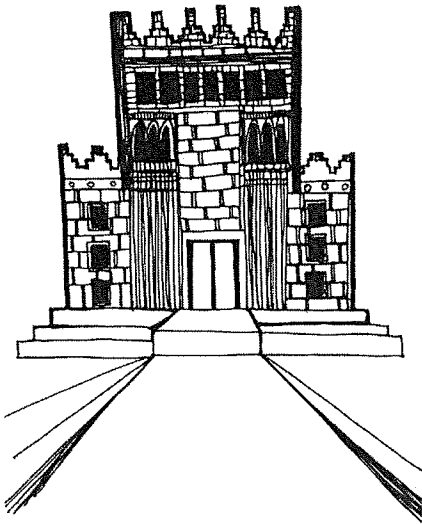


***FAITH LUTHERAN
CHURCH***

*170 Mansfield Ave.
Mount Vernon, Ohio 43050
(740) 393-3666*



Pastor
Rev. Cody Blust

Secretary
Pat Hoar

Choir & Bell Director
Shelley Grubb

Organist
Pete Lawhon

Gardens
Steve Conrad

Grounds
Will Melick

Custodian
Randy Peck

***OUR MISSION STATEMENT
“TO KNOW AND SHARE GOD’S LOVE”
INVITE SOMEONE TO CHURCH!!***

***Time after Pentecost
September 27, 2026***

***Worship Times 8:00 and 10:30 am
Sunday School 9:15 am
Fellowship Time 9:15 am***

† Indicates: Please Stand if Comfortable

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING OF PERSONAL CARE AND SCHOOL KITS

Prelude: Prelude and Fugue in G Major

by J.S. Bach

† **Call To Worship: 696 Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult vs. 1**

Jesus calls us; o'er the tumult of our
life's wild, restless sea, day by day his clear voice
sounding, saying, "Christian, follow me."

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

C: Amen.

P: Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate God,

C: we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

P: Hear this good news: We have peace with God through Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

C: Amen.

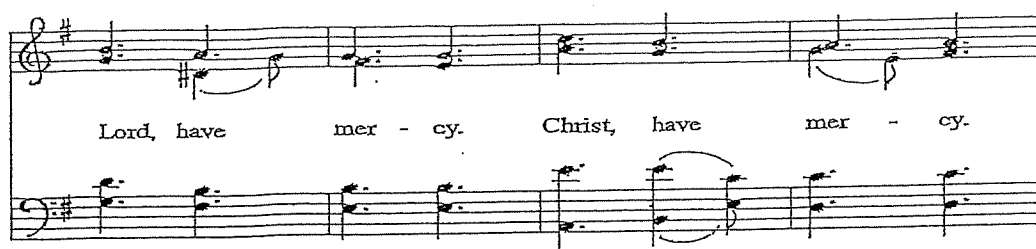
† **Hymn 814 Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am** (Sing thru twice)

† GREETING

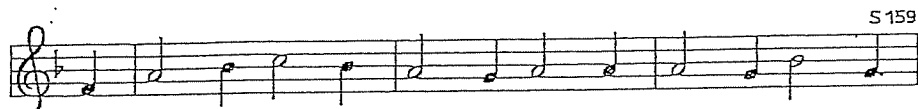
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Kyrie



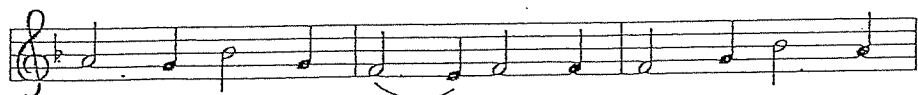
All Glory Be to God on High



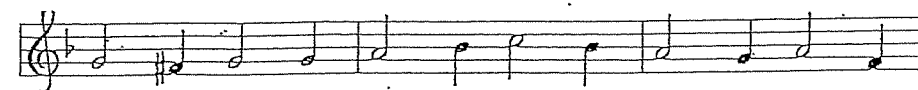
1 All glo - ry be to God on high, and peace to earth be
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the on - ly Son of God, cre - a - tion's
 3 To you a - lone, O God, we cry, the Ho - ly One we



