The 19th Sunday after Pentecost October 8, 2023

10:30 a.m. Worship

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!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be God, the one who forms us, + Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete. *C*: Amen.

- P: Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.
- P: Steadfast and faithful God,
- C: you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.
- P:Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.
 In + Christ, you are already and always forgiven. C: Amen.

***OPENING HYMN** There's a Wideness in God's Mercy ELW # 588

*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.



For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all; for this holy house, for all who worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. \mathbf{R}

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor; that we may live out truth and justice and grace, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. \mathbf{R}

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family; for life and for love, for our work and our play, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **R**

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word; that you nourish our souls with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. \mathbf{R}

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray ... Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. *C:* Amen.

FIRST READING: Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

¹God spoke all these words:

²I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work.

¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

¹³You shall not murder.

¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵You shall not steal.

¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

¹⁸When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, ¹⁹and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die." ²⁰Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin."

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

PSALM 19 (read responsively)

¹The heavens declare the glory of God,

and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.

²One day tells its tale to another,

and one night imparts knowledge to another.

³Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard,

⁴their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world,

where God has pitched a tent for the sun.

⁵It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;

it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

⁶It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again;

nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

⁷The teaching of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul;

the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

⁸The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart;

the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.

⁹The fear of the Lord is clean and endures forever;

the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

¹¹By them also is your servant enlightened,

and in keeping them there is great reward.

¹²Who can detect one's own offenses?

Cleanse me from my secret faults.

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me;

then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

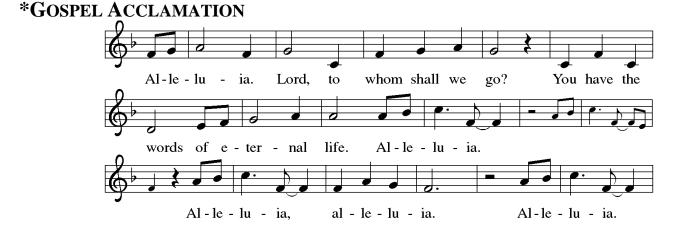
¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,

O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

SECOND READING: Philippians 3:4b-14

- [Paul writes:] ^{4b}If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.
- ⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.
- ¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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





*Gospel: Matthew 21:33-46 The holy gospel according to Matthew. Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the people:] ³³"Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. ³⁴When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' ³⁹So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?'' ⁴¹They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.''

⁴²Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:

'The stone that the builders rejected

has become the cornerstone;

this was the Lord's doing,

and it is amazing in our eyes'?

⁴³Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. ⁴⁴The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."

⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

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

HOMILY

Pastor Traci

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

My Song is Love Unknown

LBW #94



Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624–1683 Music: RHOSYMEDRE, John D. Edwards, 1806–1885

*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: Trusting in the transformative power of God's loving Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.
- *A:* God of all grace, you are the source of life and joy. Strengthen the resolve of your church throughout the world, that together we press on toward the goal of your heavenly call in Jesus Christ. God of grace, *C:* receive our prayer.
- A: God of all creation, you plant and nourish the earth as your own precious vineyard. Bless fields and orchards and the hands of those who labor in them, that your people are fed with an abundant harvest of good fruit. God of grace, *C*: receive our prayer.
- *A:* God of all the earth, you desire peace and justice between nations and peoples. Guide leaders of nations, states, provinces, and cities, that they faithfully govern your people with wisdom, integrity, and compassion. God of grace, *C:* receive our prayer.
- *A*: God of all compassion, in Christ, you lovingly poured yourself out like wine for your people. Have mercy on all who mourn, who struggle with their mental health, who cry out for justice, who hunger, and all in any need. God of grace, *C*: receive our prayer.
- *A*: God of all steadfastness, you set Christ as the cornerstone and foundation of the church. Build up this congregation as living stones, that it stands in the community as a witness to your enduring faithfulness and love. God of grace, *C*: receive our prayer.
- A: God of all hope, the saints who came before us lived and died with their hearts fixed on you. We give you thanks for their faithful witness, and we wait with hope for the great day when we join their voices in praise. God of grace, *C*: receive our prayer.

P: Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; 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 ... God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. 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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

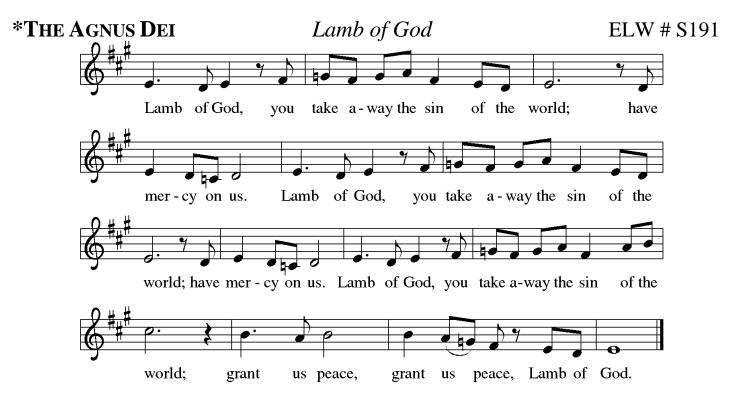
- P Holy God, our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food, you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance.
- You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life, and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven.

