Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church



September 28, 2025 16th Sunday after Pentecost Good Morning and Welcome! We invite you to worship with us often, and ask if you need any assistance! If you are visiting us today, please sign the Guest Register in the Narthex, please include your address and phone number. Please place your offering envelope in the plate in the Narthex. Thank You!

Remember in your prayers:

Lynn Wolfgang, Oscar & Angie Smith, Erika Zaiser, Brandon Stauffer, Betty Moore, Barbara Stewart, Kathy Gamler, Bill Brensinger, Richard Eck, Becky Yescavage, BillyRay Pearce, Sr., Kathy Sell, Dennis Brooke, Donna Day, Linda Allmendinger, Karen Essig, Elaine Dotterer, Jeff Reitnauer, Jerry Bryce, Deanna Heydt, Ralph Rothenberger, Anna Spencer, RuthAnn Goode, Jennifer MacDonald, Pete Schmoyer, John Logan, Carole Mest, Bob McElwee, Eileen Heffner, Tammy Strunk, Terry Kemp, Mary Snyder, Howard Shafer and Wendy Bowers.

Friends & Family:

Michelle Hiriak, Donald Hays, Linda Stark, Martha Van Parys, Joyce Kemp, Shirley Ciaciak and Karen Smith.

Families of:

Dan Ritter, Ted Sheetz, Nancy Umstead, Justine Rick and Ben Delp.

Also members, relatives and friends in the community who are serving in the military including:

Christopher Heffner, BillyRay Pearce, Jr., Noah Heydt, Ben Rhode, Steven Herbst, David Crews, Jeff Lydic, Jory Huie, Seth Kurtz, Clinton Bowen, Eli Abner and Johnne Knepp.

Our sister congregation, the Marienkirche in Borna, Germany. (Website: Kirche-bornaer-land.de)

Please note: Names of friends and family will be kept on the bulletin prayer list for one month. If still in need of prayers, these names will then appear in the newsletter prayer list. Names on the friends and family list will normally be kept on the newsletter prayer list for one year. If you wish for names to remain longer, please speak to Pastor Gene, Linda Ritter or contact the Church Office. Thank you for helping us keep the prayer list current!

September 28, 2025 - 16th Sunday after Pentecost

Today's Worship Assistants:

Ushers: Sharon Renninger* & Mardell Blanford

Lector: Laura Moser Acolyte: Uta Hahn

The Altar Flowers are presented to the glory of God, by Mrs. Mary Snyder, in Honor of her Daughter Kathleen's Birthday and also in Memory of the Wedding Anniversary of Mr. & Mrs. Charles Frymoyer by LaRue Sheetz.

The Bulletins are presented to the glory of God, by Linda Bewley, in Honor of her Grandson Nathan's 21st Birthday.

The Eternal Flame Candle is presented to the glory of God by Richard & Pat Beekley, in Memory of Family.

(those who are able may stand)

Prelude

"Prelude"
N. Gigault

Announcements and Concerns

Confession and Forgiveness

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

- P Most merciful God,
- C we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen
- P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

• **Processional Hymn** LBW# 415 "God of Grace and God of Glory"

• 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



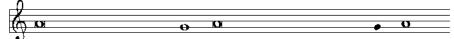


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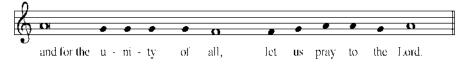
A For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.



❷ Lord, have mer - cy.



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







A For this holy house, and for all who offer there their wor - ship and praise,





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

• Hymn of Praise



• Prayer of the Day



• P Let us Pray . . .

C God of love, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them; keep us from those things that harm us; and guide us in the way of salvation; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

FIRST READING: Amos 6:1a, 4-7

The prophet Amos announces that Israel's great wealth is not a cause for rejoicing but rather for sorrow, because God's people have forgotten how to share their wealth with the poor.

Alas for those who are at ease in Zion,
and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria,

Alas for those who lie on beds of ivory,
and lounge on their couches,
and eat lambs from the flock,
and calves from the stall;

who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp,
and like David improvise on instruments of music;

who drink wine from bowls,
and anoint themselves with the finest oils,
but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!

Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile,
and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

PSALM: Psalm 146

Hallelujah! Praise the LORD, | O my soul! I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I | have my being.

²Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any | child of earth, for there is no | help in them.

³When they breathe their last, they re- | turn to earth, and in that day | their thoughts perish.

⁴Happy are they who have the God of Jacob | for their help, whose hope is in the | LORD their God;

⁵who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that | is in them; who keeps his prom- | ise forever;

⁶who gives justice to those who | are oppressed, and food to | those who hunger.

⁷The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes | of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who | are bowed down;

8the LORD loves the righteous; the LORD cares | for the stranger; he sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way | of the wicked.

