# The 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost July 16, 2023

9:30 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,  $\pm$  one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.

*C*: Amen.

- P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.
- P: Righteous and merciful God,
- C: we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak and spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy. Amen.
- P: God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of 

  Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

\*OPENING HYMN

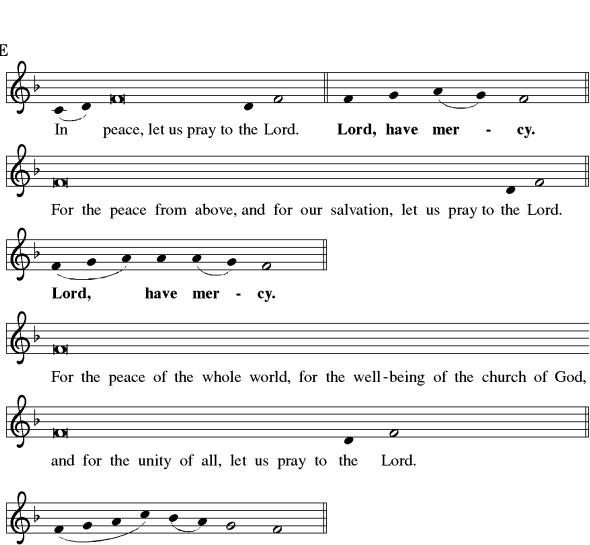
Let All Things Now Living

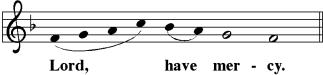
ELW # 881

#### \*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 *S138* 



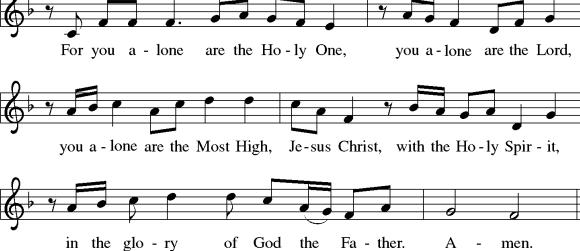




For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,







#### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

*P: Let us pray* ... Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

#### C: Amen.

#### FIRST READING: Genesis 25:19-34

<sup>19</sup>These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, <sup>20</sup>and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. <sup>21</sup>Isaac prayed to the LORD for his wife, because she was barren; and the LORD granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. <sup>22</sup>The children struggled together within her; and she said, "If it is to be this way, why do I live?" So she went to inquire of the LORD. <sup>23</sup>And the LORD said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples born of you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other, the elder shall serve the younger." <sup>24</sup>When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. <sup>25</sup>The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. <sup>26</sup>Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

<sup>27</sup>When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. <sup>28</sup>Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob.

<sup>29</sup>Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. <sup>30</sup>Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!" (Therefore he was called Edom.) <sup>31</sup>Jacob said, "First sell me your birthright." <sup>32</sup>Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?" <sup>33</sup>Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. <sup>34</sup>Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

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

# PSALM 119:105-112 (read responsively)

<sup>105</sup>Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light upon my path.

<sup>106</sup>I have sworn and am determined to keep your righteous judgments.

<sup>107</sup>I am deeply troubled; preserve my life, O LORD, according to your word.

<sup>108</sup>Accept, O LORD, the willing tribute of my lips, and teach me your judgments.

<sup>109</sup>My life is always in danger, yet I do not forget your teaching.

<sup>110</sup>The wicked have set a trap for me, but I have not strayed from your commandments.

<sup>111</sup>Your decrees are my inheritance forever; truly, they are the joy of my heart.

112I have applied my heart to fulfill your statutes forever and to the end.

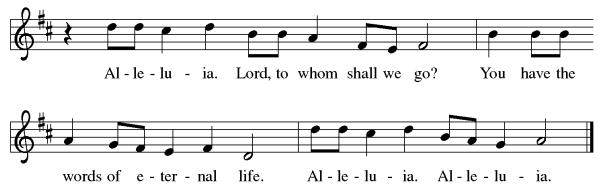
#### **SECOND READING: Romans 8:1-11**

<sup>1</sup>There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup>For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. <sup>3</sup>For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, <sup>4</sup>so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. <sup>5</sup>For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the Spirit. <sup>6</sup>To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup>For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, <sup>8</sup>and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

<sup>9</sup>But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. <sup>10</sup>But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup>If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

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

# \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



\*Gospel: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. <sup>2</sup>Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. <sup>3</sup>And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup>And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. <sup>5</sup>Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. <sup>6</sup>But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. <sup>7</sup>Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. <sup>8</sup>Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup>Let anyone with ears listen!"