You sent your Son to eat with sinners and to become food 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 given for us and his rising from the grave, we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.
- By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal: strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want, and by this bread and cup make of us the body of 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: Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live.

COMMUNION HYMNLamb of God (Your Only Son)ELW # 336

*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... Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray. C: Amen.

*BENEDICTION

P: The God of glory, + Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever. *C*: Amen.

*SENDING SONG My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less ELW

ELW # 596

*DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. God is at work in you. *C*: Thanks be to God.

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Today's Altar Flowers are placed to the Glory of God and in memory of Pappy Zane by Calleigh Wright.

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 – Robin Abrol, On Eagle's Wings	
Our Administrative Assistant – Jen Ripka	
Our Financial Bookkeeper – Laura Orczeck	
Our Sexton – Phil Claar	
Our Assisting Minister – Melissa Fetzer	
Our Lector – Jeff Hoenstine	
Our Acolyte – Ben Decker	
Our Usher – Tina Harclerode	
Our Altar Guild – Elaine Buchart, Janet Stewart	
Our Audio/Video Tech – Camden Kuster	
Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner	
Fourth Quarter Ventures in Faith to "United Lutheran Seminaries"	

Church Messenger

The October 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.

Help Wanted: Pianist/Organist

St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Martinsburg is seeking an accomplished pianist or organist to accompany liturgical worship services 2 to 3 Sundays per month. If interested, contact Rev. Traci Marriott at 814 935-9267 or revtracimarriott@gmail.com for more information and application.

Martinsburg Food Pantry

The Food Pantry will be open for food distribution on Thursday, October 19th from 9:00 until 11:00 a.m. Curryville Church of the Brethren will provide 3 or 4 people to help distribute food, in addition to regular helpers. If anyone harvests more vegetables or fruits than can be used, we will welcome it on the dates it is open!
Items most needed for October: Beverages, Vegetable Soup, Fruit, Pasta Sides and Paper Towels. We appreciate your prayers and support! Thank You! *Linda Smith*

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

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

This Week Events

Today –	Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
-	Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
	Christ Claysburg's 175 th Anniversary Service 3:00 p.m.
Monday –	Cub/Boy Scouts, Scout Rooms 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday –	Council Meeting, Window Room/Zoom 6:30 p.m.
Thursday –	Adult Day Workshop at Sequanota with Pastor Traci
	*Please register with camp by Monday 814-629-6627
Sunday –	Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
	Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
	Early Bird Deadline for The Weekend Youth Event

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, Caleb, Diane Cappel, Ted Chipperfield, Dave Clayton, Greg Comer, Greg Dick, Brian Fleck, Ron Focht, Jim Fritz, Marilyn Horton, Baby James, Darren Kreutzer, Carrie Lively, Kristen Malloy, Ruth Marshall, Karrie McCall & Family, Betty McDowell, Kay McGraw, Rick McIntyre, Aunt Mica, Carl Miner, Charles Minnick & Family, Nathan, Deb Peters, Bob & Annette Ritchey, Paul Ruth, Denny Smith (Shelly Hill), Cindy Thomas, Tiffany Townsend, Drew Wenzel, Jean White, Joel Widmann, Pete Williams, Tim Wilson, Pat Winston, Tom Woodrow, Jody Zelanko, and for our **Missionaries: Robin Abrol, On Eagle's Wings.**

Away at School: Christopher Bush, Olivia Day, Camryn Gates, Jeff Hoenstine.

