

## *The First Sunday in Lent*

**February 26, 2023**

9:30 a.m. Adult & Youth Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary



*We ask that all present sign our Friendship Sheet. After you add your name to the sheet, please pass it toward the center aisle. Then return it to the outside aisle so that you become familiar with our family in Christ. These sheets help our pastor and congregation with our ministry. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to join us here at St. Matthew to worship and serve Christ together!*

*Masks are optional but available in the narthex for anyone who feels more comfortable taking that precaution for themselves or on behalf of others.*

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **PRELUDE**

### **\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*P:* Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who journeys with us these forty days and sustains us with the gift of grace. **C: Amen.**

*P:* Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy.

*P:* Holy God,

**C: we confess to you our faults and failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen.**

*P:* Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life. This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, † forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power. **C: Amen.**

### **\*OPENING HYMN**

*O Lord, throughout These Forty Days*

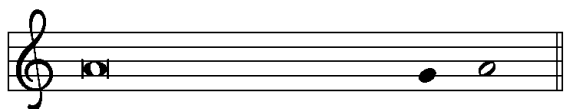
*ELW # 319*

### **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

ELW # S 147



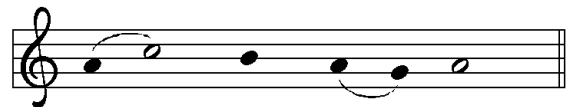
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



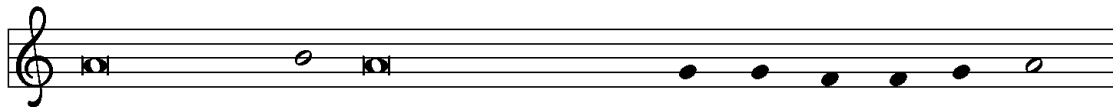
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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 wor-ship and praise,

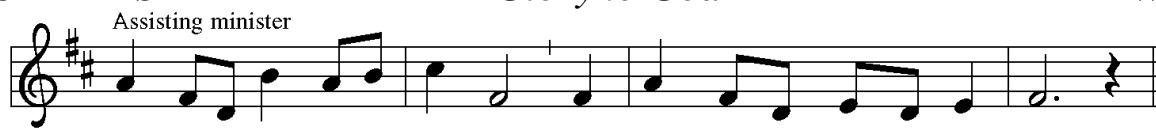


let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

## **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*P: Let us pray ...* Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

## **FIRST READING: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7**

<sup>15</sup>The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. <sup>16</sup>And the LORD God commanded the man, “You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; <sup>17</sup>but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.”

<sup>3:1</sup>Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?’” <sup>2</sup>The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; <sup>3</sup>but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.’” <sup>4</sup>But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die; <sup>5</sup>for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” <sup>6</sup>So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. <sup>7</sup>Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

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

## **PSALM 32 (read responsively)**

<sup>1</sup>Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!

<sup>2</sup>**Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

<sup>3</sup>While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, because of my groaning all day long.

<sup>4</sup>**For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the <sup>1</sup>heat of summer.**

<sup>5</sup>Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt. I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD.” Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

<sup>6</sup>**Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.**

<sup>7</sup>You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

<sup>8</sup>**“I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; I will guide you with my eye.**

<sup>9</sup>Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you.”

<sup>10</sup>**Great are the tribulations of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.**

<sup>11</sup>Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

**SECOND READING: Romans 5:12-19**

<sup>12</sup>Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—<sup>13</sup>sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. <sup>14</sup>Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

<sup>15</sup>But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man’s trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. <sup>16</sup>And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man’s sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. <sup>17</sup>If, because of the one man’s trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

<sup>18</sup>Therefore just as one man’s trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man’s act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. <sup>19</sup>For just as by the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man’s obedience the many will be made righteous.

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

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

ELW # S 151b

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 stead - fast love.

