

**Trinity Evangelical
Lutheran Church**



**October 18, 2026
21st 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, Betty Moore, Kathy Gamler, Bill Brensinger, Becky Yescavage, Kathy Sell, Donna Day, Elaine Dotterer, Anna Spencer, RuthAnn Goode, Pete Schmoyer, Linda Bewley, Marcia Auge, Vicki Mest, Nadine Lydic, Clair Burkhart, Carole Mest, Bob McElwee, Chester Heydt and LaRue Sheetz.

Friends & Family:

Michelle Hiriak, Linda Stark, LeeAnn Prince, Verna Pomar, Loraine Pruitt, Catherine Muth, Matt Weller, Geroge Bayer, Jason Spencer and Ruth Sassaman.

Families Of:

Larry Clemons, Scott Thomas and Heidi Clark.

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

Christopher Heffner, Noah Heydt, Ben Rhode, Steven Herbst, David Crews, Jeff Lydic and Seth Kurtz.

**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!

October 18, 2026 21st Sunday after Pentecost

This morning we will be receiving a Free Will Offering for the Eastern Berks Fire Dept.

Today's Worship Assistants:

Ushers: Dan & Kathy Kuser

Lector: Pat Beekley

Acolyte: Erika Zaiser

The Altar Flowers are presented to the glory of God, by
Mrs. Karen Irey, in Memory of her Husband Barry's
Birthday.

The Bulletins are presented to the glory of God by
Lois Schwager, in Memory of My Husband Ronald's
Birthday.

The Eternal Flame Candle is presented to the glory of God by Sandy & Mark Yarnall, in Honor of Our Children, Liz, Mark Jr., and Michael.

- (those who are able may stand)

Prelude "Here, O My Lord, I See Thee"
 L. Wariner

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# 252
"You Servants of God"

- **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



A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Q** Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Q Lord, have mer - cy.



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



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Q Lord, have mer - cy.



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



let us pray to the Lord. **Q** Lord, have mer - cy.



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

• Hymn of Praise



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



Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa-ther:



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



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



You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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



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

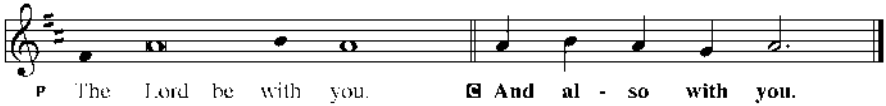


you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



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

- **Prayer of the Day**



- P Let us Pray ...

C Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

FIRST READING: Isaiah 45:1-7

The prophet announces that Cyrus the Persian emperor is the one the LORD has anointed to end Israel's exile. The LORD makes this choice so that the whole world will recognize this LORD as the only God. Persia had a god of light and a god of darkness; the LORD claims sovereignty over both light and darkness.

¹ Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and to strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him—and the gates shall not be closed: ² I will go before you and level the mountains; I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron; ³ I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. ⁴ For the sake of my servant Jacob and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name; I give you a title, though you do not know me. ⁵ I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, ⁶ so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. ⁷ I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the LORD do all these things.

PSALM: Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]

¹ Sing to the LORD | a new song;
sing to the LORD, | all the earth.

² **Sing to the LORD, bless the name | of the LORD;
proclaim God's salvation from | day to day.**

³ Declare God's glory a- | mong the nations
and God's wonders a- | mong all peoples.

⁴ **For great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised,
more to be feared | than all gods.**

⁵ As for all the gods of the nations, they | are but idols;
but you, O LORD, have | made the heavens.

⁶ **Majesty and magnificence are | in your presence;
power and splendor are in your | sanctuary.**

⁷ Ascribe to the LORD, you families | of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD hon- | or and power.

⁸ **Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the | holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts | of the
LORD.**

⁹ Worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness;
tremble before the LORD, | all the earth.

[¹⁰ **Tell it out among the nations: "The | LORD is king!
The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved
will judge the peo- | ples with equity."**

¹¹ Let the heavens rejoice, and let the | earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that | is
therein.

