

**May 17, 2026**

*Seventh Sunday of  
Easter*



## **GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

1600 Old Trolley Rd  
Summerville, SC  
29485-8275

Office:

(843) 871-5444

E-mail:

office@

gracesummerville.org

Website:

[www.gracesummerville.org](http://www.gracesummerville.org)

+

Divine Service:

8:00, 9:30 & 11:00am  
*Sundays*

Adult Bible Study &  
Sunday School:

9:30 am

+

Pastor:

Richard Willsea

Deaconess:

Karen Suter

Organist:

Patty Barnes

## SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 17, 2026

### ✠ PREPARATION ✠

**Today we will observe The Lord's Supper...** *The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Grace Lutheran Church in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked you first to speak with the pastor, an elder or an usher. (For further study, see Matthew 5:23f; 10:32f; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; I Cor. 11:17-34). Wine is used in the individual and common cup. It may also be received by intinction. A gluten free wafer is available upon request.*

### PRELUDE

"Holy God, We Praise Thy Name"  
"Be Strong in the Lord"

arr. D. Busarow  
arr. E. Broughton

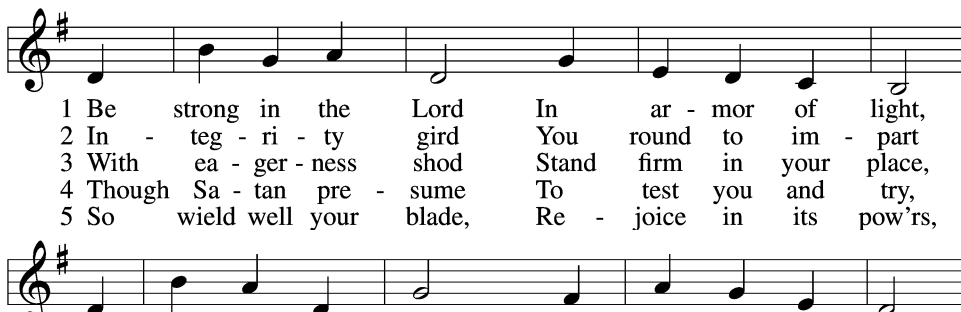
### WELCOME

*Stand*

### HYMN

"Be Strong in the Lord"

**LSB 665**



1 Be strong in the Lord In armor of light,  
2 In - teg - ri - ty gird You round to im - part  
3 With ea - ger - ness shod Stand firm in your place,  
4 Though Sa - tan pre - sume To test you and try,  
5 So wield well your blade, Re - joice in its pow'rs,

With hel - met and sword, With shield for the fight;  
The truth of His Word As truth in your heart;  
Or go forth for God With news of His grace;  
In hel - met and plume Your head shall be high;  
Fight on un - dis - mayed For Je - sus is ours!



On prayer be de - pen - dent, Be belt - ed and shod,  
His righ - teous - ness wear - ing As breast - plate of mail,  
No foe shall dis - arm you Nor force you to yield,  
Be - set by temp - ta - tion Be true to your Lord,  
Then in Him vic - to - rious Your ar - mor lay down,



In breast - plate re - splen - dent: The ar - mor of God.  
His vic - to - ry shar - ing, Be strong to pre - vail.  
No ar - row can harm you With faith as your shield.  
Your hel - met sal - va - tion And Scrip - ture your sword.  
To praise, ev - er glo - rious, His cross and His crown.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926–2024

Tune: C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918

Text: © 1984 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004811

Tune: Public domain

## INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

## OPENING SENTENCES

*John 3:16; 17:3*

- P** For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son,
- C** that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.
- P** And this is eternal life,
- C** that they know You the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** Holy and gracious Lord, the earth was made to be filled with Your glory. Despite Your love and care, we have not lived lives worthy of being called Your people.

*Pause for silent reflection*

- P** Forgive our sins and shortcomings. Overcome our inability and inaction. Replace our selfish and faithless nature with hearts that glorify You.

