

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
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June 21, 2026 † The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

St. John's Lutheran Church is a supporting congregation Calvary Lutheran High School, Jefferson City, 638-0228.

Welcome Pastor Gerald Scheperle, officiating today while Pastor Whittle remains on vacation. Pastor Whittle will be back in the office tomorrow.

Today the paraments are green, following Pentecost. During this part of the church year, we focus on Jesus' teaching more than the events of His life, as we learn to grow in the faith given to us.

The Lord's Supper is celebrated today. If you have been instructed and confirmed in the Lutheran faith and believe that with the bread and wine Christ gives you His true body and blood for the forgiveness of your sins and belong to the LCMS fellowship, you are invited to join in this blessed Sacrament. Gluten-free wafers are available; speak with Pastor or an elder prior to worship. (If you are desiring to commune for the first time at St. John's as a Lutheran or you are a non-Lutheran, **please see the pastor prior to the service**).

Sunday, June 14, 2026:

Information unavailable at this time

Calvary Lutheran High School News and Information

BE A LION! – As we prepare for the 2026-2027 academic year, we look forward to greeting many new students on campus! We offer an awesome high school experience with our caring faculty, safe Christian atmosphere, strong academics, and numerous activities and athletics. If you know a family with a high school student that would thrive in this environment, please reach out to them and us! The first new family orientation is Monday, June 15 at 7 p.m. We would love to share more about Calvary! Contact our office at 573-638-0228 or administrator@calvarylhs.org.

YOUTH & HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL CAMPS – Coach Wehmeyer will be offering **2 Boys Youth Basketball Camps** on Thursday & Friday, July 9 & 10. He and Coach Hagemeyer are excited to work with athletes on dribbling, passing, shooting and teamwork. Here is a rundown of times for the camps. These events are free of charge! Please RSVP by calling the Calvary office at (573)-638-0228.

Grades 5 & 6 Boys at 10-11:30am

Grades 7 & 8 Boys at 1-2:30pm

YOUTH BOYS BASEBALL – Incoming 4th through 8th graders are invited to join us from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30a.m. on July 14, 15 and 16th for Calvary's Youth Baseball Camp! Infield, outfield, hitting, pitching, and catching will all be covered. This event is free of charge! Please RSVP by calling the Calvary office at (573) 638-0228.

BE PART OF THE TEAM – Calvary is seeking mission-minded individuals to serve in the roles of Assistant Volleyball Coach and teaching one period of Algebra 1. Applications can be submitted to John Christman at administrator@calvarylhs.org or Jon Moberly at athletics@calvarylhs.org

THRIVENT ACTION TEAMS – Are you a Thrivent member and have Thrivent Action Team grants available? If you would like to help with projects at Calvary, we have a number of special summer projects that could be blessed by an action team grant! Contact John Christman to find out about upcoming projects.

STAY UP-TO-DATE ON CALVARY'S GIFT – Stay in the loop as to what delightful items are currently available or on sale at Calvary's Gift by following on Facebook! Hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. As you have time this summer new volunteers would be greatly appreciated! If you would like more information, stop in to talk to any of the volunteers, or visit linktr.ee/calvarylhs to apply.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS – Calvary's office will be closed on Fridays in June & July. We are happy to serve Monday – Thursday, 8 AM to 4 PM.

Happening at St. John's:

State-wide Diaper Drive! Lutherans for Life of Missouri is collecting diapers and wipes to give to local pregnancy centers to support new babies. Now through Father's Day, bring diapers, wipes, or cash, and they will be given to a pregnancy center in our area.

Celebrate Fathers' Day in style! The annual Ice Cream Social is today, from 3:30 until 7. Donations of desserts and homemade ice cream would be greatly appreciated. We would also love to have your help!

“Committed, present, and selfless fathers are the antidote to the culture that has embraced abortion. If we want to end abortion and restore a culture of life, then we need men to embrace fatherhood. We need to take on the great mission, the life-long quest of courage, servitude, and faith. So, let's cheer on fathers for the amazing work they do. They're shaping the future, one day at a time, with God's love as their guide.” *Jeff Gunnarson, Campaign Life Coalition – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

ESSENTIAL EXERCISE FOR THE CHRISTIAN MIND... Issues, Etc. is a podcast and radio talk show produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. Recent topics include: A Lutheran View of Psychiatry, The Crusades, Roman Catholicism on Faith, The Comfort of Lutheran Doctrine, Pro-Life Feminism and more. You can listen on-demand at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app of your favorite podcast provider.

