

Sunday, April 21, 2024
4th Sunday of Easter

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



PRELUDE

"Blackberry Blossom"
"Country Roads"
"Will the Circle Be Unbroken"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

C: Amen.

P: Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P: Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life. Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P: At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

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

GATHERING HYMN

"What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine"

ELW 774

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

AM: Let us pray together.

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

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

READING: 1 John 3:16-24

L: A reading from 1 John.

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.

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: John 10:11-18

P: The holy gospel according to John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[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.”

The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Mission Trip Team

HYMN OF THE DAY

“When We All Get to Heaven”

1 Sing the wondrous love of Jesus,
Sing His mercy and His grace;
In the mansions bright and blessed
He'll prepare for us a place.

3 Let us then be true and faithful,
Trusting, serving ev'ry day;
Just one glimpse of Him in glory
Will the toils of life repay. [Refrain]

Refrain:
When we all get to heaven,
what a day of rejoicing that will be!
When we all see Jesus,
we'll sing and shout the victory!

4 Onward to the prize before us!
Soon His beauty we'll behold;
Soon the pearly gates will open—
We shall tread the streets of gold. [Refrain]

2 While we walk the pilgrim pathway
Clouds will overspread the sky;
But when trav'ling days are over
Not a shadow, not a sigh. [Refrain]

APOSTLE'S CREED

AM: Let us confess the faith of the church, using the words of the Apostle's 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: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news. Shepherding God, gather your church whenever we wander from you and one another. Empower our church in ministries around the world to worship and serve alongside global companions as equal partners and coworkers in the gospel.

Response to each petition: AM: God of grace,
C: hear our prayer.

AM: Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

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

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

ELW 742

Giving information is located on the back of the bulletin.

OFFERING PRAYER

AM: Let us pray.

Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

C: Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: 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: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God’s table.

AGNUS DEI

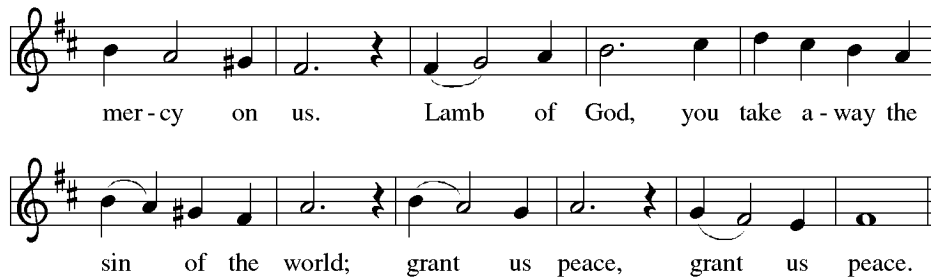
“Lamb of God”



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



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 HYMN

“Blessed Assurance”
“Shall We Gather at the River”

ELW 638
ELW 423

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

AM: Let us pray.
 Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. **C: Amen.**

SENDING

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

BLESSING

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen! **C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**
 P: The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope † bless you now and always. **C: Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

“God Be with You Till We Meet Again”

ELW 536

DISMISSAL

P: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad. **C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

“Eight More Miles to Louisville”
“I’ll Fly Away”

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Today is Bluegrass Sunday!

Help us welcome the Hot Pickin 57s! This bluegrass and classic country group is a 4-piece band featuring acoustic guitar, fiddle, banjo, mandolin, and upright bass, with lead and harmony vocals. Lift your voice and join Vance Hazen, Michael Montgomery, Shawn Spiars, and Max Zimmet as we praise the Lord, bluegrass style.

PUERTO RICO MISSION TRIP TEAMS have returned! Their time away was full of hope, grace, and work as they accompanied the Lutheran camping program and its partner congregations in a time of rebuilding. Today's sermon will feature a video montage of their work, the community they served, and the joy all felt by everyone. A special thank you to everyone who helped make this trip possible.