**\*P: Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup>He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. <sup>3</sup>The tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” <sup>4</sup>But he answered, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

<sup>5</sup>Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, <sup>6</sup>saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’” <sup>7</sup>Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

<sup>8</sup>Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; <sup>9</sup>and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’” <sup>11</sup>Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

*P:* The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**HOMILY**

*Pastor Traci*



1 When we are test - ed and wres - tle a - lone,  
2 When in the des - ert we cry for re - lief,  
3 When we are tempt - ed to bar - ter our souls,  
4 When we have strug - gled and searched through the night,



fam - ished for bread when the world of - fers stone,  
plead - ing for paths marked by cer - tain be - lief,  
trad - ing the truth for the pow'r to con - trol,  
sort - ing and sift - ing the wrong from the right,



nour - ish us, God, by your word and your way,  
lift us to love you be - yond sign and test,  
teach us to wor - ship and praise on - ly you,  
Sav - ior, sur - round us with cir - cles of care,



food that sus - tains us by night and by day.  
trust - ing your pres - ence, our on - ly true rest.  
seek - ing your will in the work that we do.  
an - gels of heal - ing, of hope, and of prayer.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947  
Music: SLANE, Irish traditional  
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**\*The Apostles' CREED**

**A:** Let us confess our faith through 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 THE CHURCH**

A: Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A: You alone are God. Sustain your church in times of wilderness. Give vision and wisdom to bishops, their staff, and all entrusted with the ministry of administration. Counsel all who faithfully lead your people into the future. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: You create verdant gardens and expansive deserts. Tend to the needs of every living creature. Bless those who work in fields and orchards, that the world is nourished by the fruits of their labor. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: You know our temptations. Sustain those who govern and legislate. Instill in them a sense of your justice and righteousness, that equity and peace would pervade all the regions and nations of the world. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: You are a hiding place for all in distress. Draw near to exiles, and accompany all refugees and immigrants, especially children who travel alone. In times of trouble, trauma, or illness, surround your people with your steadfast love. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: You offer abundance to all. Bless the ministries of hospitality in this place. Care for those who tend to the needs of others. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: You alone are God. We praise you for the faithful departed in every age. Unite our prayers with theirs, until our wilderness journey is complete, and we rest in you. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **C: Amen.**

## **\*THE PEACE**

*P: The peace of the LORD be with you always.*

**C: And also with you.**

*Please share the peace with those around you using a greeting that is comfortable for both you and them.*

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

*An offering plate is located near the entrance to the nave;  
we offer thanks for the abundance God has first shown us:*

A: *Let us pray ...*Receive our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. **C: Amen.**



## GREAT THANKSGIVING

*P:* The LORD be with you. *C:* **And also with you.**

*P:* Lift up your hearts. *C:* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*P:* Let us give thanks to the LORD our God.

*C:* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## PROPER PREFACE

*P:* It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*P:* Holy God, our living Water and our merciful Guide, together with rivers and seas, wells and springs we bless and magnify you.

You led your people Israel through the desert, and provided them water from the rock. We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water, who joined us in our desert, pouring out his life for the world.

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 life, death, and resurrection, we await your salvation for all this thirsty world. Pour out your Spirit on this holy food and on all the baptized gathered for this feast: wash away our sin, that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. **C: Amen.**

### \*LORD'S PRAYER

*P:* Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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**

### THE AGNUS DEI

### *Lamb of God*

*ELW # S 154*

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, grant us peace.

### INVITATION

*P:* Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

### 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

*A: Let us pray...* Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love. **C: Amen.**

## BLESSING

*P:* God, the giver of love, † Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey. **C: Amen.**

**\*SENDING SONG**      *Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow*      *ELW # 327*

## Dismissal

*P:* Go in peace. Serve in love.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

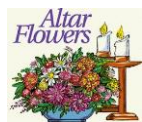
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Also, please be advised that our parking lot has surveillance cameras and  
that our worship service is video recorded and/or live-streamed on social media.

## Martinsburg Food Pantry

Volunteers from Martinsburg Grace Brethren Church will be helping at the Food Pantry on the first and third Thursdays, March 2 and March 16. The Food Pantry will be open to distribute food items from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. on these days and other times by appointment.



**The March items most needed are:** Peanut Butter, Jelly, Pasta or Rice Sides, Canned Fruit, and Scalloped Potatoes. These or any items can be placed in the basket at church. Thank You! *Linda Smith*



The 2023 Altar Flower chart is posted on the Narthex bulletin board. Altar Flowers are a perfect way to remember loved ones or to honor loved ones. There are plenty of dates available. Please sign up now for the Sunday you wish to place flowers on the Altar. Price - \$40.00.

Dates available: 4/9, 4/16, 4/30, 5/21, 6/4, 7/2, 10/8, 10/15, 10/29, 11/5, 11/12, 11/19, 12/3, 12/17, 12/24. If you would like a Sunday(s) you can also call the church office at 814-793-2413.