⁹The LORD shall | reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. | Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 6:6-19

Timothy is reminded of the confession he made at his baptism and of its implications for daily life. His priorities will be different from those of people who merely want to be rich.

Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; ⁷ for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; ⁸ but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. ⁹ But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

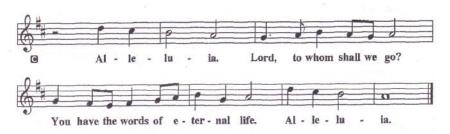
¹¹But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. ¹²Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you

¹⁴to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵which he will bring about at the right time–he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. ¹⁶It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

¹⁷As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, ¹⁹thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

GOSPEL: Luke 16:19-31

When Jesus taught that no one can serve both God and wealth, some of his hearers mocked him. He responded with the story of the rich man and Lazarus.



P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the sixteenth chapter



Presentation of the Gospel by Heart

[Jesus said:] ¹⁹"There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹ who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. ²²The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away

with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.' ²⁵But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' ²⁷He said, 'Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house—²⁸for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' ²⁹Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' ³⁰He said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' ³¹He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.' "

P The Gospel of the Lord.



Senior Choir Anthem

"Holy, Holy, Holy"

J. Raney

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

LBW# 423

"Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service"

• Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

• The Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole people of God, in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

A brief silence.

After each portion of prayers:

P Lord, in your mercy.

C hear our prayer

The prayers conclude:

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

• The Lord's Prayer

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.

• Our Mission Statement

- P People of Trinity, what is our mission?
- C We shall, as individuals and as a congregation, strive through word, worship, and witness to further the kingdom of God by knowing and sharing Christ's Love in our hearts, in our homes, in His church, in the community, and in the world.

• Benediction

- P The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
- C Amen, Amen, Amen.
- Recessional Hymn LBW# 428 "O God of Earth and Altar"

"Fughetta"

J. Pachelbel

September Update on Church Financial Status From The Finance Committee:

As reported in the current Newsletter (Financial Reports Section), the General Fund has a Negative balance of \$7,420 (an improvement from Negative \$10,452 in July, largely due to 5 Sundays of giving in August). While this is an improvement, our congregation is not meeting the income needs of the budget for 2025, which was approved by the congregation at the December Congregational Meeting. This means some Bills are being paid by borrowing "internally" from other accounts. Also to note: This year is not the start of this issue as the General Fund is Negative by \$30,703 since the start of 2023.

The committee met in early May and again in July to discuss and is asking all members to consider the following actions to help us recover from the current situation:

- Increase your giving even a small increase by many will help.
- Start to buy, or increase your purchases of, Gift Cards from the church on the 1st Sunday of each month. The church receives a % of each sale.
- Review the Simply Giving program and consider setting up automated donations to the church which helps smooth the income stream over the whole year, and makes your giving easier and typically more consistent.
- Support fundraisers and special events at the church note that not all fundraisers and events benefit the General Fund. And...Thank you for supporting 2 new fundraisers in August!

New item - if you own products through Thrivent that generate Thrivent Choice Dollars, consider directing them to our church as we generally receive over \$1000 of Thrivent Choice Dollars per year. Kindly consider how you can help, with respect to your current individual or family situation.

If you have already done this, we thank you for your prayerful consideration and any resulting actions.

The Finance Committee thanks everyone for their financial support of the church and our 2025 budget along with all other donations and contributions you are providing to the church to support our mission.

The committee will continue to monitor our Financial situation closely and communicate further as needed.

If you have any questions, please reach out to a Finance Committee member as listed in the monthly newsletter or chairperson Kurt Yescavage.

A Special Thank You to all who came out and supported the Basket Party, it was a great time of fun and fellowship! Also a special thank you to Mardell Blanford for organizing this event.

Today will be the last day we will be collecting donations for Boyertown Area Multi-Service in celebration of Harvest Home. It is the time we celebrate God's Harvest. **Nonperishable items** can be placed in the box in the Narthex. Please see the list of top pantry needs in this bulletin.

Help Wanted: The Bechtelsville Community Fall Fest will be held October 4, 11:00-3:00. Volunteers are needed to help with carnival games: soda ring toss and candy roulette wheel, and at the children's craft station. Please consider sharing Christ's love in the community by volunteering for an hour, two, or more and support their efforts to raise funds for playground equipment. A sign-up sheet is posted in the narthex. For questions or more information contact Sharon Renninger.

Finance Committee Meeting: The next Finance Committee meeting will be Sunday October 5 at 6:30PM, in the Parish Hall. If you are on this committee, please make plans to attend,

The Craft Show is Saturday, October 18th – 9AM-1PM. We will have several new crafters: Stained Glass, Jewelry, Seashell Crafts, Scented Candles & Wood Magnets). Returning crafters: Crochet Items, Wreaths & Fall Crafts). We are collecting used books for the Book Sale, books can be dropped off in the Nursery. Thank You for your donation. Yard signs are now available for you to display in your front yard or place of business. Flyers are on the table in the Narthex for you to distribute.