WORSHIP LEADERS FOR TODAY, April 21, 2024: Preaching and Presiding: Pastor Marcus;
Assisting Minister: Deb Haug; **Acolyte:** Ellie Hepp; **Communion Assistants:** Dave English, Cindy Pique, Bev Seidenschwarz, Elaine Giesber, Emily Prochnow; **Reader:** Gerry Harrison; **Ushers:** Jacqueline Springs, Rissa Springs, Ilene Cherry, Darlene Zies; **Altar Guild:** Doug Abrameit, Cindy Pique, Sheila English, Dave English; **A/V Tech:** TBD; **Council Greeter:** Debby Richardson; **Hospitality:** Gloria Hanna, Stephanie Robbins, Doris Jefferies; **Safety Attendants:** Tom Engler, Debby Richardson

WORSHIP LEADERS FOR TODAY, April 28, 2024: Preaching and Presiding: Pastor Marcus;
Assisting Minister: Lory Alves; **Communion Assistants:** NEEDED, Liz Witten, Darlene Zies, Deb Haug, Fran Vinyard; **Acolytes:** TBD; **Reader:** Keith Vinyard; **Ushers:** Tim Troell, Joe Kane, Deborah Almquist, Bev Seidenschwarz, Barbara McCall; **Altar Guild:** Cathy Anderson, Elizabeth Jandt, Jimed Darnell, Tonya Darnell; **AV/Tech:** Allan Bode; **Council Greeter:** Rissa Springs; **Hospitality:** Deborah Almquist, Gerry Harrison, Carolyn Blumberg, Sheila English; **Safety Attendants:** Allan Bode, Brandon May

EMANUEL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

CHURCH NURSERY is available for children 4 and under on the 2nd Floor Hallway anytime between 9-Noon with Khris Garcia.

WEEKDAY STUDIES:

Faith Circle (Women's Ministry Rm): 3rd Tuesdays at 2:30; **Joy Circle** (Women's Ministry Rm): 2nd Thursday at 9:30; **Ladies Aid** (Women's Ministry Rm): 1st Wednesdays at 2:00

SUNDAY MORNING STUDIES:

- **THE HERITAGE CLASS** (307): 9:15am. Participants explore the deeper meaning found in the Bible and seek to unlock its' wisdom through fellowship and robust group discussion. The aim is to make the Bible relevant and applicable to daily life.
- **WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE LUTHERAN?** (Family Life Center): 9:00am. April 7-May 12. Take a dive into the Reformation, the writings that shape our Lutheran witness, the people that wrote them, and the events that changed the world.
- **JOY CLASS** (Women's Ministry Room): Bible stories and songs for adults with intellectual disabilities. Gathering at 9:15 on the First Sundays of the month.
- **CHILDREN'S CHURCH** is for PK to 5th grade learners. During worship the Vicars lead students to designated classrooms, just down the hall from the sanctuary, as we begin the "Gathering Hymn" and then guide them back as we "Share the Peace." We hope you will make this a part of your family's weekly worship rhythm!

THE COMPASS COOPERATIVE gathers weekly at Spirit of Joy for our weekly gathering on **Sundays @6pm** for 6th to 12th grade students, hosted by our four church partners - Emanuel's, St. Andrew's, Spirit of Joy, and Friedens Church- and held on Spirit of Joy's campus. We eat, worship, play games, and enjoy each other's company. Join us!

CONFIRMATION CLASS gathers next **on Today, April 21, 2024**, at 1pm in the Family Life Center. Instruction for the year takes place monthly at either Emanuel's or Spirit of Joy.

LAST DAY TO SIGN UP! NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY is **Today, April 21** in the narthex or online at www.ucdir.com using Church Code: tx455 and Password: photos. **Photo Sessions are May 15 – 18**. Participants receive a complimentary 8x10 and a church directory. Sharon Kane can answer your questions at cell 979-482-6486.

CHRISTIAN COUNSELING CENTER BBQ ANNUAL FUNDRAISER is **Today, April 21**. Tickets are \$10 for ½ Chicken (\$12 at the door). Drive-thru 10am-1pm at Faith Lutheran. See PM for tickets!

IT IS TIME TO ROCK AND BOWL! Emanuel's Lutheran Church is heading to Fiesta Lanes bowling alley in New Braunfels on **Saturday, April 27!** We will meet at the bowling alley at 11:30am for loads of fun and maybe some strikes in our spare time. We have 20 spots available so email Pastor Marcus, Vicar Jordana or Vicar Aaliyah to sign up! A paper sign up is also available in the Narthex. Hope to see you there!

JOURNEYING THROUGH GRIEF is **Sunday, April 28** from 2-4pm in the Family Life Center. Discussions focus on how our journey through grief affects us, our daily lives, and how we can help ourselves as we grieve. Emanuel's Bereavement Care Coordinator Donna Simmons facilitates this monthly program.

FOOD, FUN & FELLOWSHIP gathers **Sunday, May 5** at Noon for lunch and conversation in the Women's Ministry Room. Everyone is to bring a favorite dish to share. This ministry is for widowed, divorced, and separated people. Contact is Donna Simmons.