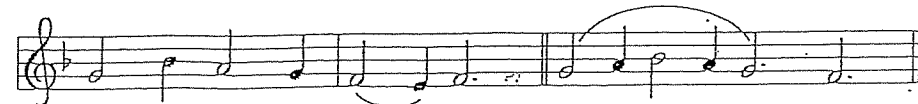
giv - en! Let an - gels sing, let all re - ply; good -
 au - thor, O Lamb of God, your death a - lone takes
 name you; for you a - lone are God most high, one



will breaks forth from heav - en! Lord God Al-might - y,
 sin a - way for - ev - er. Stretch out your arms to
 liv - ing, God we claim you: we wor - ship you, Lord



heav - en's king, we wor - ship you, our thanks we sing, we
 ev - 'ry land, and, as you reign at God's right hand, re -
 Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it ev - er - blest, in



praise you for your glo - ry.
 ceive our prayer; have mer - cy.
 God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us Pray:

God of love, giver of life,

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 Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Choir Anthem: Jesus is the Living Stone

First Lesson: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

¹The word of the Lord came to me: ²What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? ³As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins who shall die.

²⁵Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed, they shall die. ²⁷Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

³⁰Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

Psalm: 25:1-9 (*congregation reads the verses in bold*)

- ¹ To you, O LORD,
I lift up my soul.
- ² **My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**
- ³ Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.
- ⁴ **Show me your ways, O LORD,
and teach me your paths.**
- ⁵ Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the
day long.
- ⁶ **Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.**
- ⁷ Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake
of your goodness, O LORD.
- ⁸ **You are gracious and upright, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**
- ⁹ You lead the lowly in justice
and teach the lowly your way.

Second Lesson: Philippians 2:1-13

- ¹ If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love,
any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, ²
make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love,
being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish
ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better
than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests but
to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in
Christ Jesus,
- ⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be grasped,
- ⁷ but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
assuming human likeness.
- And being found in appearance as a human,
- ⁸ he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore God exalted him even more highly
 and gave him the name
 that is above every other name,
¹⁰ so that at the name given to Jesus
 every knee should bend,
 in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹ and every tongue should confess
 that Jesus Christ is Lord,
 to the glory of God the Father.

¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not
 only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on
 your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who is at
 work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good
 pleasure.



Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -

- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -

Hal - le - lu - jah.

lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Gospel Text: Matthew 21:23-32

²³ When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴ Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why, then, did you not believe him?’ ²⁶ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet.” ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸ “What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹ He answered, ‘I will not,’ but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

YOUTH MESSAGE

SERMON : “Stewardship: A Tale of Two Sons”

Hymn 806 O God, My Faithful God

† **APOSTLES' CREED** (*Page 105*)

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

† **INTERCESSORY PRAYERS**

P: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

† **SHARING THE PEACE**

The Offertory: Reflection on “Kremser”

by David Lasky





Create in Me a Clean Heart

Offering Song

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 your

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always.

C: Amen.

P: Let us join together in praying the 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**

BLESSING

P: The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus.

C: Amen.

P: The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The God of grace bless you now and forever.

C: Amen

Hymn 768 Lead Me, Guide Me

DISMISSAL

P: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Postlude on "Llangloffan"

by John S. Dixon

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WELCOME to the worship of the people of God who are Faith Lutheran Church. May you feel the presence of the Lord in our midst and hear His Word spoken to your heart. For more information contact us at faithlutheranmtvernon@gmail.com or check out our website at FLCMTV.org. Our mission at Faith Church is **To Know And Share God's Love.**

IF you are a ***GUEST***, you are invited to sign our guest book in the narthex with your name, and contact information, so we may give you a cordial welcome, and an invitation to return to worship with us soon. If you have children, please check out our Children's Activity Center on the wall in the narthex. Changing tables are available in Room 207 and Room 211 (Nursery). There is also a private mothers' space available in Room 214. Contact an usher if you need assistance.

FLOWERS on the altar are given by ***Art Schad & Shelley Grubb*** to the glory of God on the occasion of their wedding anniversary.

PRESCHOOL FUNDRAISER

Thursday, October 1 from 3:30 pm to 9:00 pm, help celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Preschool at Round Hill Dairy. See insert with more information.

"ATTITUDE of GRATITUDE"

You have many things to be thankful for, so jot one down on one of our yellow slips and put it in the little blue box.

