

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
229 South Broad Street
Jersey Shore, PA 17740
570-398-1676

Sunday, October 10, 2021
20th Sunday after Pentecost

Introduction to the day

The rich man who comes to ask Jesus what he should do to inherit eternal life is a good man, sincere in his asking. Mark's gospel is alone in saying that Jesus looked on him and loved him. Out of love, not as judgment, Jesus offers him an open door to life: sell all you own and give it to the poor. Our culture bombards us with the message that we will find life by consuming. Our assemblies counter this message with the invitation to find life by divesting for the sake of the other.

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRELUDE

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless.
Amen.

P. Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.
Silence is kept for reflection.

God our comforter:

like lost sheep, we have gone astray.

We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity.

We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression.

We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed.

Free us from our sin, gracious God. Listen when we call out to you for help.

Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.

P: All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.
By the gift of grace in ☩ Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.
Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG: LORD OF LIGHT 688

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE: *Gather Us In 532*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us your gift of faith, that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to what lies ahead, we may follow the way of your commandments and receive the crown of everlasting joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Amos 5:6-7, 10-15

Amos was a herdsman by profession and a prophet by God's call. During a time of great prosperity in the northern kingdom of Israel, the prophet speaks to the wealthy upper class. He warns his listeners that fulfilling God's demand for justice brings blessing, while corruption and oppression incur God's wrath.

⁶Seek the LORD and live,
or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire,
and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it.

⁷Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood,
and bring righteousness to the ground!

¹⁰They hate the one who reproves in the gate,
and they abhor the one who speaks the truth.

¹¹Therefore because you trample on the poor
and take from them levies of grain,
you have built houses of hewn stone,
but you shall not live in them;
you have planted pleasant vineyards,
but you shall not drink their wine.

¹²For I know how many are your transgressions,
and how great are your sins—
you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe,
and push aside the needy in the gate.

¹³Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time;
for it is an evil time.

¹⁴Seek good and not evil,
that you may live;
and so the LORD, the God of hosts, will be with you,
just as you have said.

¹⁵Hate evil and love good,
and establish justice in the gate;
it may be that the LORD, the God of hosts,
will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 90:12-17

So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom. (Ps. 90:12)

¹²So teach us to number our days
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

¹³**Return, O LORD; how long will you tarry?
Be gracious to your servants.**

¹⁴Satisfy us by your steadfast love in the morning;
so shall we rejoice and be glad all our days.

¹⁵**Make us glad as many days as you afflicted us
and as many years as we suffered adversity.**

¹⁶Show your servants your works,
and your splendor to their children.

¹⁷**May the graciousness of the Lord our God be upon us;
prosper the work of our hands; prosper our handiwork.**

Second Reading: Hebrews 4:12-16

We cannot hide our thoughts, desires, and actions from God, to whom we are completely accountable. Nevertheless, Jesus understands our human weakness and temptations, because he also experienced them. Therefore we can approach the throne of grace to receive divine mercy from Christ.

¹²Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

¹⁴Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



P: The holy gospel according to Mark.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Mark 10:17-31

Jesus has been teaching his disciples about what is most valued in God’s eyes. Now, a conversation with a rich man brings his message home to the disciples in a way that is surprising but unforgettable.

¹⁷As [Jesus] was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” ¹⁸Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. ¹⁹You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.’” ²⁰He said to him, “Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.” ²¹Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” ²²When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

²³Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” ²⁴And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” ²⁶They were greatly astounded and said to one another, “Then who can be saved?” ²⁷Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.”

²⁸Peter began to say to him, “Look, we have left everything and followed you.” ²⁹Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, ³⁰who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. ³¹But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The assembly is seated.

SERMON - Setting our Priorities - Will those who have the most toys go to heaven?

