

Monday, April 7, 2025

5:30pm in the Women's Ministry Room

All of Emanuel's Ministry Teams gather on a single evening each month to share a meal, collaborate, plan, and schedule upcoming events and ministry projects.

EMANUEL'S STAFF

Senior Pastor, The Rev. Marcus Bigott, 830-377-8643 cell, pastormarcus@elcseguin.org
Visitation Pastor- San Antonio, The Rev. Darwin Huartson, dhuartson@porterloring.com
Day School Director, Michelle Martin, mmartin@elcseguin.org
Bereavement and Senior Care Coordinator, Donna Simmons, donna@elcseguin.org
Office and Campus Administrator, Sherry Hardwick, sherry@elcseguin.org
Director of Finance, Jeni Payton, jeni@elcseguin.org
Principal Organist, Edward Workmon, edward@elcseguin.org
Director of Choirs, Samuel Bigott, sbigott@ingramisd.net
Seminarian, Vicar Rudy Salazar, vicarrudy@elcseguin.org
Compass Cooperative Program Director, Hannah Hansen, hannah@elcseguin.org
Children's Ministry Coordinator, Jordana Gutierrez, jordana@elcseguin.org
Children's Ministry Attendants, Aaliyah Kirton and Charis Wirtley

EMANUEL'S MISSION STATEMENT: "To be the church God is calling us to be by declaring God's love, serving others, and embracing all."

GIVING AT EMANUEL'S: Donations and tithes to the church may be given by envelopes in the pews, mailed to the church, online, or scanned with QR Code below.



Emanuel's Lutheran Church

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

206 North Travis Street | Seguin, Texas 78155

(830) 379-5046 | info@elcseguin.org

Church office is open Monday-Thursday from 8-5

www.EmanuelLutheranChurch.com

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!
thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.
'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

Lead Me, Guide Me

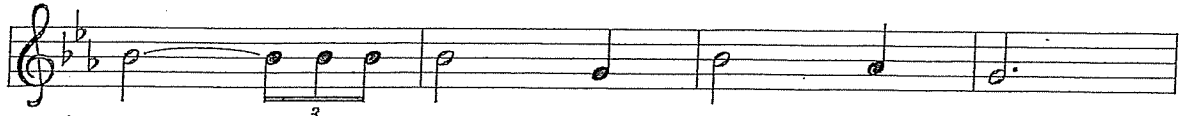
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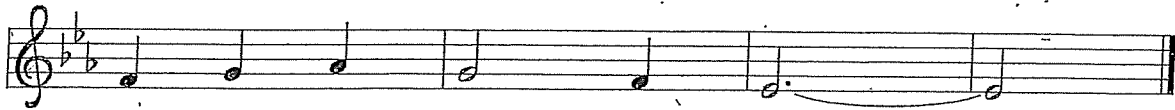
Lead me, guide me, a - long the way;



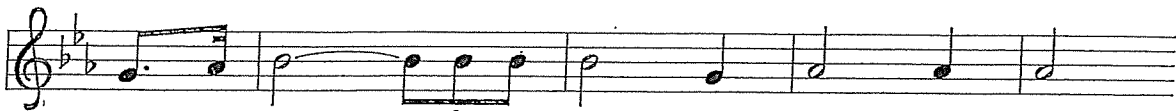
for if you lead me, I can - not stray.



Lord, let me walk each day with thee.



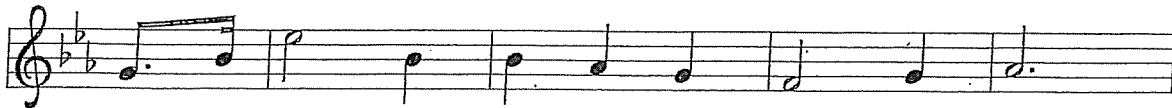
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.



1 I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r
 2 Help me tread in the paths of righ - teous - ness,
 3 I am lost if you take your hand from me,



to help me o - ver my weak - est hour.
 be my aid when Sa - tan and sin op - press.
 I am blind with - out . . . thy light to see.