MARY MARTHA BIBLE STUDY

The journey continues! Join us on October 13th at 1 pm in room 210 for the Bible study, "Bold Faith On An Unexpected Journey" Session 2 - "Choosing loyalty, finding love." led by Kathy Noblit. Copies of the study from Gather magazine are available on the narthex bulletin board or contact Marilyn Wilford. Refreshments will be furnished by Cheryl Johnson and we look forward to sharing this special time with you!

SAVE THE DATE

Faith will be hosting the Harvest Dinner (a celebration of our abundant harvest of the Knox County community gardens) again this year on Tuesday, October 13th from 5 - 6:30 pm. This is a sit-down community FREE meal. Come and bring your friends to enjoy a meal with a lot of the ingredients coming from our very own community garden as well as from many of the other community gardens of Knox County. Also watch for sign-up sheets to help with preparing and serving this meal in the next few weeks

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

Photo taking has begun!! Corrine will be in the narthex between services to answer any questions and to schedule times to get your pictures taken.

SERVING OUR LORD TODAY

	<u>8:00 am</u>	<u>10:30 am</u>
Ushers	Tom Noblit Mike Eesley	Cheryl Johnson Karen West
Readers	Linda Gehrisch	Shelley Grubb
Acolyte	Catherine Eesley	Stephen Volz
Altar Guild - Jill Park		
Tellers - Karen Greever and Tom Updike		

SERVING OUR LORD NEXT SUNDAY

	<u>8:00 am</u>	<u>10:30 am</u>
Ushers	Rick & Patty Keaton	Art & Corrine Lund
Readers	Kathy Noblit	Stephen Volz
Communion Assist	Bette Mishey	Sally Berger
Acolyte	Melissa Dexter	Will Pletcher
Altar Guild - Kathy Noblit		
Communion Committee: - Pat Ferenbaugh		
Tellers - Mike Eesley & John Hoffman		

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

My message for the past several weeks has been two-fold: Gratitude for your generous response to our need for additional funds AND a reminder that meeting our monthly expenses continues to be a challenge. Unfortunately, that challenge has reached a critical point once again. We are not receiving enough in weekly offerings to pay current expenses. Based on the 2026 Estimate of Spending, we need an average weekly offering of at least \$4500. Through the end of August our weekly average has been \$3700. As stewards of the congregation, the council is faced with reallocating portions of some designated funds to meet our operational expenses. If you have any questions regarding this, please contact me or any other council member. Thank you in advance for your continued stewardship and prayers in this regard.

Sally Berger,
Council President.

FAITH EVENTS

740-393-3666 email: faithlutheranmtvernon@gmail.com

Website: FLCMTV.org

YouTube Address

<https://www.youtube.com/@FaithLutheranChurchMTVernon>

CALENDAR FOR WEEK OF SEPT. 27 - Oct. 3, 2026

Today:	8 & 10:30 am	Worship Blessing of Personal Care and School Kits
	9:15 am	Sunday School
	9:15 am	Fellowship Time
	4:00 pm	Bell Choir
Mon	7:30 pm	AA
Thurs	9:00 am	SPOT (formerly TOPS)
	7:00 pm	Choir

PLEASE PRAY FOR: MEMBERS: Bob & Kathy Atwell, Jordan & Nico Barnard, Vicki Blubaugh, Joe Curran, Al Dexter, Larry Everhard, Jan Frye, Eileen Hartman, Carolyn Jacquet, Ann Jurkowitz, Kathy Lamb, Betty McDonald, Judy Mustaine, Dan Myers, Kathy Noblit, Stan Park, Fran Smyser.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY: Alan (friend of Art Schad), Linda, Marie, Linda Beach, Devin Boyer, Nora Burke & family, Purell Butts, Mike C, Aaron Everhard, Nick Frost, baby Gabriel (heart surgery, Texas), Kayla Gadd, Linda Galyon, Chester Gingerich, Grant, Lon Hamby, Susan Jeffery, John Jones, Eddie and Miranda Jones, Beth Kost, Barb, Marv & Rob Keck, Dean & Marilyn Kempton, Debra Kempton, Jerry Kies, Alan (Ann Dice's brother), Dr. William McFarren, Jim Major (friend of Pastor Mark Wildermuth), Scott Mickley, Tina Miller, Donald Morehour, Sue Moreland, Jake Morisi, Anderson O'Briskie, Philp's family (Washington State house fire), Quinton (friend of Alex Jones), Shirley Ramsay, Julie & Brian Ramsey, Bruce Renne, Jan Rice, Sam Robert, Mona Russell and Heather & Danielle, Karen Scott, Wayne Snyder, Gabe & Micah Stauffer, Willow Steiner, an 8 month old with "Spitz" cancer, Martha Stuller, Becky Thomas, Josie Watts, Pam Wolfe, Karen Zedeker, and all others on our hearts and minds.