¹² **Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your
com- | ing, O LORD,
for you come to | judge the earth.**

¹³ You will judge the | world with righteousness
and the peoples | with your truth.]

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Most likely this letter is the first written by Paul. Paul gives pastoral encouragement and reassurances to new Christians living in an antagonistic environment. Their commitment of faith, love, and hope makes them a model for other new Christian communities.

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,
To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus
Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

² We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our
prayers, constantly ³ remembering before our God and Father your work of

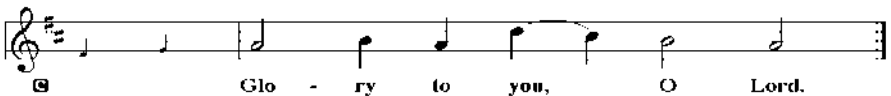
faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.⁴ For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you,⁵ because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake.⁶ And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy from the Holy Spirit,⁷ so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.⁸ For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it.⁹ For they report about us what kind of welcome we had among you and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

GOSPEL: Matthew 22:15-22

After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God's people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.



P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter



Presentation of the Gospel by Heart

¹⁵ The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said.¹⁶ So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality.¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?”¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are

you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ Then he said to them, "Whose head is this and whose title?" ²¹ They answered, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." ²² When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

P The Gospel of the Lord.



Senior Choir Anthem

"Change My Heart, O God"

J. Raney

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

LBW# 410

"We Give Thee but Thine Own"

• 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**

L 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:

L 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"

Postlude "Jesus Loves Even Me"
K. Renfrow

Reprinted from Sundays & Seasons 2026

A Special Thank You to all who came out and supported the Craft Show, it was a big success!!! Thank you also to the Men in the kitchen and to Dennis Schaeffer & Howard Shafer for arranging the tables and chairs in the Parish Hall and also a Big Thank You to Cathy Yoder for organizing this event and also to Sharon Renninger for organizing the Bake Sale. Many hands make light work!!!

A Special Thank You to Karen Ireby for her help in the church office this week.

FOUND—3 Different Colored Ice Packs in the Freezer on the stage. Please take home if they belong to you.

Today is the deadline for the November Newsletter, please submit your information to Karen in the Church Office.

Prayer Listing: Any changes to the Prayer List, please see Linda Ritter, Pastor Gene or contact the church office, in order for the change to be made in the November Newsletter.

There will be a Finance Committee Meeting on Tuesday, October 20th at 7PM in the Parish Hall. All members please make plans to attend.

Pumpkins and Pizza event on Sunday, October 25th, 4:30-7:00pm. All ages welcome! Bring your family and friends! There is a sign up sheet posted in the narthex.

Halloween: Cookies and hot chocolate for neighborhood trick-or-treaters Saturday, October 31st 6PM-9PM. If you can help or provide cookies, please see Pastor Gene.

There will be a Miller Keystone Blood Drive at St. Joseph's Hill Church, Boyertown on Saturday, November 7th 8AM-2PM. Thank You for giving the gift of Life.

Hoagie Fundraiser" for the General Fund. 8" hoagies from Maurizio's Pizza (formerly Pappa Bernards) cost \$8.00. The hoagies will be ham, Italian and turkey (onion, no onion). There is a sign up sheet posted on the bulletin board. **Orders are due by Sunday, November 8th and pick up on Friday, November 13th — 11:00AM-11:30AM. Please make checks payable to Dennis Schaeffer. Any questions, please see Dennis Schaeffer. Thank You for your support. Thank you also to Dennis Schaeffer for organizing this fundraiser.**

Once again orders will be taken for Shoe Fly Pies, Sticky Buns & Funny Cakes. Orders will be accepted until Sunday, November 8th. The cost of the ShoeFly Pies & Funny Cakes—\$8.50 each, Sticky Buns Plain \$8.50, w/nuts \$9.00 each. Pies & Cakes will be delivered on Sunday, November 15th. To place an order please see Linda Brunner. All proceeds will go towards the General Fund. Thank You for your support and to Linda Brunner for organizing this Fundraiser!