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Take My Life, that I May Be* 685

APOSTLES CREED

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

A: Uniting God, you call forth different gifts in those who follow you. Encourage us to welcome the diverse benefits and blessings of the whole church in teaching, preaching, prophecy, healing, and more. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Nurturing God, you bring forth crops from the soil and bounty from the trees. Increase the produce of the land and bless all who toil in fields and orchards. Provide for good working conditions and keep them safe. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Empowering God, you offer compassion for those who are overlooked or forgotten. Open the hearts of local, national, and world leaders to show such compassion and love for their neighbors. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Sheltering God, in Jesus you travelled among us without a place to lay your head. Provide safe places to sleep and rest for those who have no place to live. Sustain ministries that offer food, clothing, and peace of mind (*local ministries may be named*). Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Renewing God, you bring life out of death. Help us part with those things that are no longer beneficial to us and open our hearts to see where new life is budding in this congregation. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Lord, we pray for all those in Liberia who have been affected by COVID 19. We look forward to a time when this pandemic will be behind us. Lord, in your mercy.

C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: Eternal God, we thank you for the lives of those who have died (*especially*). Make us confident in your promise of salvation and support us in our own journey of faith. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Our Offerings

CHOIR ANTHEM *The Wonder of Creation*

OFFERTORY

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit with me.

Cast me not away from your presence and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

OFFERING PRAYER

God of abundance,

you cause streams to break forth in the desert
and manna to rain from the heavens.

Accept the gifts you have first given us.

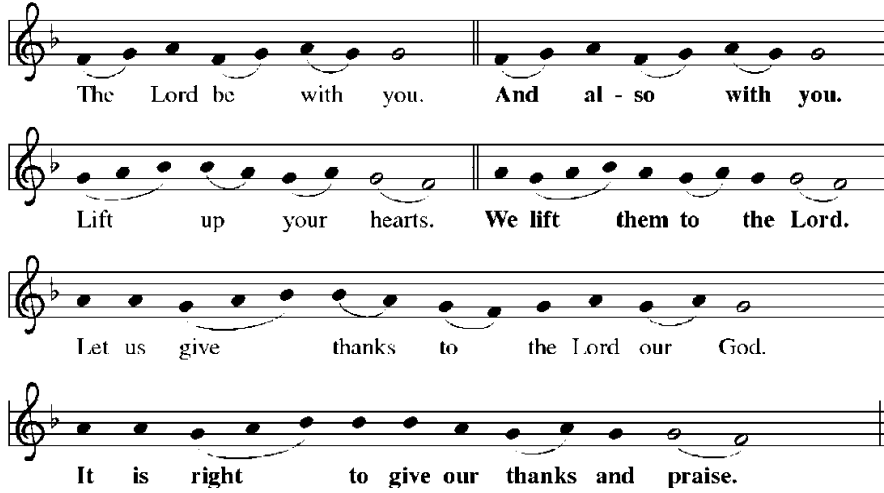
Unite them with the offering of our lives

to nourish the world you love so dearly;