<sup>18</sup>"Hear then the parable of the sower. <sup>19</sup>When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. <sup>20</sup>As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; <sup>21</sup>yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. <sup>22</sup>As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. <sup>23</sup>But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

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

HOMILY Pastor Traci

\*HYMN OF THE DAY Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

ELW # 693

# \*APOSTLES' CREED

P: 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: Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.
- A: Guide your church, O God, to sow seeds of forgiveness and righteousness on good soil. Direct your people to proclaim your love in this congregation and throughout the world. Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.
- A: Sustain your creation, O God, by sending favorable weather, causing trees and fields to grow, protecting waterways from pollution, and instilling in all people the need to be good stewards. Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.
- A: Maintain peace among all people, O God, and raise up lawyers to work for justice in the courts, advocates to speak for the downtrodden, and politicians to work on behalf of the common good. Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.
- A: Heal those who are sick, O God. Guide health care workers to care for those who suffer, scientists to conduct lifesaving research, and counselors to care for victims of sexual abuse and exploitation. Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.
- A: Answer the prayers of those gathered in worship, O God. Protect those who travel near and far, accompany visitors to this congregation, and nurture our faith. Hear us, O God. *C:* Your mercy is great.
- A: Inspire us by the faithful departed, O God, examples of your embodied love, whose confidence in the resurrection guides us in living lives worthy of the gospel. Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.
- P: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, 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.

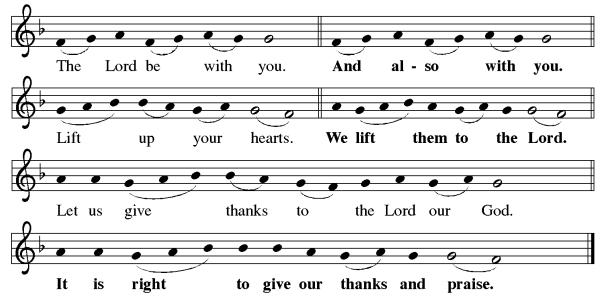
# \*OFFERTORY PRAYER

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 ... God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. C: Amen.



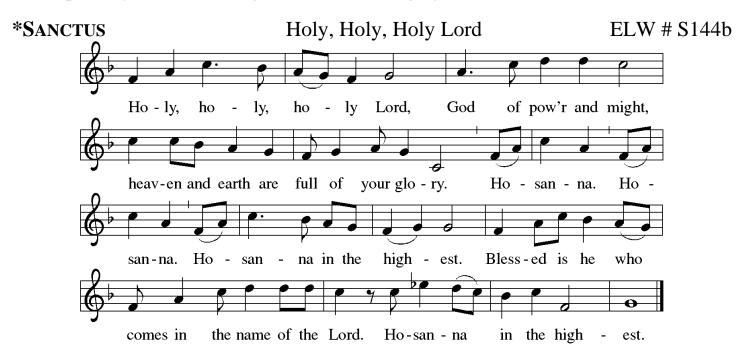
ELW # S144a



#### \*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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

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



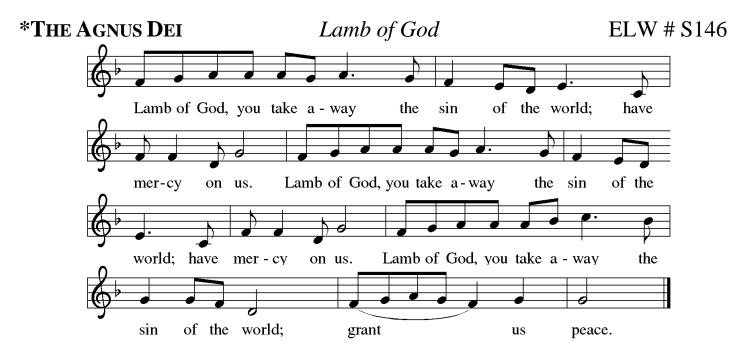
#### \*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*P*: Holy God, our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer, in the harmonious world of your creation the plants and animals, the seas and stars were whole and well in your praise.