**C** O Lord, be gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness. Amen.

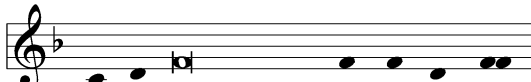
**P** Having accomplished the work given Him to do, Jesus Christ has paid for all of your sins, has risen for your justification, and has claimed His seat at the Father's right hand to intercede on your behalf. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

† SERVICE OF THE WORD †

KYRIE

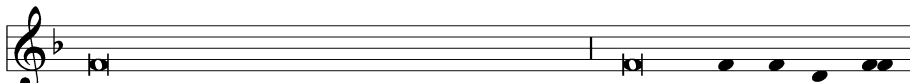
LSB 152



**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.




**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



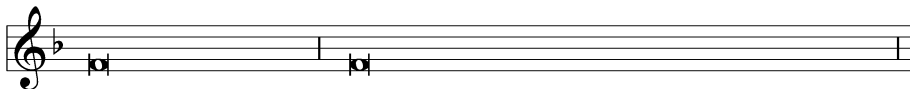
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



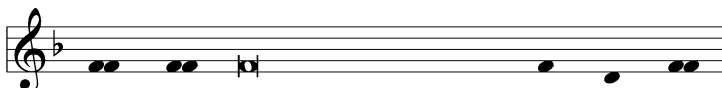
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



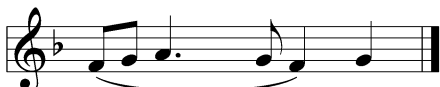
let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



**C** A - men.

**HYMN**

"Holy God, We Praise Thy Name"

**LSB 940 sts. 1-5**



1 Ho - ly God, we praise Thy name; Lord of all, we  
 2 Hark! The glad ce - les - tial hymn An - gel choirs a -  
 3 Lo, the a - pos - tles' ho - ly train Join Thy sa - cred  
 4 Thou art King of Glo - ry, Christ; Son of God, yet  
 △ 5 Ho - ly Fa - ther, ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it,



bow be - fore Thee. All on earth Thy scep - ter claim,  
bove are rais - ing; Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim,  
name to hal - low; Proph - ets swell the glad re - frain,  
born of Mar - y. For us sin - ners sac - ri - ficed,  
three we name Thee; Though in es - sence on - ly one,



All in heav'n a - bove a - dore Thee. In - fi - nite Thy  
In un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing, Fill the heav'ns with  
And the white - robed mar - tyrs fol - low, And from morn to  
As to death a Trib - u - tar - y, First to break the  
Un - di - vid - ed God we claim Thee And, a - dor - ing,



vast do - main, Ev - er - last - ing is Thy reign.  
sweet ac - cord: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!  
set of sun Through the Church the song goes on.  
bars of death, Thou hast o - pened heav'n to faith.  
bend the knee While we own the mys - ter - y.

Text: Latin, c. 4th cent.; German version Katholisches Gesangbuch, 1774, Vienna; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820–1900, alt.  
Tune: Katholisches Gesangbuch, 1774, Vienna  
Text and tune: Public domain

## SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.

**G** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

O King of glory, Lord of hosts, uplifted in triumph far above all heavens, leave us not without consolation but send us the Spirit of truth whom You promised from the Father; for You live and reign with Him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** **Amen.**

*Sit*

## FIRST READING

*Acts 1:12–26*

The Word is read...

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## PSALM

*Psalm 68:1–10; antiphon: v. 32*



- C** <sup>1</sup>God shall arise, his enemies shall be | scattered;\*  
and those who hate him shall flee be- | fore him!
- <sup>2</sup>As smoke is driven away, so you shall drive | them away;\*  
as wax melts before fire,  
so the wicked shall perish be- | fore God!
- <sup>3</sup>But the righteous shall be glad;  
they shall exult be- | fore God;\*  
they shall be jubilant | with joy!
- <sup>4</sup>Sing to God, sing praises | to his name;\*  
lift up a song to him who rides through the deserts;  
his name is the LORD;  
exult be- | fore him!
- <sup>5</sup>Father of the fatherless and protector of | widows\*  
is God in his holy habi- | tation.
- <sup>6</sup>God settles the solitary in a home;  
he leads out the prisoners to pros- | perity,\*  
but the rebellious dwell in a | parched land.
- <sup>7</sup>O God, when you went out before your | people,\*  
when you marched through the | wilderness,
- <sup>8</sup>the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain,  
before God, the One of | Sinai,\*  
before God, the God of | Israel.
- <sup>9</sup>Rain in abundance, O God, you | shed abroad;\*  
you restored your inheritance as it | languished;
- <sup>10</sup>your flock found a dwell- | ing in it;\*  
in your goodness, O God, you provided for the | needy.

**EPISTLE**

*1 Peter 4:12–19; 5:6–11*

The Word is read...

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

**VERSE**

*Romans 6:9; John 14:18*

- P** Alleluia,
- C** **We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. Alleluia. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Alleluia.**

**HOLY GOSPEL**

*John 17:1-11*

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.
- C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

The Gospel is read...