St. John's Lutheran Church, Boyertown will be hosting a "Salute to Our Veterans" on Sunday, November 8th at 3PM. Featuring the Boyertown East & West Middle School Choir & Keynote Speaker: Commander John Greason, U.S. Coast Guard (Retired), Bronze Star Recipient.

Youth Advent Activity "It Takes A Village" Sunday, November 29th 4PM-6PM. Our goal is to create a winter gingerbread village. Items Needed: Used Cereal boxes, Small Dairy or OJ cartons, graham crackers and lots of stale Halloween candy (i.e. licorice, skittles, gummies, etc.). Also donations of stale candies, tubes of white frosting, grahams (outdated is ok...but whole crackers is a must.) Tiny candy canes or gumdrops would be nice too! Also a donation of a train set for the evening would be super too! There will be a sign up sheet posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Pizza, drinks and fruit will be on hand.

The Discipleship Committee will be arranging a date in December to do Christmas caroling at Walnut Woods in Boyertown. If you would like to help us "make a joyful noise unto the Lord" please add your name to the sign up sheet in the narthex or see a committee member. (Walnut Woods does prefer a weekday afternoon for activities). More information to follow once a date has been selected.

Christmas Cantata "Hope Has Dawned, Noel" by Mary McDonald is Sunday, December 13th—10:30AM and the Snow Date and Encore Presentation will be Sunday, January 3rd at 3PM.

Trinity will again be participating with the Boyertown Area Multi-Service Angel Tree. More details to come....

Coffee Hour will continue on non-communion Sundays, please volunteer to host Coffee Hour in order for this time of fellowship to continue. There is a Sign Up Sheet posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

You may sponsor Altar Flowers, the cost of the flowers has increased for (1) vase \$34.00 and (2) vases \$68.00, 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. If you wish to sponsor the bulletins, the cost is \$15.00 to offset the cost of printing.

Trinity's Gift Card Program - Orders will be taken before and after the church service the first Sunday of the month and will be distributed at church the second Sunday of the month. Order forms for Redners, Giant, and Scrip will be available at church and the Scrip order form is also found on Trinity's website. Please note: Weis Markets cards (\$25, \$100) can be ordered through Scrip for those who physically shop at the store. Weis cards cannot be used for online orders. KOHL'S GIFT CARDS CANNOT BE USED TO PAY YOUR KOHL'S CHARGE. We apologize for any inconvenience. Payment must be submitted with your order; checks should be made out to Trinity Lutheran Church. Be sure to include your phone number on your order form.

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.

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.

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.

Devotionals are available in the rack in the Narthex. If you enjoy the devotionals, please make a donation to help offset the cost. Thank You.

Trinity's events for the upcoming week:

Sunday, October 18th- 8:00 Cont. Worship Serv.
 9:15 Sunday School
 10:30 Worship Service
 Tuesday, October 20th- 7:00 Finance Comm. Mtg.
 Wednesday, October 21st-6:30 TLC Stitchers
 7:00 Bible Study
 Thursday, October 22nd- 6:30 Sr. Choir Practice
 7:30 Cantata Practice
 Sunday, October 25th-**Reformation Sunday**
 9:15 Sunday School
 10:30 Worship Service
 w/Communion
 4:30 Youth Ministry
 Halloween Party

Next Week's Worship Assistants:
Sunday, October 25th:

Assisting Minister: Diane McElwee
 Server: Linda Ritter
 Ushers: Howard Shafer* & Dennis Schaeffer
 Lector: Sharon Kemp
 Acolyte: Bob Eshbach

LAST WEEK'S STATISTICS: 10/11/2026

<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offerings</u>	
<u>Worship/S.S.</u>	<u>General</u>	<u>Hunger</u>
49/9	\$4,235.00	\$60.00
	<u>Benevolence</u>	<u>Bldg. Maint.</u>
	0	\$150.00

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

November 15 – 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!