- When sin had scarred the world, you sent your Son to heal our ills and to form us again into one.
- 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 acts of healing, his body given up, and his victory over death, we await that day when all the peoples of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.
- Send your Spirit upon us and this meal: as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread, so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.
- 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 in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.



#### \*INVITATION

P: All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat what is good.

**COMMUNION HYMN** 

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

*ELW* # 470

#### \*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... We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. C: Amen.

#### \*BENEDICTION

P: The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed + bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age. C: Amen.

\*SENDING SONG

On Our Way Rejoicing

ELW # 537

#### \*DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Share the harvest. C: Thanks be to God.

Reprinted from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* copyright © 2006 Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license #SB105031 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.

**Today's Altar Flowers** are placed to the Glory of God and in memory of Sheila Haffling, Greg's sister, by Greg and Amy Haffling.

# **Church Messenger**

The July 2023 *Messenger* is now available at the St. Matthew **Website** (stmatthewlc.com), and on your recent **Email** message from St. Matthew by using the link listed in the body of the message. A paper copy of the *Messenger* is available in the news rack in the church Narthex. By calling the church office at (814-793-2413), you can request a paper copy to be sent by mail to your home. Do not hesitate to call the church office if you need help in securing a copy of the *Messenger*. Your readership and articles are always appreciated.

# 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 – Leslie Hand, On Eagle's Wings

Our Administrative Assistant – Lori Tremmel

Our Assistant Administrative Assistant – Laura Orczeck

Our Sexton - Phil Claar

Our Assisting Minister – Mike Lamborn

Our Lector – A J Hoenstine

Our Usher – Tina Harclerode

Our Altar Guild – Tina Harclerode

Our Audio/Video Tech - Camden Kuster

Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner

Third Quarter Ventures in Faith to ""OEW and Missionaries""



# **Martinsburg Food Pantry**

The Food Pantry will be open for distribution of food on Thursday, July 20, from 9:00 until 11:00 a.m.

Volunteers from Brethren in Christ Church will be assisting, along with our regular volunteers to distribute the food.

**Items most needed for July:** Juice/Beverages, Pasta, Tomato Sauce, Hamburger Helper, and Paper Towels.

**Note:** During the Summer, donations seem to slow down, and children are home from school, so please fill our church basket.

Also, garden produce on the days that Food Pantry is open, are very welcomed to be dropped off at the pantry. *Thank You! Linda Smith* 



Lutheran Day at the Altoona Curve Sunday, August 13, 2023 Game begins at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$7:00 each Register with the Synod Office by Friday, August 1,



# This Week at St. Matthew: 814-793-2413: Office Hours

Pastor Traci – Wed. 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Lori – Mon. – Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

#### **This Week Events**

**Today** – Worship Service in Sanctuary 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday – Yoga, Fellowship Hall 5:00 p.m.

Sunday – Worship Service in Sanctuary 9:30 a.m.

**Email Address:** In January 2023 we stopped using stmatthewluth@aol.com as our email address. Please delete that from your email contact list and start using our NEW email address: **stmatthewmartinsburg@gmail.com**.

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

Prayer Concerns: Amy & Family, Randy Barrett, Diane Cappel, Dave Clayton, Greg Comer, Brian Fleck, Ron Focht, Jim Fritz, Doris Hershberger, Marilyn Horton, Debbie Imler, Baby James, Darren Kreutzer, Carrie Lively, Kristen Malloy, Karrie McCall & Family, Betty McDowell, Rick McIntyre, Aunt Mica, Carl Miner, Charles Minnick & Family, Nathan, Deb Peters, Bob & Annette Ritchey, Paul Ruth, Dennis Smith, Cindy Thomas, Tiffany Townsend, Zachary Tremmel, Jean White, Joel Widmann, Pete Williams, Tim Wilson, Jody Zelanko, and for our Missionaries: Rev. Lesley Hand, On Eagle's Wings.