Attention bakers! We need your lovingly homemade baked goods for the bake sale at our craft show on October 18. So that we have a variety of items, please list what you will be donating on the sign-up sheet in the narthex. Ideas include cookies, cupcakes, brownies, muffins, breakfast buns or cakes, pies, etc. Items may be dropped off Thursday evening, 6:30-8:30, Friday (contact Sharon Renninger, 484-374-5928, for a time), or Saturday by 9 a.m. Thank you for your support!

Youth Happenings: All young persons and those young at heart are invited to the annual Pumpkins and Pizza event on Sunday, October 26, 2025 from 4:30-7:00pm. There will be pizza, drinks and snacks, a costume parade, singing of the "Monster Mash," creative pumpkins, fun treats, and fellowship. There will be a sign up sheet in the narthex. Please let Jenn know by Thursday October 23rd by calling 267.664.3394 so we can make sure we have enough for everyone. See you on the 26th for a spooktacular time together!

Free Will Offerings will be received the 3rd Sunday of every month. The next Free Will Offering will be Sunday, October 19th for the Eastern Berks Fire Dept. Thank you for your support.

The Christmas Cantata this year will be Sunday, December 14th at the 10:30AM Worship Service. Snow Date and Encore Presentation is Sunday, January 4th at 3:00PM.

Coffee Hour—Volunteers are needed to host Coffee Hour for October. Please sign up for this time of fellowship. The sign up sheet for is posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

HOSPITAL INPATIENT STAY: Please contact Pastor Gene if you are admitted to the hospital and would like a visit, due to privacy laws, the hospital no longer contacts the church.

Social Ministry provides meals for shut-ins/members who are in need of meals. If a meal is needed, please contact Kathy Kuser at 610-754-6293.

Need a ride? We have volunteers in the congregation who are willing to provide transportation to medical appointments, etc., for those who can't find a ride. Please contact Pastor Gene 610-322-0901 if you need a ride or would like to volunteer as a driver.

You may sponsor Altar Flowers, the cost is \$32.00 for one vase and \$64.00 for 2 vases, please contact Mary Snyder. If you wish to sponsor flowers and that date is not available, you can always sponsor an extra bouquet of flowers for \$40.00. When sponsoring flowers, please use a flower envelope found in the rack in the narthex or clearly mark the envelope "Flowers". If you sponsored flowers in the past but no longer wish to, please let Mary Snyder 610-473-8885 or the church office know. You may also sponsor the bulletins for \$15.00 per week, this helps offset the cost of printing them.

Trinity's Gift Card Program - Gift card orders are accepted before and after the church service the first Sunday of each month and distributed the second Sunday. Order forms for Redners, Giant and Raise Right (for other retail gift cards) are available in the narthex. The Raise Right order form is also available for download on Trinity's website. Payment must be submitted with your order. Please make checks payable to Trinity Lutheran Church and include your phone number on your order form. If you have any questions regarding this fund raising program please see Sharon Kemp, Kathy Kuser or Kurt Yescavage.

WAWA Hoagie Coupons Available 1st Sunday of the month at the Scrip Table. Coupons are also available in the church office Monday—Thursday, 9:00AM-2:00PM. Tickets are \$5.00. This project benefits the Social Ministry.

Scout Troop 511 Hoagie Sales: Orders are due by Tuesday, September 30th and pick up will be Wednesday, October 8th. 8" hoagies are made from Dan's Deli, Cost is \$7.00. There are ham w/onion, ham no onion, turkey w/onion, turkey no onion, Italian w/onion, Italian no onion, cheese hoagie w/onion, cheese hoagie no onion, mayo, Italian dressing, no tomatoes, no lettuce, no cheese. There is a sign up sheet posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

Bibles are available in the rack in the Narthex for you to reference during worship. You may also take home to reference, please return when you are finished.

EPSON Desk Top Printer and Ink is available, if anyone is in need of a printer, <u>no cost</u>. For more information, please see Dennis Schaeffer.

Monthly Free-will Offerings 2025

A free-will offering is scheduled for the third Sunday of each month. They are as follows:

October 19 – Eastern Berks Fire Dept.

November 16 – Elf Bags (Multi-Service)

December – No free-will offering. Thank you for supporting the various Christmas giving opportunities.

Thank you for your contributions to these special causes!

Trinity's events for the upcoming week:

Sunday, September 28th- 9:15 Sunday School

Monday, September 29th-

Tuesday, September 30th- 6:30 Scouts Wednesday, October 1st- 6:30 TLC Stitchers

Thursday, October 2nd- 6:30 Sr. Choir Practice

10:30 Worship Service

6:30 Scouts

7:30 Cantata Practice

Sunday, October 5th- 8:00 Cont. Worship Serv. w/Communion

9:15 Sunday School

10:30 Worship Service w/Communion

Worship & Music Mtg 6:30 Finance Comm. Mtg.