This week:

Sunday, 6/21 9am Sunday School / Adult Bible Class / LYF
 10am Divine Service
 3:30pm Ice Cream Social

Sunday, 6/28 9am Sunday School / Adult Bible Class / LYF
 10am Divine Service

Confession and Absolution

728 How Firm a Foundation

- 1 How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He has said
Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?
- 2 “Fear not! I am with you, O be not dismayed,
For I am your God and will still give you aid;
I’ll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.
- 3 “The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose
I will not, I will not, desert to his foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I’ll never, no never, no never, forsake!
- 4 “When through fiery trials your pathway will lie,
My grace, all-sufficient, will be your supply.
The flames will not hurt you; I only design
Your dross to consume and your gold to refine.
- 5 “Throughout all their lifetime My people will prove
My sov’ reign, eternal, unchangeable love;
And then, when gray hairs will their temples adorn,
Like lambs they will still in My bosom be borne.”

Text: A Selection of Hymns, 1787, London, alt.
Text: Public domain

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Exhortation

LSB 184

- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**
P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

LSB 184

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

Absolution

LSB 185

- P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 56:3–4, 10–11; antiphon: v. 13

For you have delivered my soul from death, yes, my feet from | falling,*
 that I may walk before God in the | light of life.

When I | am afraid,*

I put my | trust in you.

In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not | be afraid.*

What can flesh | do to me?

In God, whose | word I praise,*

in the LORD, whose | word I praise,

in God I trust; I shall not | be afraid.*

What can man | do to me?

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

For you have delivered my soul from death, yes, my feet from | falling,*
that I may walk before God in the | light of life.

Kyrie

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187

P Glory be to God on high:

C **and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.**

We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,

we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.

**Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have
mercy upon us.**

For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Let us pray.

O God, because Your abiding presence always goes with us, keep us
aware of Your daily mercies that we may live secure and content in
Your eternal love; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who
lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and
forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 20:7–13

⁷O LORD, you have deceived me,

and I was deceived;

you are stronger than I,

and you have prevailed.

I have become a laughingstock all the day;

everyone mocks me.
⁸For whenever I speak, I cry out,
I shout, “Violence and destruction!”
For the word of the LORD has become for me
a reproach and derision all day long.
⁹If I say, “I will not mention him,
or speak any more in his name,”
there is in my heart as it were a burning fire
shut up in my bones,
and I am weary with holding it in,
and I cannot.
¹⁰For I hear many whispering.
Terror is on every side!
“Denounce him! Let us denounce him!”
say all my close friends,
watching for my fall.
“Perhaps he will be deceived;
then we can overcome him
and take our revenge on him.”
¹¹But the LORD is with me as a dread warrior;
therefore my persecutors will stumble;
they will not overcome me.
They will be greatly shamed,
for they will not succeed.
Their eternal dishonor
will never be forgotten.
¹²O LORD of hosts, who tests the righteous,
who sees the heart and the mind,
let me see your vengeance upon them,
for to you have I committed my cause.
¹³Sing to the LORD;
praise the LORD!
For he has delivered the life of the needy
from the hand of evildoers.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Romans 6:12–23

¹²Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. ¹³Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. ¹⁴For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are

not under law but under grace.

¹⁵What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, ¹⁸and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification.

²⁰When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? The end of those things is death. ²²But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life. ²³For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia

LSB 190

C Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 10:5a, 21–33

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the tenth chapter.

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

⁵These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, . . .

²¹“Brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death, ²²and you will be hated by all for my name’s sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. ²³When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next, for truly, I say to you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

²⁴“A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. ²⁵It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household.

²⁶“So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. ²⁷What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. ²⁸And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. ³¹Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. ³²So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, ³³but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.

Sit

659 Lord of Our Life

1 Lord of our life and God of our salvation,
Star of our night and hope of ev'ry nation:
Hear and receive Your Church's supplication,
Lord God Almighty.

- 2 See round Your ark the hungry billows curling;
See how Your foes their banners are unfurling
And with great spite their fiery darts are hurling,
O Lord, preserve us.
- 3 Lord, be our light when worldly darkness veils us;
Lord, be our shield when earthly armor fails us;
And in the day when hell itself assails us,
Grant us Your peace, Lord:
- 4 Peace in our hearts, where sinful thoughts are raging,
Peace in Your Church, our troubled souls assuaging,
Peace when the world its endless war is waging,
Peace in Your heaven.