PRAYER SHAWL RECIPIENTS (in the last three months): Marianna Wolk, Billie Maglott, Esther Gillett, Glenn Dyer, Royce Jordan, Dani Bee, Warren Blair, Barb, **Brian Dodd, Barbara Mickley, Ruth, Jamie Lynn Turner.**

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY: Gavin Thomas, Master Sargent Christopher Dominick.

Bold indicates new.

50th Anniversary Celebration!



Join us for a Night Out & Support Our Preschool.

We are excited to announce a special fundraiser at
Round Hill Dairy benefitting Faith Lutheran
Preschool!



Thursday, October 1
3:30pm – 9pm



Bring your family and friends and join us for a fun night out while supporting our preschool! Your participation helps us continue providing a loving, nurturing, and Christ centered learning environment for our children.

We hope to see you there! Thank you for supporting
Faith Lutheran Christian Preschool.



Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am

814

The musical score is written for a two-part setting, likely for voice and piano. It is in the key of B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. The first system contains the first two lines of the song. The vocal line (treble clef) begins with a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, and then a half note Bb4. The piano accompaniment (bass clef) consists of a steady eighth-note pattern in the left hand and a half-note pattern in the right hand. The second system contains the next two lines. The vocal line continues with a half note C5, followed by a quarter note D5, and then a half note E5. The piano accompaniment continues with the same pattern. The third system contains the final two lines. The vocal line ends with a half note F5, followed by a quarter note G5, and then a half note A5. The piano accompaniment ends with a half note Bb4, followed by a quarter note A4, and then a half note G4. The lyrics are: 'Take, oh, take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall be; set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.'

Take, oh, take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall be;

set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

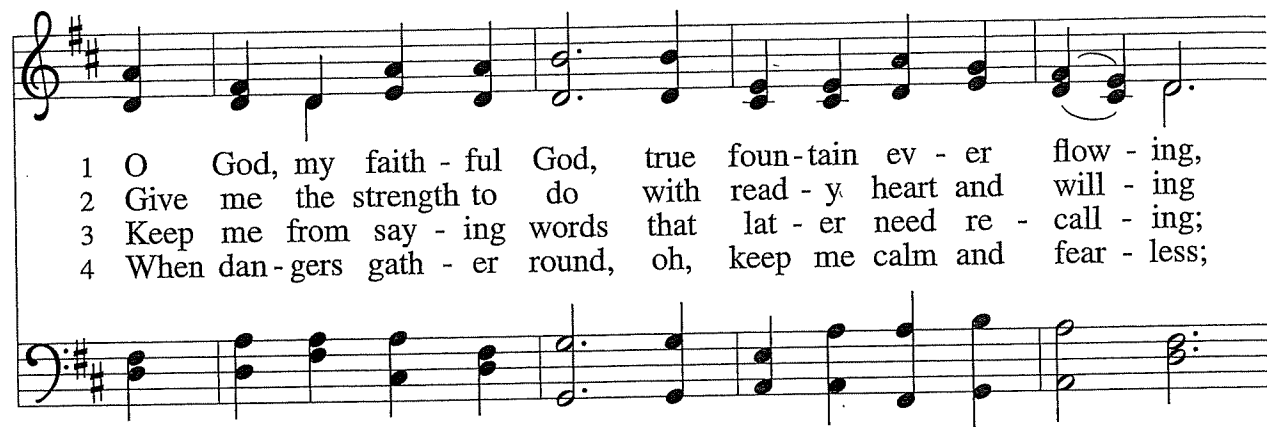
Music: John L. Bell

Text and music © 1995 Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc.