Next Week's Worship Assistants: Sunday, October 5th:

Assisting Minister: Diane McElwee

Server: Sheila Eddinger

Ushers: Bill Eddinger* & Kay McGowan

Lector: Diane McElwee Acolyte: Vicki Mest

LAST WEEK'S STATISTICS: 09/21/2025

 $\frac{\text{Attendance}}{\text{Worship/S.S.}} \frac{\text{Offerings}}{\text{59/12}} \frac{\text{General}}{\text{$2,290.00}} \frac{\text{Hunger}}{\text{$10.00}}$

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE

Attendance Offerings
Worship
16 General Benevolence
\$490.00 0

Build. Maint.
\$60.00

Total Attendance 75 Total Offering \$2,780.00

Boyertown Area Multi-Service Non-Perishable Items Needed:

- 1. Paper Towels
- 2. Tissues
- 3. Laundry Detergent
- 4. Shampoo and Conditioner
- 5. Syrup
- 6. Pancake Mix
- 7. Instant Mashed Potatoes
- 8. Stuffing Mix
- 9. Hamburger Helper
- 10. Chef Boyardee Meals
- 11. Cake/Brownie Mix
- 12. Jelly
- 13. Peanut Butter
- 14. Canned Chicken
- 15. Canned Mixed Vegetables

Sodium free, sugar free, gluten free and low-fat items are also appreciated for clients with dietary restrictions.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING THOSE IN NEED.

The Community Clothing Rack Schedule

1st Wednesday Donations Accepted

2nd, 3rd & 4th Wednesdays Shoppers Welcome

> **2nd Thursday** Shoppers Welcome 6:00PM-8:00PM

5th Wednesday CLOSED

Hours 1:00PM-4:00PM

Summer Hours Only June-August 9:00AM-12:00PM

Closed on all major holidays.
In the case of inclement weather,
Refer to Boyertown Area School district closure.
CCR is a ministry of St. Luke Lutheran Church
Our mission is to serve Jesus Christ by providing
necessary clothing to the underserved.

www.StLukeGilbertsville.org

Readings for Personal Devotion



M Proverbs 22:2-16

T Proverbs 28:3-10

W Luke 9:43b-48

Th Ezekiel 18:5-24

F Revelation 3:14-22

Sa Psalm 62

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

The Rev. Dr. Eugene C. Zaiser, DMin.,
Pastor

Ms. LaRue Sheetz, Director of Music
Mrs. Karen J. Smith, Parish Secretary
Mrs. Catherine M. Yoder, Sexton
The Members of this Congregation are its
Ministers

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. (Or by Appointment)

1749 South Main Street, Bechtelsville, PA 19505 610-369-1281

Church Office E-Mail: trinitybech@outlook.com

Pastor Zaiser's E-Mail: pastorzaiser@outlook.com

Website: www.trinitybech.com











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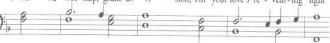
N SQUARE CMD

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

423



- 1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser vice Bore the weight of hu-man need, 2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home - less; Still the hun-gry cry for bread;
- Still your chil-dren wan-der home less; Still the hun-gry cry for bread;
 As we wor-ship, grant us vi sion, Till your love's re veal-ing light





Who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, Worked your mer - cy's per - fect deed:
Still the cap - tives long for free - dom; Still in grief we mourn our dead.
In its height and depth and great - ness Dawns up - on our quick-ened sight,





We, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship Not of voice a - lone, but heart;
As you, Lord, in deep com-pas - sion Healed the sick and freed the soul,
Mak-ing known the needs and bur - dens Your com-pas - sion bids us bear,



Con-se-crat - ing to your pur - pose Ev - 'ry gift which you im - part.

By your Spir - it send your pow - er To our world to make it whole.

Stir-ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, Your a - bun - dant life to share.



© Text: Albert F Bayly, b. 1901, alt. Time: The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844

BEACH SPRING 87 87 D

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1 O God of earth and al - tar, Bow down and hear our cry;
2 From all that ter - ror teach - es, From lies of tongue and pen,
3 Tie in a liv - ing teth - er The prince and priest and throll





Our earth - ly rul - ers fal - ter, Our peo - ple drift and die; From all the eas - y speech - es That com - fort cru - el men, Bind all our lives to - geth - er; Smite us, and save us all:









From sleep, and from dam - na - tion, De - liv - er us, good Lord!

Lift up a liv - ing na - tion, A sin - gle sword to thee.



CITY OF GOD © Text: Gilbert K. Cheste © Time: English folk tune

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