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

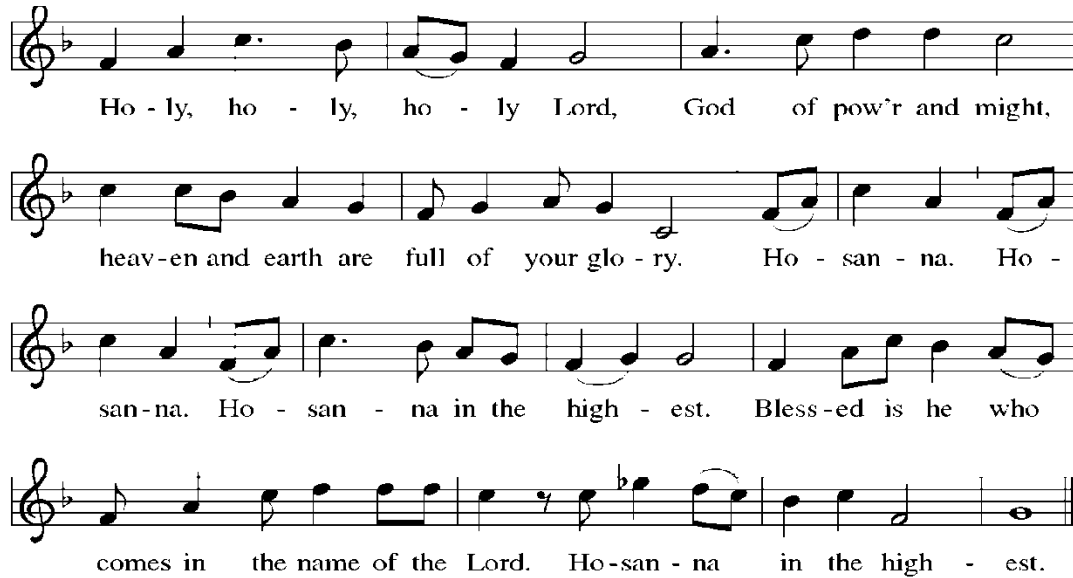
Amen

DIALOGUE



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

PREFACE BY PASTOR HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal:
you we praise and glorify, you we worship and adore.

You formed the earth from chaos;
you encircled the globe with air;
you created fire for warmth and light;
you nourish the lands with water.
You molded us in your image,
and with mercy higher than the mountains,
with grace deeper than the seas,

you blessed the Israelites and cherished them as your own.

That also we, estranged and dying,
might be adopted to live in your Spirit,
you called to us through the life and death of Jesus.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Together as the body of Christ,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Son,
the first-born of your new creation.
We remember his life lived for others,
and his death and resurrection, which renews the face of the earth.
We await his coming,
when, with the world made perfect through your wisdom,
all our sins and sorrows will be no more.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, holy and merciful one, holy and compassionate,
send upon us and this meal your Holy Spirit,
whose breath revives us for life,
whose fire rouses us to love.
Enfold in your arms all who share this holy food.
Nurture in us the fruits of the Spirit,
that we may be a living tree, sharing your bounty with all the world.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Holy and benevolent God,
receive our praise and petitions,

as Jesus received the cry of the needy,
and fill us with your blessing,
until, needy no longer and bound to you in love,
we feast forever in the triumph of the Lamb:
through whom all glory and honor is yours, O God, O Living One,
with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, now and forever.

Amen.

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.**

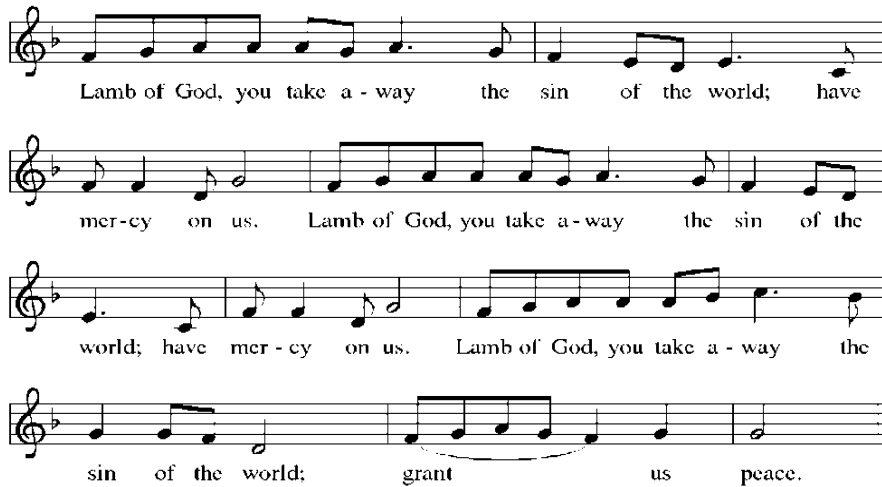
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: All who hunger and thirst, come. The table is ready.

COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say
The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond **Amen.**

COMMUNION SONG



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.

SONG AFTER COMMUNION *Jesus, Remember Me*

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood

you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation.

Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy,

bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

People of God, you are Christ's body,
bringing new life to a suffering world.

The holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG: *Faith Begins by Letting Go ACS 1004* insert p. 14

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

We extend our sympathies to the family of David Kuehl who died on September 30, 2021. The funeral was on Saturday, October 9, 2021 with military rights at Rest Haven Cemetery.

Announcements

We welcome our visitors and ask that you sign a Visitor Attendance and Holy Communion Card that is located in the pew rack. We ask that cards be returned via the offering plate during the receiving of the offering. We practice “open Communion” here at St. John meaning that all who believe in the “real presence” of Christ are welcomed to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We offer two choices for Holy Communion, wine or grape juice. Those worshipers desiring grape juice are asked at the communion rail to place their right hand over their heart after receiving “The Body of Christ”.

Remember in prayer: Rowan Aldridge, Luke Antolick, Stan Breon, Agnes Cryder, Charlie Dunne, Joanne Fisher, Joyce Hudson, Bud Long, David Mitchell, Bob and Phyllis Moriarity, Kathy Neal, Ruth Nice, Jean Ann Snyder, Shane Snyder, John Truax, and all of our shut-ins; the safety of our military troops around the world (Mark Baier, Isaac Boring, Loudon Boring, Jake Cordrey, Patrick Hamlin, Paul Laidacker, Kenny Leitch, Steven Moore, Maddison Myers, Tyler O’Neal, Adam Shaffer, Richie Speicher, Aaron Stabley, Paul St. James, Jenna White); Family Promise. Bishop Eaton, our Presiding Bishop; and Bishop Collins, Bishop of the Upper Susquehanna Synod. For our Companion Synod in Liberia and Ansbach-Wurzburg, Germany; and for the New Love Center as it seeks to build a new food hub.

Special Thanks to this week’s helpers: Lector–Karen Aucker; Assisting Ministers – Bill Ely, Jr and Ken Dougherty; Head Usher –Dawn McClosky; Teller –Kaye Long; Bulletin Sponsor – Betty Allen.

Next week’s helpers: Lector – Shane Snyder; Assisting Ministers – Gary Johnson, Karen Aucker; Head Usher –Dawn McClosky; Teller –Kaye Long; Bulletin Sponsor – Betty Allen; Flowers – Chuck and Laurel Gottschall

The Sanctuary Candle is sponsored in memory of loved ones by Dave and Christine Barner.

The altar flowers are given in honor of my most loyal, dedicated, best friend’s birthday who is always there for me and ALL of us! Happy Birthday, Becky Ward from Joyce Braucht!

Card Shower – Stella and Jim Bard will be married 65 years on October 26. To celebrate this anniversary with them we invite you to send them a card congratulating them on their 65th anniversary. Mail the cards to:
Mr. & Mrs. Jim & Stella Barnard
502 Pinecreek Ave
Jersey Shore PA 17740-9216

The Lutheran Church Women’s Prayer Chain is a vital ministry of St. John Lutheran. Anyone in need of prayers is asked to contact any of the following persons:

Gloria Ely – 570-873-3597
Sarah Davidson - 570-398-0659
Joyce Braucht - 570-398-2852

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, October 10, 2021

20th Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 a.m. Sunday School Starts

9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service **APPLE DUMPLING ORDERS DUE**

1:00 p.m. Youth Bike Ride at Waterville DCNR parking lot

CROP WALK

7:00 p.m. NA meeting

Monday, October 11, 2021

P B & J Day

10:00a.m. Bible Study

BSA

7:30 p.m. N/A meeting

Wednesday, October 13, 2021

10:00 a.m. Worship at Trinity Episcopal Church

6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

7:30 p.m. N/A meeting

Thursday, October 14, 2021 6:00 p.m. Prepare Apple Dumplings

Friday, October 15, 2021

7:00 a.m. cook dumplings

9:00 a.m. – noon pick up Apple Dumplings

Sunday, October 17, 2021

21st Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 a.m. Sunday School Starts

9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service

Healing Service

2:00 p.m. Catechism

7:00 p.m. NA meeting



Other upcoming events!