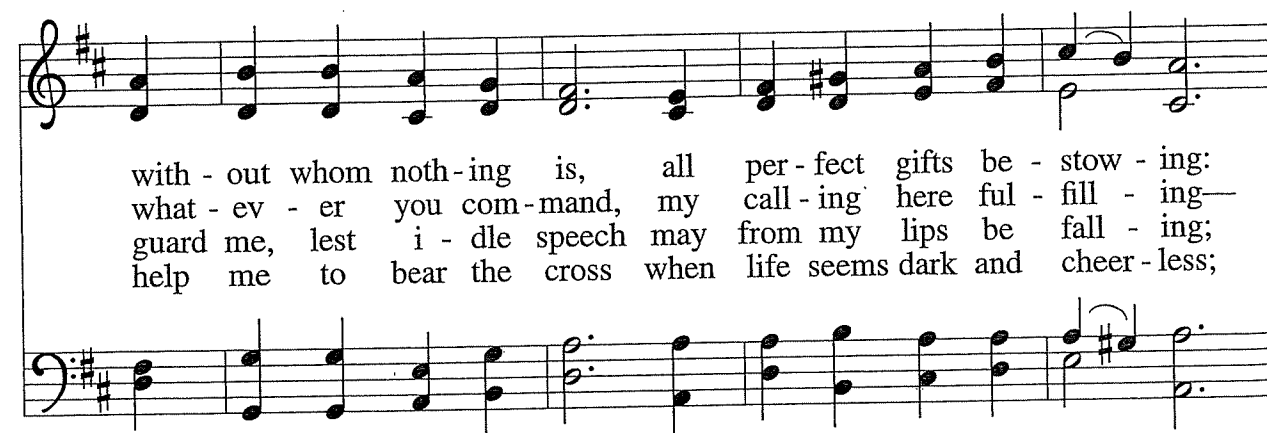
TAKE ME AS I AM

7774

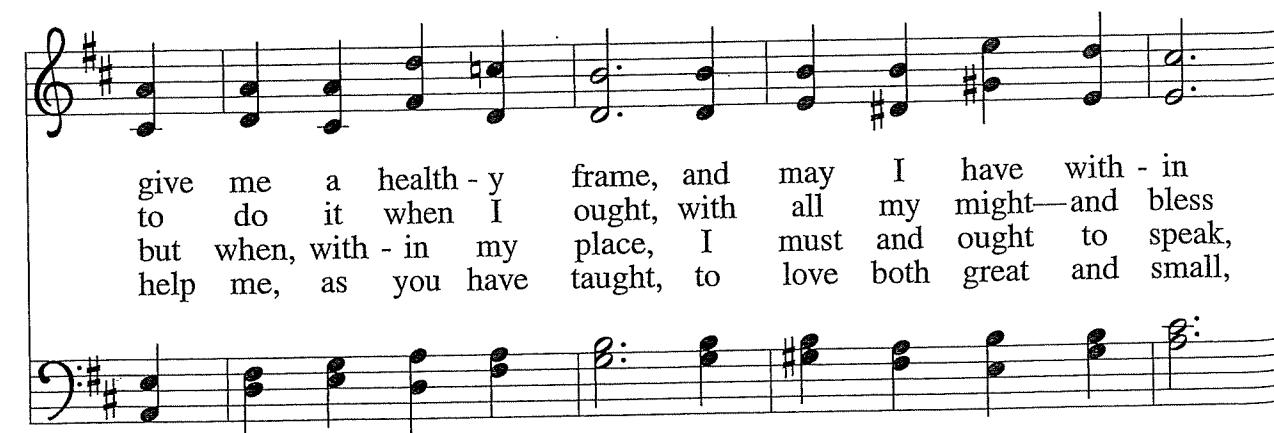
O God, My Faithful God



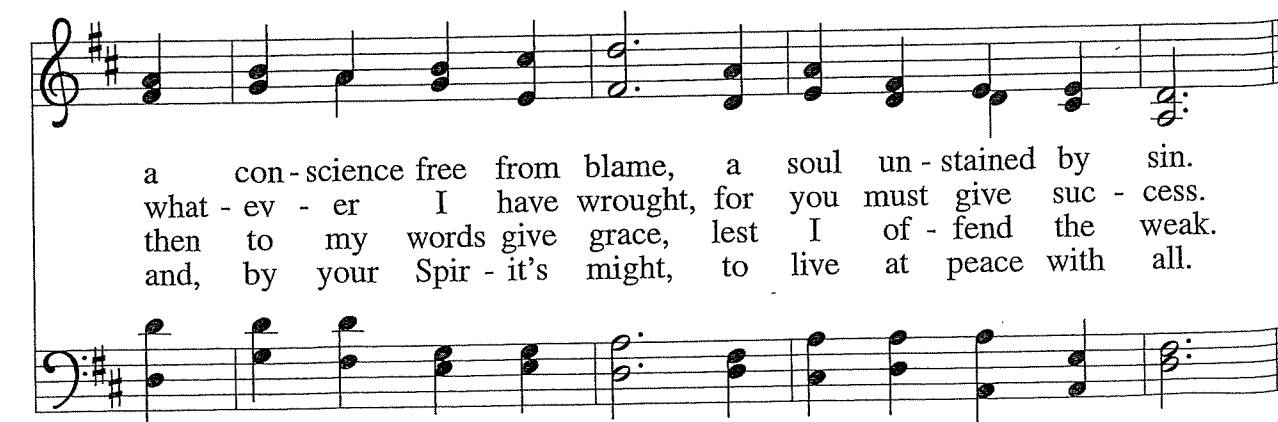
1 O God, my faith - ful God, true foun-tain ev - er flow - ing,
 2 Give me the strength to do with read - y heart and will - ing
 3 Keep me from say - ing words that lat - er need re - call - ing;
 4 When dan - gers gath - er round, oh, keep me calm and fear - less;



with - out whom noth - ing is, all per - fect gifts be - stow - ing:
 what - ev - er you com - mand, my call - ing here ful - fill - ing—
 guard me, lest i - dle speech may from my lips be fall - ing;
 help me to bear the cross when life seems dark and cheer - less;