SENIOR SOCIAL CLUB is heading to Fredericksburg on **Saturday, May 9!** We will gather at the church and head to the Hill Country on a chartered bus. Donna has an array of activity options to include shopping, sightseeing, and the National Museum of the Pacific War. Sign up sheets are in the narthex on Sunday mornings or you can give Donna a call at 830-379-5046. Space on the bus is limited, so RSVP ASAP!

NAMI "YOUR BEST LIFE FESTIVAL" is **Saturday, May 11** at the Seguin Coliseum from 10am to 3pm. NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Guadalupe County is one of Emanuel's Partners in Service with offices on the 3rd floor of the church. At their free community health and wellness event you can find information from a variety of local agencies, businesses, and organizations. Learn about community resources, health insurance, mental health, nutrition, physical fitness, safety, and more. Kids welcome!

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, May 26, June 2, and June 9** from 2-4pm.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AT FRIEDENS: "SCUBA: diving into friendship with God" Emanuel's is partnering again this year with Friedens Church and St. Andrew's where kids will be immersed in the Word and discover what living water is really all about. Get it on your calendar now: **June 17-20, 5:30pm**, Friedens UCC, 2555 Friedens Church Rd, Seguin, TX 78155. Registration info coming soon.

GOD'S EXPLORERS is an upcoming, epic adventure for 3rd through 8th graders! Our exploring takes place **July 15-18** where we will head underground touring four of God's most beautiful cave system creations in Texas. Registration begins Sunday, May 5, and closes Sunday June 30.

CAREGIVER CAFÉ: Join other caregivers over a cup of coffee and refreshments. Share with others who understand and care. At Spirit of Joy the first Thursdays of each month at 9am and at Emanuel's the third Sunday of each month at 2pm. For more information contact Donna Simmons at 830 556 3542.

The **flowers and radio broadcast** are given in praise and thanksgiving to God by Keith and Frances Vinyard on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary yesterday, April 20.

EMANUEL'S CONGREGATION COUNCIL

President, Rissa Springs, *Worship Team*
Vice President, Garry Miller, *Stewardship Team*
Secretary, Melissa Barbre, *Worship Team*
Treasurer, Susan Yeatts, *Congregational Care Team*
Sheila English, *Congregational Care Team*
Bryce Kennedy, *Outreach & Service Team*
Sarah Kennedy, *Outreach & Service Team*
Tim Kent, *Congregational Care Team*
Debby Richardson, *Stewardship Team*
Paul Sims, *Education Team*
Darlene Zies, *Outreach & Service Team*
In memoriam, Aaron Jenke

ALL MINISTRY TEAM NIGHT Wednesday, May 1 at 5:30pm

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. Join us in the Women's Ministry Room!

EMANUEL'S STAFF

Senior Pastor, The Rev. Marcus Bigott, 830-377-8643 cell, pastormarcus@elcsequin.org
Visitation Pastor- San Antonio, The Rev. Darwin Huartson, dhuartson@porterloring.com
Day School Director, Lisa Keeney, lkeeney@elcsequin.org
Bereavement and Senior Care Coordinator, Donna Simmons, donna@elcsequin.org
Office and Campus Administrator, Sherry Hardwick, sherry@elcsequin.org
Accountant and Bookkeeper, Jeni Payton, jeni@elcsequin.org
Principal Organist, Edward Workmon, edward@elcsequin.org
Director of Choirs, Samuel Bigott
TLU Intern, Jordana Gutierrez, vicarjordana@elcsequin.org
TLU Intern, Aaliyah Kirton, vicaraaliyah@elcsequin.org
Seminarian, Rudy Salazar, vicarrudy@elcsequin.org
Compass Cooperative Program Director, Hannah Hansen, hanna@elcsequin.org
Nursery Coordinator, Khris Garcia, khris@elcsequin.org

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@elcsequin.org
Church office is open Monday-Thursday from 8-5
www.EmanuelLutheranChurch.com

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms



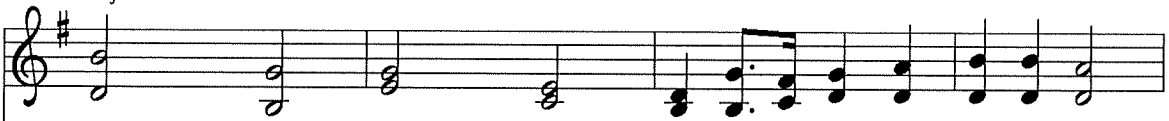
- 1 What a fel - low-ship, what a joy di - vine, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms;
- 2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil-grim way, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms;
- 3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms?



what a bless-ed-ness, what a peace is mine, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.
oh, how bright the path grows from day to day, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.
I have bless-ed peace with my Lord so near, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.