**Property Committee Meeting** is scheduled for Tuesday, February 28, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

**Prayers are needed for our homebound:** Carl Alexy, Vivian Beach, Fred Brandenburg, Mary Creps, Gerry Girolami, Betty Helsel, Ruth Johnson, Audrey & Dan Kensinger, Janet Kreider, Ginny Sell, Dan Sinal, Bill Stahl, Joy Williams.

**Prayer Concerns:** Amy & Family, Pastor Denise Arpino, Randy Barrett, Diane Cappel, Dave Clayton, Greg Comer, Terry & Cathy Creek, Brian Fleck, Jim Fritz, Marilyn Horton, Melissa Johnson, Darren Kreutzer, Carrie Lively, Kristen Malloy, Karrie McCall & Family, Betty McDowell, Rick McIntyre, Aunt Mica, Charles Minnick & Family, Nathan, Deb Peters, Paul Ruth, John Steele, Cindy Thomas, John Werner, Jean White, Joel Widmann, Pete Williams, Jody Zelanko, and for our **Missionaries:** **Rev. Lesley Hand, On Eagle's Wings, Elizabeth Hendrickson.**

**Our college students:** Christopher Bush, Olivia Day, Camryn Gates.

**Those Serving in the Army Overseas:** Nathan Smith (Germany), Melody Estep.

### Prayer Vigil



Scheduled at St. Matthew Lutheran Church on Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, from 6:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Members are asked to commit one half hour to pray for any concerns of a personal, church, or worldwide nature. We hope to have enough participation to fill a twelve-hour time period with continuous prayer. The sign-up sheet is located on the **bulletin board in the Narthex**. This is an excellent way for you to enrich your spiritual and prayer life. You may pray at home. If you would like to participate and can't come to the church to sign up please call the church office at 793-2413.

### Serving God and Us

Our Ministers - the People of St. Matthew

Our Pastor – Rev. Traci Marriott

Our Pianist – Dr. Adam Smith

Our Organist – Mary Nelson

Our Missionary Family – On Eagle's Wings, Elizabeth Hendrickson

Our Administrative Assistant – Lori Tremmel

Our Assistant Administrative Assistant – Laura Orczeck

Our Sexton – Phil Claar

Our Lector – Mike Lamborn

Our Acolyte – Gavin Kuster

Our Assisting Minister – Steve Oswalt

Our Altar Guild – Jean Sinal

Our Usher – Dennis Smith

Our Audio/Video Tech – Camden Kuster

Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner

**First Quarter Ventures in Faith to “Local Needs”**

## **This Week at St. Matthew:**

**814-793-2413**

### **Office Hours**

Pastor Traci – Wed. – 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Lori Tremmel – Mon. – Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

### **This Week Events**

- Today** – Worship Sunday Service in Sanctuary 10:30 a.m.
- Monday** – Scouts, Scout Rooms 6:00 p.m.
- Tuesday** - Knotty Ladies, Quilt Room 12:30 – 3:00 p.m.  
Property Meeting, Fellowship Hall 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday** – Meager Meal, Fellowship Hall 6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday Lenten Service, Sanctuary 7:00 p.m.
- Sunday** – Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service in Sanctuary 10:30 a.m.

### **Mid-Week Lenten Meals & Services**

The Fellowship Committee announced that mid-week Lenten Meals will again be offered on Wednesdays prior to the service. The meal consisting of soup and sandwich will be served at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The service will follow in the sanctuary at 7:00 p.m.

Soup and sandwich or salad will be prepared and served along with hot/cold beverages. If the committee in charge of preparing the meal prefers, a dessert may be offered. Enough soup will be prepared so that containers can be delivered to shut-in members.

Below is the schedule for menus, and the committee who will prepare and serve the meal:

**March 1** Potato Soup and Ham Salad Sandwiches - Fellowship Committee

**March 8** Beef & Vegetable Soup, Bread, & Applesauce - Smith Cousins

**March 15** Tomato Soup and Grilled Cheese Sandwiches - Christian Ed. Committee

**March 22** **Open need volunteer**

**March 29** Broccoli Cheese Soup & Ox Roast Sandwiches - Social Ministry Committee

The Social Ministry Committee would like to take soup to the homebound on Thursdays during the season of Lent. A list of homebound members is in place. However, if you would like someone to deliver soup to you, please contact the church office to have your name placed on the list.