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

*Sit*

**HYMN**

“Fight the Good Fight”

**LSB 664**



1 Fight the good fight with all your might; Christ is your  
 2 Run the straight race through God's good grace; Lift up your  
 3 Cast care a - side, lean on your guide; His bound - less  
 4 Faint not nor fear, His arms are near; He chang - es



strength, and Christ your right. Lay hold on life, and  
 eyes, and seek His face. Life with its way be -  
 mer - cy will pro - vide. Trust, and en - dur - ing  
 not who holds you dear; On - ly be - lieve, and



it shall be Your joy and crown e - ter - nal - ly.  
fore us lies; Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.  
faith shall prove Christ is your life and Christ your love.  
you will see That Christ is all e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811-75, alt.  
Tune: The Methodist Harmonist, 1821, New York  
Text and tune: Public domain

## SERMON

*Stand*

## NICENE CREED

- ☐ I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.  
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the  
dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life † of the world to come. Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ gives us a pattern for prayer, and so we pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all according to their needs.

Heavenly Father, may Your name be hallowed throughout all the earth. By the Spirit's power, make us worthy witnesses of Your grace and glory. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

- A** Eternal King, we pray for Your kingdom to come and Your will to be done among us. Intervene where sin runs rampant and make Your church an instrument of reconciliation and peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** Generous God, we praise You for caring for our daily needs of shelter and sustenance. Continue to provide Your people with plenty, that we may have opportunity to be reflections of Your generosity in our giving to others. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

- A** Merciful Savior, make Your people quick to turn to You in repentance, and by Your abundant pardon, equip us to be messengers of Your mercy to the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Faithful Deliverer, we pray for Your merciful rescue from the evils still present in our world. We lift up those struggling with sickness or grief, [*especially...*], and ask that Your hand would lead them to hope and faithfulness. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**A** O Triune God, we rejoice in Your faithfulness. Make Your dwelling in us and keep us in faith until the day of Christ's returning.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

## OFFERING

### VOLUNTARY

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

arr. F. Ritter

*Stand*

## OFFERTORY

"Create in Me"

LSB 956

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new  
a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way  
from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion;  
and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Text: Psalm 51:10-12  
Tune: Johann Georg Winer, 1583-1651, adapt.  
Text and tune: Public domain

## ✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

### PREFACE

LSB 160

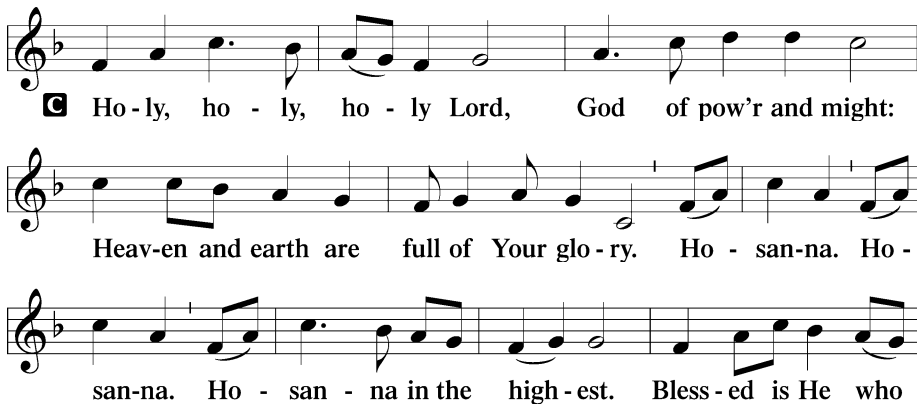
- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.  
**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

### PROPER PREFACE

- P** It is truly worthy, proper, and beneficial to give thanks to You, almighty and eternal Father, for the glory that belongs to You alone, revealed in the sending of Your Son, Jesus Christ, for the sake of the world. By His obedience, even to death on a cross, He both glorified You and reconciled repentant sinners. Now He is ascended into the glory that has been His since before the world existed, and we who trust in Him for eternal life raise our praises to You, O Father, to Your ascended Son, and to the Holy Spirit, evermore praising You and singing:

### SANCTUS

LSB 161



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**P** In gratefulness, we bless You, all-glorious Father, for the sake of Your ascended Son, for You have given Him authority over all flesh, and yet in this Meal, He condescends to offer His flesh as true food and His blood as true drink for those who confess His name. As those claimed by His sacrifice, redeemed from evil and everlasting death, give us hearts that gather at Your Table to recognize our redemption, grow in our faith, and declare the glories of Your mercy until Christ comes again, for He rules and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

**P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

**P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

## LORD'S PRAYER

**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.

## PAX DOMINI

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C** Amen.