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





2024 ELCA Youth Gathering

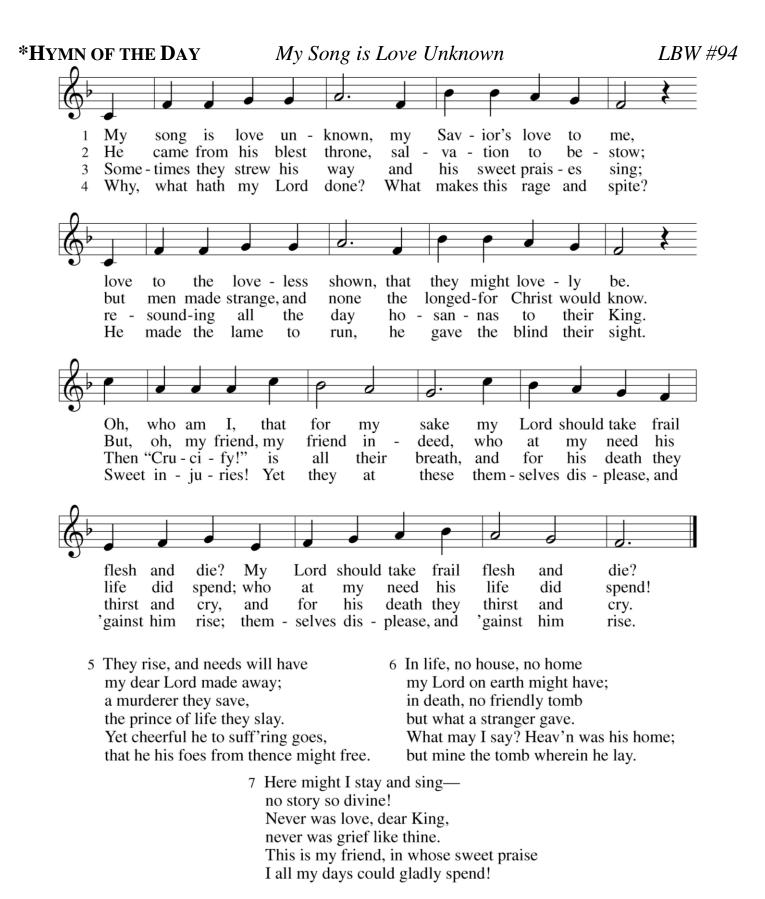
Please speak with Pastor Traci if you have any interest in attending the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering July 16-20, 2024 in New Orleans.



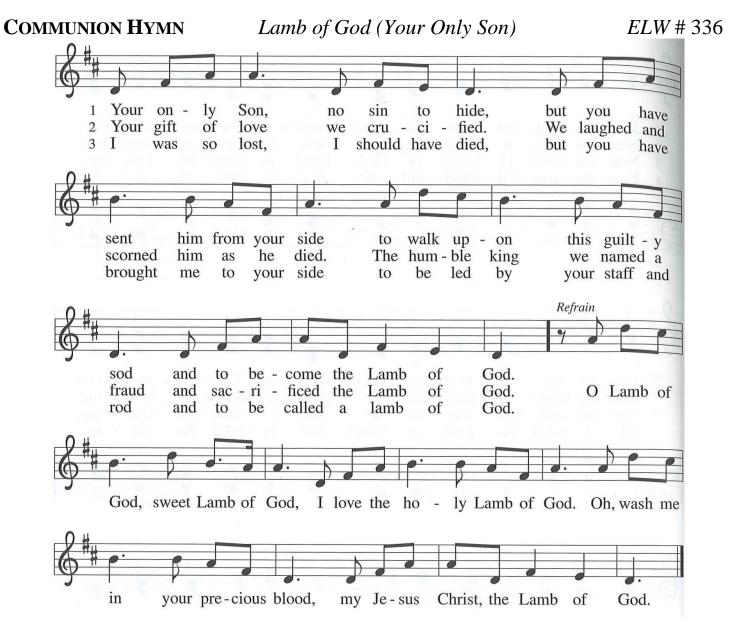
2022 Audit The full church audit of 2022 is available in the church office.

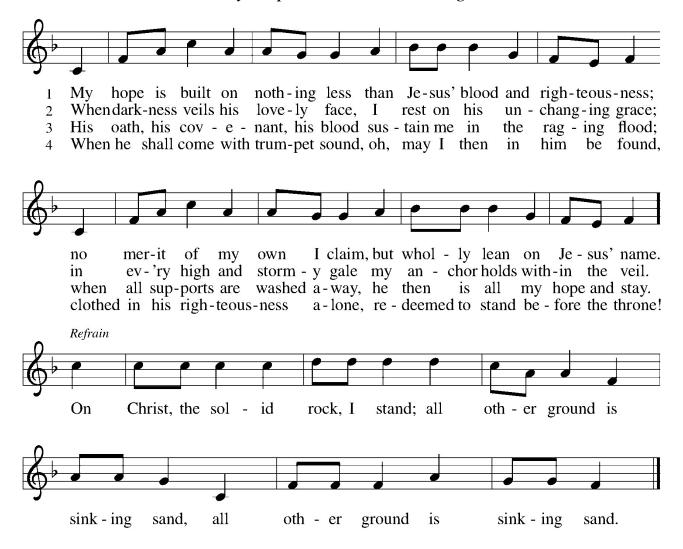


Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863, alt. Music: LORD, REVIVE US, North American, 19th cent.



Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624–1683 Music: RHOSYMEDRE, John D. Edwards, 1806–1885





Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt. Music: THE SOLID ROCK, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868