Refrain



Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se-cure from all a - larms;



Lean - ing on Je - sus, lean - ing on Je - sus,

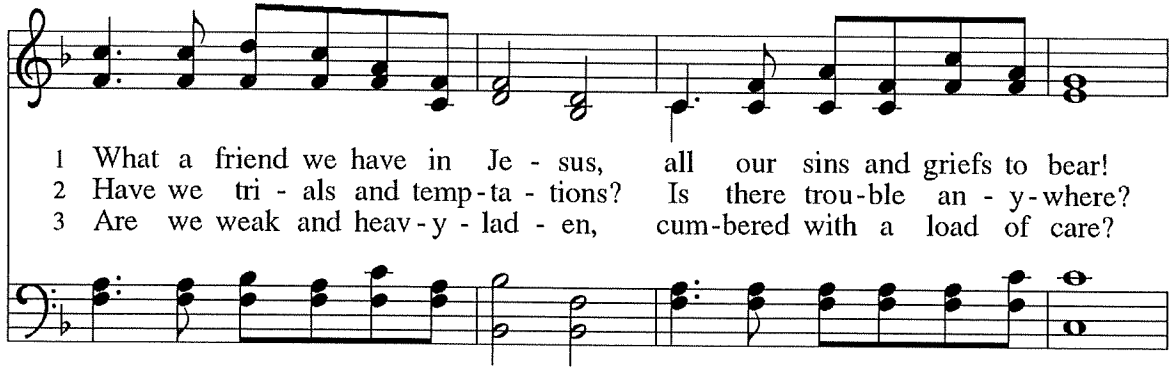


lean - ing, lean - ing, lean-ing on the ev - er - last-ing arms.



lean - ing on Je - sus, lean - ing on Je - sus,

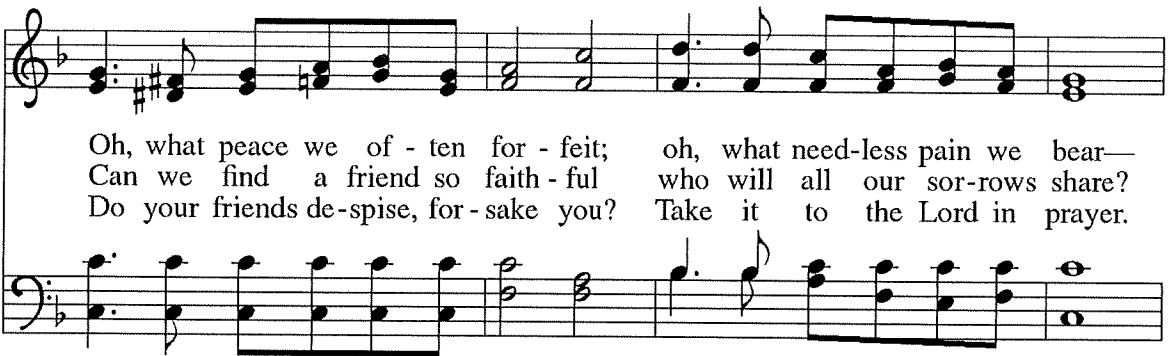
What a Friend We Have in Jesus



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.

Blessed Assurance

1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,

Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.
an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.
watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

Refrain

This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:

this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

Shall We Gather at the River

1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod,
2 On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray,
3 Ere we reach the shin - ing riv - er, lay we ev - 'ry bur - den down;
4 Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, soon our pil - grim - age will cease;

with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow - ing by the throne of God?
we will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - en day.
grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro - vide a robe and crown.
soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the mel - o - dy of peace.

Refrain

Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;

gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

1 God be with you till we meet a - gain; by good coun-sels guide, up - hold you,
 2 God be with you till we meet a - gain; ho - ly wings se - cure - ly hide you,
 3 God be with you till we meet a - gain; when life's per - ils thick con-found you,

with a shep-herd's care en - fold you;
 dai - ly man - na still pro - vide you; God be with you till we meet a - gain.
 put un - fail - ing arms a - round you;

Refrain

Till we meet, till we meet, till we
 till we meet, till we meet a - gain,

meet at Je - sus' feet; till we meet, till we
 till we meet, till we meet, till we

meet, God be with you till we meet a - gain.
 meet a - gain,