Earn up to 15% on Christmas presents, hostess gifts, and holiday entertaining

Give the gift that gives back

If you need a Christmas present, hostess gift, or groceries for holiday entertaining, gift cards are always a great choice - whether you shop using gift cards or give them as gifts. It's even more thoughtful because you're giving back to Trinity.

amazon

KOHL'S



Walmart

CARRABBA'S
ITALIAN GRILL

SEPHORA



Wawa

VISA

GIANT

R REDNER'S

weis

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,

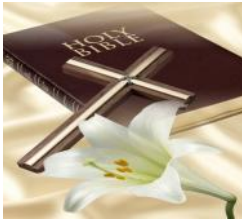
Refer to Boyertown Area School district closure.

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 Exodus 19:7-20
T Amos 9:5-15
W John 6:25-35
Th Song of Solomon 7:10--8:4
F Philippians 3:13--4:1
Sa Psalm 34

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

Mrs. Jennifer McCarron, 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

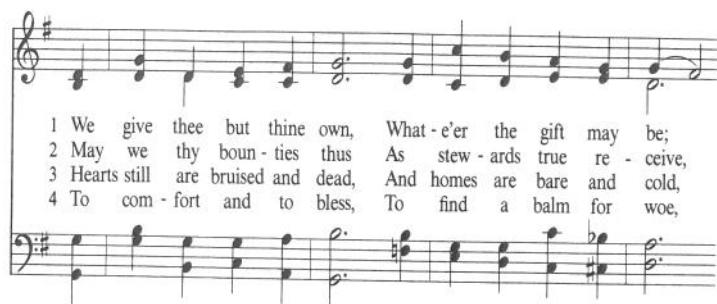
1 You ser-vants of God, your mas-ter pro-claim, And pub-lish a -
 2 Our God rules on high, al-might-y to save; And still he is
 3 Sal-va-tion to God who sits on the throne! Let all cry a -
 4 Then let us a-dore and give him his right, All glo-ry and

broad his won-der-ful name; The name, all-vic-to-rious, of
 nigh, his pres-ence we have. The great con-gre-ga-tion his
 loud and hon-or the Son. The prais-es of Je-sus the
 pow'r and wis-dom and might, All hon-or and bless-ing, with

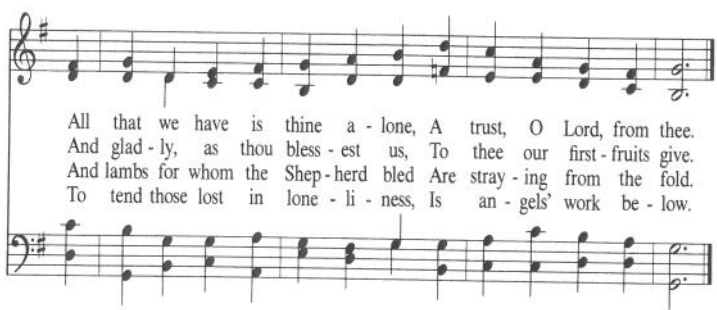
Je-sus ex-tol; His king-dom is glo-rious and rules o-ver all!
 tri-umph shall sing, As-crib-ing sal-va-tion to Je-sus, our king!
 an-gels pro-claim, Fall down on their fac-es, and wor-ship the Lamb.
 an-gels a-bove, And thanks nev-er ceas-ing, and in-fi-nite love!