Our college students: Olivia Day, Camryn Gates.

**Those Serving in our Armed Forces:** Bradley Buchart, Melody Estep, Colin Guyer, Nathan Smith (Germany).

# Sight and Sound Bus Excursion to see *Moses*!

Join the Martinsburg Boosters for this exciting excursion to see Sight & Sound live on stage production of Moses on Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023. **Price per individual will be \$160.** 

From the banks of the Nile River to the depths of the Red Sea, MOSES is a spectacular entertainment experience for the whole family! Set adrift as a baby, he is an unlikely hero—until God calls him to lead His people out of Egypt and into the Promised Land. Journey with Moses as he ventures through the wilderness, encounters God at the burning bush, and ascends to the top of Mount Sinai. Experience one of the Bible's most epic stories as MOSES comes to life with massive sets, special effects, and live animals in this original stage production.

# **Price Includes:**

- Round Trip Motorcoach Transportation
- Reserved Main Floor Seating 11 am show
- Dinner stop made on return-Hoss's in Carlisle (on own)

# **Depart:**

• 7 am from Morrisons Cove Park

#### **Reservation Deadline:**

• August 20, 2023

# **Payment:**

• Check payable to Duane Bordell or Cash

#### **For More Informaton:**

Contact Duane Bordell, Raystown Transit Service at 814-944-2585 1117 Logan Blvd., Altoona, PA 16602

#### 2023 ALSM ANNUAL AUXILIARY APPEAL

Allegheny Lutheran Social Ministries (ALSM) is celebrating 75 years of service to ALSM residents who have limited funds. The Auxiliary supports ALSM'S senior communities through benevolent care and gifts to enhance the daily lives of residents by funding life enrichment programs. Auxiliary members have contributed more than \$2 million annually in benevolent care to those ALSM residents with limited funds. St. Matthew has always been a significant contributor to this benevolent care program. Any amount of gift will be greatly appreciated. A gift of just \$10.00 provides a meal for a resident. St. Matthew's appeal will run for the months of July and August. Please fill out the form in the bulletin insert and return with your gift (cash or check) to the church office, Martie Gilbert or to ALSM. Additional forms are located at the Usher's Station in the Narthex. Please prayerfully consider giving to this very life sustaining appeal.

To support this appeal, you may also place Cash or CHECK PAYABLE TO — "ALSM AUXILIARY" in a plain envelope along with indication and names if this is in "Honor" or "Memory" gift. Please make sure your name is included and give to Martie Gilbert, Key Lady. (Deadline for donations is Sunday, August 27, 2023.)

	Thank You for helping us touch lives over the past 75 years!	Allegheny Lutheran Social Ministries Attn:Advancement Office 998 Logan Blvd. Altoona, PA 16602 814.696.4500
My gift is in memory of: (deceased)		years y
202	23 Annual Auxiliary	Appeal CELEBOATING TO GE SERVICE
Name(s)		
Phone	Email	
Address		

Congregation (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_



Text: Katherine K. Davis, 1892–1980, alt. Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune Text © 1939, 1966 E. C. Schirmer Music Company.



- 1 Come, ye thank-ful peo ple, come; raise the song of har vest home.
- 2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un to his praise to yield;
- 3 For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his har vest home;
- 4 E ven so, Lord, quick-ly come to thy fi nal har vest home.



All be safe - ly gath - ered in ere the win - ter storms be - gin. wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown. from his field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way; Gath - er then thy peo - ple in, free from sor - row, free from sin,



doth pro-vide God, our mak - er, be sup-plied. our wants to for First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear. give his an - gels charge at in tares to cast, last the fire the there, for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, a - bide. in thy gar - ner to



Come to God's own tem - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest home. Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole-some grain and pure may be. but the fruit - ful ears to store in his gar - ner ev - er - more. Come, with all thine an - gels, come, raise the glo - rious har - vest home!

Text: Henry Alford, 1810-1871, alt.

Music: ST. GEORGE'S, WINDSOR, George J. Elvey, 1816-1893



Text: Percy Dearmer, 1867-1936, alt.

Music: UNION SEMINARY, Harold Friedell, 1905-1958

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Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt. Music: HERMAS, Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879