Help me through the dark - ness thy face to see.
 I am put - ting all . . . my trust in thee.
 Lord, just al - ways let me thy ser - vant be.



Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Thy Holy Wings



1 Thy ho - ly wings, O Sav - ior, spread gent - ly o - ver me,
2 Oh, let me nes - tle near thee, with - in thy down - y breast
3 Oh, wash me in the wa - ters of No - ah's cleans - ing flood.



and let me rest se - cure - ly through good and ill in thee.
where I will find sweet com - fort and peace with - in thy nest.
Give me a will - ing spir - it, a heart both clean and good.



Oh, be my strength and por - tion, my rock and hid - ing place,
Oh, close thy wings a - round me and keep me safe - ly there,
Oh, take in - to thy keep - ing thy chil - dren great and small,



and let my ev - 'ry mo - ment be lived with - in thy grace.
for I am but a new - born and need thy ten - der care.
and while we sweet - ly slum - ber, en - fold us one and all.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903, sts. 1, 3; Gracia Grindal, b. 1943, st. 2; tr. composite

Music: BRED DINA VIDA VINGAR, Swedish folk tune

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As the Deer Runs to the River



- 1 As the deer runs to the riv - er, parched and wea - ry from the chase,
- 2 When your Is - rael crossed the des - ert where no stream or spring was seen,
- 3 "Come and drink," I - sa - iah sum-moned, "all who for God's mer - cy plead!
- 4 Christ, we come from des - ert plac - es, deep - est thirst un - sat - is - fied.



we have come from hurt and hur - ry, thirst - ing for your heal - ing grace.
Mo - ses struck the rock, and wa - ter flowed for them, re - fresh - ing, clean.
God's for - give - ness, like a foun-tain, flows to sat - is - fy your need."
Lead us to the wa - ters flow - ing from the cross on which you died.

Refrain



Je - sus, source of liv - ing wa - ter, may we drink of you and live!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923

Music: JULION, David Hurd, b. 1950

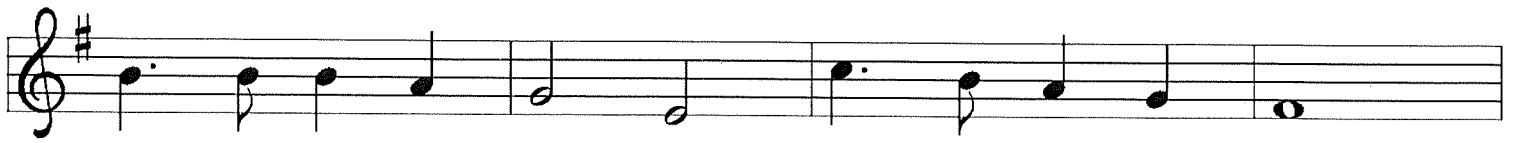
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On Our Way Rejoicing



1 On our way re - joic - ing glad - ly let us go.
2 Un - to God the Fa - ther joy - ful songs we sing;



Christ our Lord has con - quered; van - quished is the foe.
un - to God the Sav - ior thank - ful hearts we bring;



Christ with - out, our safe - ty; Christ with - in, our joy;
un - to God the Spir - it bow we and a - dore,

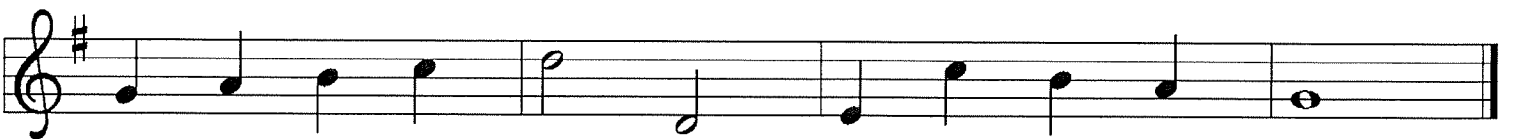


who, if we be faith - ful, can our hope de - stroy?
on our way re - joic - ing now and ev - er - more.

Refrain



On our way re - joic - ing; as we for - ward move,



hear - ken to our prais - es, O blest God of love!

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt.

Music: HERMAS, Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879