We Give Thee but Thine Own

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1 We give thee but thine own, What - e'er the gift may be;
 2 May we thy boun - ties thus As stew - ards true re - ceive,
 3 Hearts still are bruised and dead, And homes are bare and cold,
 4 To com - fort and to bless, To find a balm for woe,



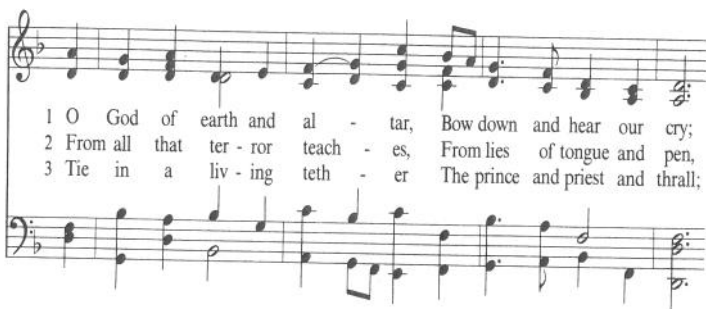
All that we have is thine a - lone, A trust, O Lord, from thee.
 And glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, To thee our first - fruits give.
 And lambs for whom the Shep - herd bled Are stray - ing from the fold.
 To tend those lost in lone - li - ness, Is an - gels' work be - low.

5 The captive to release,
 The lost to God to bring,
 To teach the way of life and peace—
 It is a Christlike thing.

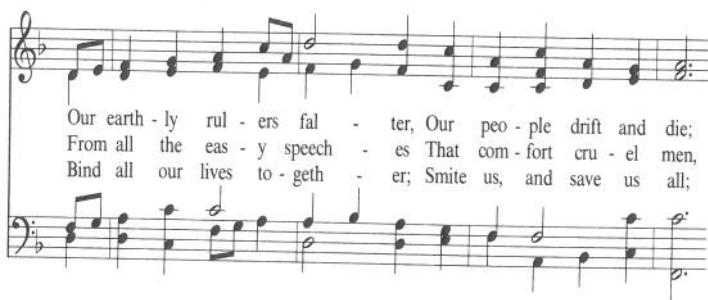
6 And we believe thy word,
 Though dim our faith may be:
 Whate'er we do for thine, O Lord,
 We do it unto thee.

O God of Earth and Altar

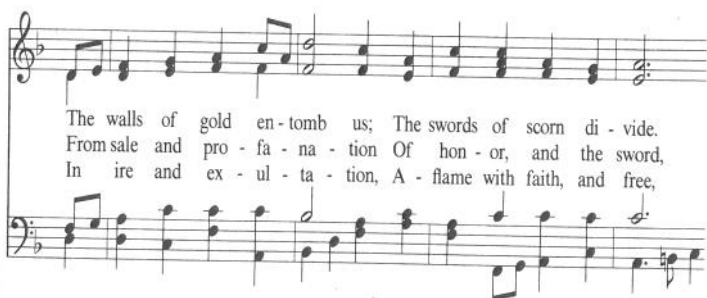
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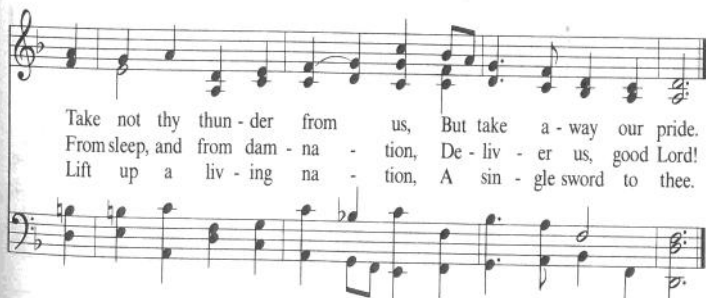
1 O God of earth and al - tar, Bow down and hear our cry;
2 From all that ter - ror teach - es, From lies of tongue and pen,
3 Tie in a liv - ing teth - er The prince and priest and thrall;



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;



The walls of gold en - tomb us; The swords of scorn di - vide.
From sale and pro - fa - na - tion Of hon - or, and the sword,
In ire and ex - ul - ta - tion, A - flame with faith, and free,



Take not thy thun - der from us, But take a - way our pride.
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.