## AGNUS DEI

LSB 163



**C** 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.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

"O Christ, Who Called the Twelve"

LSB 856



1 O Christ, who called the Twelve To rise and fol - low You, For -  
 2 O Christ, who taught the Twelve The truth for a - ges sealed, Whose  
 3 O Christ, who led the Twelve A - mong the des - o - late And  
 4 O Christ, who sent the Twelve On roads they'd nev - er trod To  
 5 O Christ, th'a - pos - tles' Lord, The mar - tyrs' strength and song, The



sak - ing old, fa - mil - iar ways For ven - tures bold and new:  
 words and works a - wak - ened faith, The ways of God re - vealed:  
 broke as bread of life for all Your love com - pas - sion - ate:  
 serve, to suf - fer, teach, pro - claim The near - er reign of God:  
 cru - ci - fied and ris - en King To whom the saints be - long:



Grant us to hear Your call To risk se - cu - ri - ty And,  
 In - struct us now, we pray, By Your em - pow'r - ing Word. True  
 Lead us a - long the ways Where hope has near - ly died And  
 Send us on ways where faith Tran - scends ti - mid - i - ty, Where  
 Though gen - er - a - tions pass, Our trib - ute still we bring, Our



bound in heart and will to You, Find per - fect lib - er - ty.  
 teach - er, be for all who seek Their light, their life, their Lord.  
 help us climb the lone - ly hills Where love is cru - ci - fied.  
 love in - forms and hope sus - tains Both life and min - is - try.  
 hymns a sac - ri - fice of praise, Our lives an of - fer - ing.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007

Tune: English; adapt. Franklin L. Sheppard, 1852–1930

Text: © 1993 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004811

Tune: Public domain

VOLUNTARY

"O Christ, Who Called the Twelve"

arr. A.L. Page

Stand

Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have pre-pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re-veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it; as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

**POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

- P** Let us pray. Most glorious Father, we thank You for feeding our faith through this Holy Supper, strengthening us to live as those who know and believe Your truth. Keep us in Your name and make us one through our ascended and reigning Lord, Jesus Christ, who lives with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- G** Amen.

**BENEDICTION**

*John 3:16; 17:3*

- P** For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son,
- G** that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

**P** And this is eternal life,  
**C** that they know You the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

**P** The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you and abide with you always.

**C** Amen.

**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

**HYMN**

“What Is the World to Me”

**LSB 730**



1 What is the world to me With all its vaunt - ed plea - sure  
2 The world seeks to be praised And hon - ored by the might - y  
3 The world seeks af - ter wealth And all that mam - mon of - fers  
4 What is the world to me! My Je - sus is my trea - sure,



When You, and You a - lone, Lord Je - sus, are my trea - sure!  
Yet nev - er once re - flects That they are frail and flight - y.  
Yet nev - er is con - tent Though gold should fill its cof - fers.  
My life, my health, my wealth, My friend, my love, my plea - sure,



You on - ly, dear - est Lord, My soul's de - light shall be;  
But what I tru - ly prize A - bove all things is He,  
I have a high - er good, Con - tent with it I'll be:  
My joy, my crown, my all, My bliss e - ter - nal - ly.



You are my peace, my rest. What is the world to me!  
My Je - sus, He a - lone. What is the world to me!  
My Je - sus is my wealth. What is the world to me!  
Once more, then, I de - clare: What is the world to me!

Text: Georg Michael Pfefferkorn, 1645–1732; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.  
Tune: Ahasverus Fritsch, 1629–1701  
Text and tune: Public domain

*Sit*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISMISSAL**

**P** Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God!**

## **POSTLUDE**

"Love Divine All Loves Excelling"

arr. P. Benjamin

### **Acknowledgments**

*Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 2.*

*Copyright © 2026 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.*

*"Holy God, We Praise Thy Name"- arr. D. Busarow Tune: Grosser Gott, J. Schicht*

*© 1981 Concordia Publishing House; "Be Strong in the Lord"- arr. E. Broughton; tune: Laudate Dominum, H. Parry © 2014 Lorenz Publishing Co.; "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"- arr. F. Ritter; tune: Olivet, L. Mason © 2000 Lorenz Publishing Co.; "O Christ, Who Called the Twelve"- arr.*

*A.L. Page; tune: Terra Beta, F. Sheppard © 1981 Broadman Press; "Love Divine All Loves Excelling"- arr. P. Benjamin; tune: Beecher, J. Zundel © 2003 Lorenz Publishing Co.*