give me a health - y frame, and may I have with - in
 to do it when I ought, with all my might—and bless
 but when, with - in my place, I must and ought to speak,
 help me, as you have taught, to love both great and small,

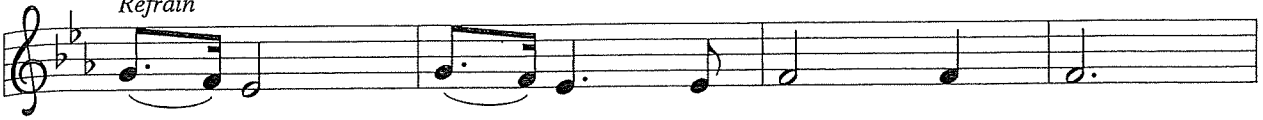


a con - science free from blame, a soul un - stained by sin.
 what - ev - er I have wrought, for you must give suc - cess.
 then to my words give grace, lest I of - fend the weak.
 and, by your Spir - it's might, to live at peace with all.

Lead Me, Guide Me

768

Refrain



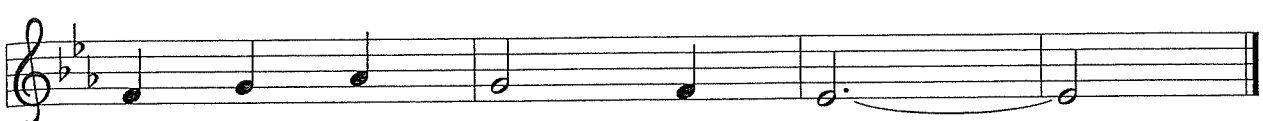
Lead me, guide me, a - long the way;



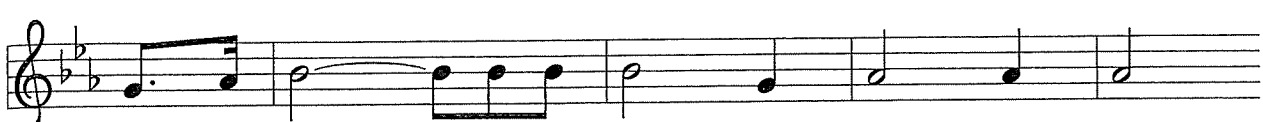
for if you lead me, I can - not stray.