Saturday, October 23

9:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m. St James Lutheran Church Annual Bazaar

Thursday, November 4

6:30 p.m. First Responders Dinner at St. John

Sunday, November 7

Fall Cash Sunday—Council voted to designate the monies to the repair of the pipe organ.

Short **Women of the Church meeting** after the service to review plans for the Bazaar

Saturday, December 4

9:00 a.m. - 2:00 pm. St John's Annual Bazaar

Thank you to the congregation for my 65th birthday gift. Pastor Aucker

YOUTH MINISTRY

Elementary and Middle School Youth

Join us for a bike ride Sunday, **October 10**, 1:00 p.m. at the Waterville Parking lot. We will take a ride from Waterville to Jersey Mills and back and then go for ice cream. Bring your bikes, your parents, and enjoy a Fall afternoon.

Calling all High School Youth!

Join us Monday evening, **October 25**, 6:00 p.m. at St. John Lutheran, 229 South Broad Street. Dinner provided.

Topic: "Fun with Finance" Mrs. Heydrich will led us on some practical skills such as understanding paycheck deductions, paying bills, how to write a check, budgeting, interest in and interest out.

Christmas in the Grove at Knoebels

Saturday, **December 4**, leave 3:30 pm. We will stop for lunch along the way to Knoebels' Grove where we will drive through a spectacular Christmas light display.

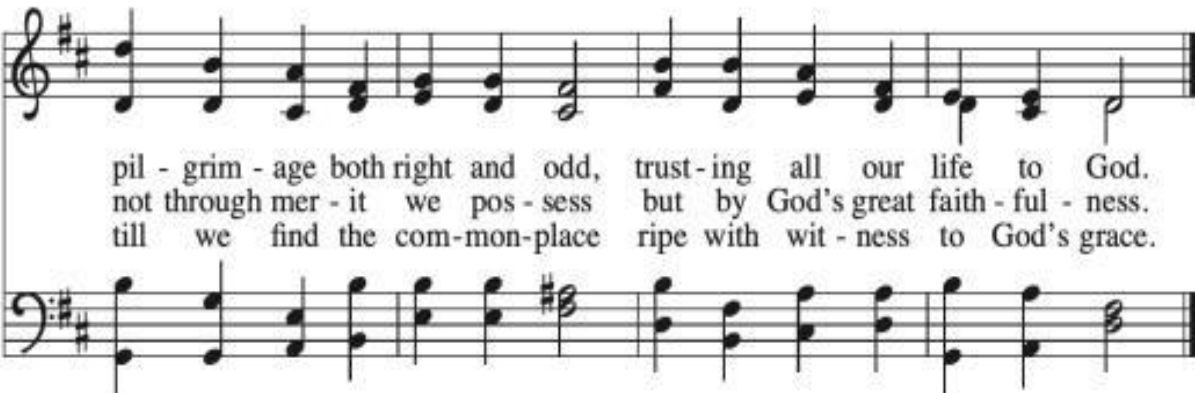
Faith Begins By Letting Go



1 Faith be - gins by let - ting go, giv - ing up what had seemed sure,
2 Faith en - dures by hold - ing on, keep - ing mem - 'ry's roots a - live
3 Faith ma - tures by reach - ing out, stretch - ing minds, en - larg - ing hearts,



tak - ing risks and press - ing on, though the way feels less se - cure:
so that hope may bear its fruit; prom - ise - fed, our souls will thrive,
shar - ing strug - gles, liv - ing prayer, bind - ing up the bro - ken parts;



pil - grim - age both right and odd, trust - ing all our life to God.
not through mer - it we pos - sess but by God's great faith - ful - ness.
till we find the com - mon - place ripe with wit - ness to God's grace.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944
Music: RATISBON, J. G. Werner, *Choralbuch*, 1815
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