Fellowship Committee along with the other committees who will provide meals, look forward to this time of fellowship and serving the community.

**\*OPENING HYMN**

*O Lord, throughout These Forty Days*

ELW # 319



1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days you  
2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your  
3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and  
4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and



prayed and kept the fast; in - spire re - pen - tance  
faith - ful - ness en - dured; lend us your nerve, your  
fixed your mind a - bove; so teach us to de -  
all our earth - ly days, that when the fi - nal



for our sin, and free us from our past.  
skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.  
ny our - selves that we may know God's love.  
Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–1898; para. Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816

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1 When we are test - ed and wres - tle a - lone,  
2 When in the des - ert we cry for re - lief,  
3 When we are tempt - ed to bar - ter our souls,  
4 When we have strug - gled and searched through the night,



fam - ished for bread when the world of - fers stone,  
plead - ing for paths marked by cer - tain be - lief,  
trad - ing the truth for the pow'r to con - trol,  
sort - ing and sift - ing the wrong from the right,



nour - ish us, God, by your word and your way,  
lift us to love you be - yond sign and test,  
teach us to wor - ship and praise on - ly you,  
Sav - ior, sur - round us with cir - cles of care,



food that sus - tains us by night and by day.  
trust - ing your pres - ence, our on - ly true rest.  
seek - ing your will in the work that we do.  
an - gels of heal - ing, of hope, and of prayer.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

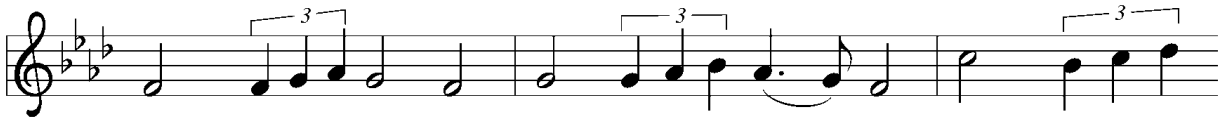
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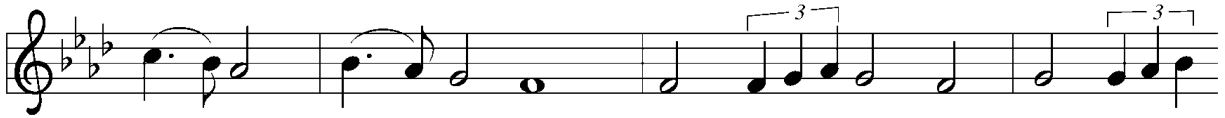
**\*SENDING SONG**

*Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow*

ELW # 327



1 Through the night of doubt and sor - row, on - ward  
2 One the light of God's own pres - ence on the  
3 One the strain that lips of thou - sands lift as  
4 On - ward, there - fore, sis - ters, broth - ers; on - ward,



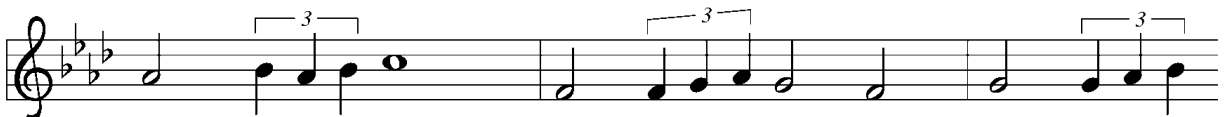
goes the pil - grim band, sing - ing songs of ex - pec -  
ran - somed peo - ple shed, chas - ing far the gloom and  
from the heart of one; one the con - flict, one the  
with the cross our aid. Bear its shame, and fight its



ta - tion, march - ing to the prom - ised land. Clear be -  
ter - ror, bright - 'ning all the path we tread. One the  
per - il, one the march in God be - gun. One the  
bat - tle till we rest be - neath its shade. Soon shall



fore us through the dark - ness gleams and burns the  
ob - ject of our jour - ney, one the faith which  
glad - ness of re - joic - ing on the far e -  
come the great a - wak - 'ning; soon the rend - ing



guid - ing light; pil - grim clasps the hand of  
nev - er tires, one the ear - nest look - ing  
ter - nal shore, where the one al - might - y  
of the tomb! Then the scat - t'ring of all



pil - grim step - ping fear - less through the night.  
for - ward, one the hope our God in - spires.  
Fa - ther reigns in love for - ev - er - more.  
shad - ows, and the end of toil and gloom.