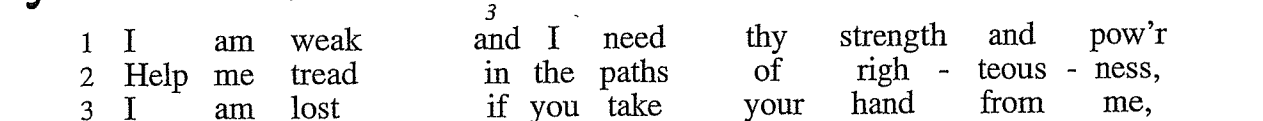
Lord, let me walk each day with thee.



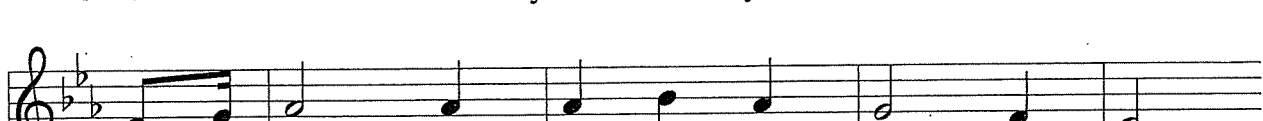
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.



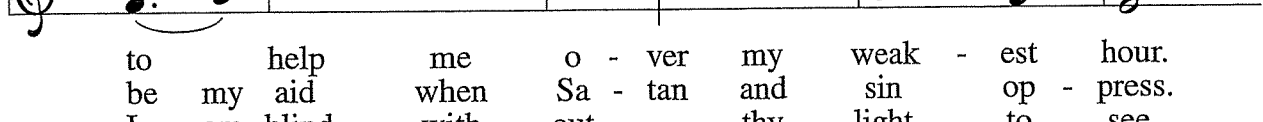
1 I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r



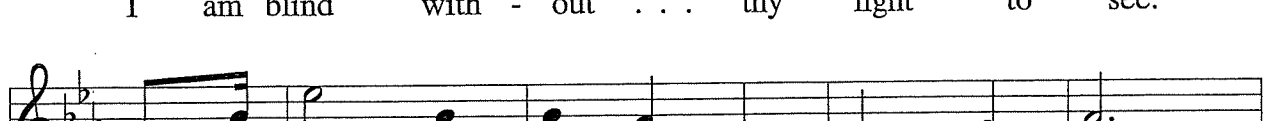
2 Help me tread in the paths of righ - teous - ness,



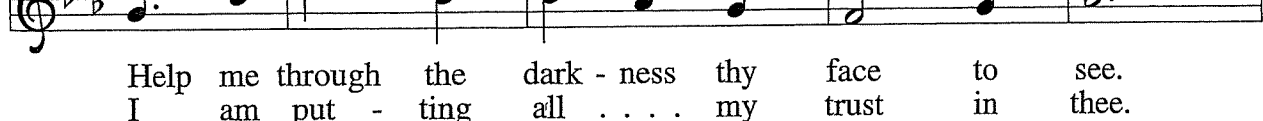
3 I am lost if you take your hand from me,



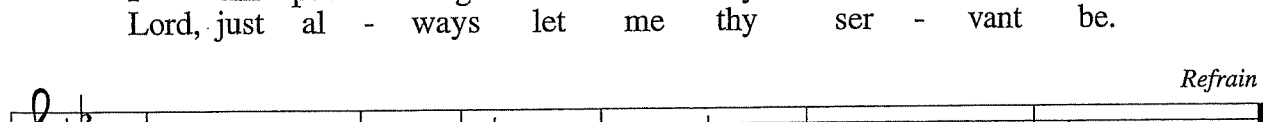
to help me o - ver my weak - est hour.



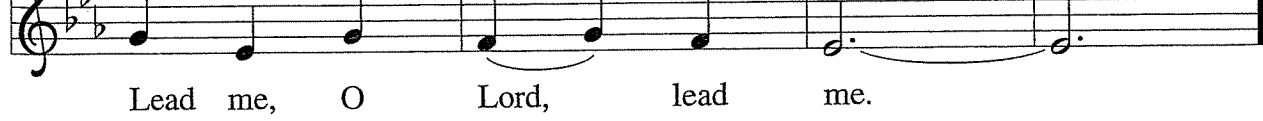
be my aid when Sa - tan and sin op - press.



I am blind with - out . . . thy light to see.



Help me through the dark - ness thy face to see.



I am put - ting all . . . my trust in thee.



Lord, just al - ways let me thy ser - vant be.

Refrain



Lead me, O Lord, lead me.