Text: Matthäus Apelles von Löwenstern, 1594–1648; tr. Philip Pusey, 1799–1855, alt.
Text: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

Offertory

LSB 192

- C** Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

Presentation of Offering

Prayer of the Church

- P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
C Lord, have mercy.
- P** For all believers, that receiving the free gift of eternal life, our lives would be conformed to His holy teaching and bear much fruit in good works, let us pray to the Lord:
C Lord, have mercy.
- P** That God would bless and sustain His pastors and other proclaimers of the Gospel, and people to sing His praises, endure suffering for the name of Jesus, and continue by His grace to the end, especially for Pastor Tim Morris, Pastor Dave Prill, missionaries Cheryl

Naumann and Andrew Schaff, and military chaplains Bobby Niemtschk and James Daub, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For earthly fathers, that our Father from whom all fatherhood is named would give them confidence in their station and zeal for their tasks; that He would make them examples to their children of godly life and love of His Word; that He would bless their work to bring up children in the fear and instruction of the Lord; and that He would give them the comfort of His absolution over all their shortcomings, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all the children of God, that we would recognize and give thanks for the blessings of the Lord, and follow in the Way that He leads, especially for Christen Henderson (6/23), Mike Hagen (6/23), and William & Cindy Kautsch (6/22) as they celebrate birthdays and anniversaries this week, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For pious and faithful leaders of our nation, that they may provide good government; for industrious citizens, who will work for the good of their neighbors; and for enemies, that they may live together in peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For those with afflictions of body and soul, that God would look with favor upon all who are sick, weary, grieving or lonely, [*especially Cindy Eggen, Marguerite Young, and Addy Beinlich* _____,] and assure them of His care and provision, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all who partake of the Holy Communion this day, that they would present themselves in repentance as those brought out of death into life and receive the forgiveness of their sins, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the saints who have gone before us, let us give thanks to the Lord; and that God would preserve our feet from falling and our souls from death to walk always in the light of life, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.

C Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 194

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up unto the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

C It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 195

C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the
name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

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

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

Pax Domini

LSB 197

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

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

Sit

Distribution

622 Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared

1 Lord Jesus Christ, You have prepared
This feast for our salvation;
It is Your body and Your blood,
And at Your invitation

As weary souls, with sin oppressed,
We come to You for needed rest,
For comfort, and for pardon.

2 Although You did to heav'n ascend,
Where angel hosts are dwelling,
And in Your presence they behold
Your glory, all excelling,
And though Your people shall not see
Your glory and Your majesty
Till dawns the judgment morning,

3 Yet, Savior, You are not confined
To any habitation;
But You are present even now
Here with Your congregation.
Firm as a rock this truth shall stand,
Unmoved by any daring hand
Or subtle craft and cunning.

4 We eat this bread and drink this cup,
Your precious Word believing
That Your true body and Your blood
Our lips are here receiving.
This Word remains forever true;
All things are possible with You,
For You are Lord Almighty.

5 Though reason cannot understand,
Yet faith this truth embraces:
Your body, Lord, is even now
At once in many places.
I leave to You how this can be;
Your Word alone suffices me;
I trust its truth unfailing.

6 Lord, I believe what You have said;
Help me when doubts assail me.
Remember that I am but dust,
And let my faith not fail me.
Your supper in this vale of tears
Refreshes me and stills my fears
And is my priceless treasure.

7 Grant that we worthily receive
Your supper, Lord, our Savior,
And, truly grieving for our sins,
May prove by our behavior
That we are thankful for Your grace
And day by day may run our race,
In holiness increasing.

8 For Your consoling supper, Lord,
Be praised throughout all ages!
Preserve it, for in ev'ry place
The world against it rages.
Grant that this sacrament may be
A blessed comfort unto me
When living and when dying.

Text: Samuel Kinner, 1603-68; tr. Emanuel Cronenwett, 1841-1931, alt.
Text: Public domain

727 On Eagles' Wings

1 You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
Who abide in His shadow for life,
Say to the Lord: "My refuge,
My rock in whom I trust!" Refrain

ref And He will raise you up on eagles' wings,
Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun,
And hold you in the palm of His hand.

2 The snare of the fowler will never capture you,
And famine will bring you no fear;
Under His wings your refuge,
His faithfulness your shield. Refrain

3 You need not fear the terror of the night,
Nor the arrow that flies by day;
Though thousands fall about you,
Near you it shall not come. Refrain

4 For to His angels He's given a command
To guard you in all of your ways;
Upon their hands they will bear you up,
Lest you dash your foot against a stone. Refrain

Text: Michael Joncas, 1951
Text: © OCP Publications. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003409

585 Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide

- 1 Lord Jesus Christ, with us abide,
For round us falls the eventide.
O let Your Word, that saving light,
Shine forth undimmed into the night.
- 2 In these last days of great distress
Grant us, dear Lord, true steadfastness
That we keep pure till life is spent
Your holy Word and Sacrament.
- 3 To hope grown dim, to hearts turned cold
Speak tongues of fire and make us bold
To shine Your Word of saving grace
Into each dark and loveless place.
- 4 May glorious truths that we have heard,
The bright sword of Your mighty Word,
Spurn Satan that Your Church be strong,
Bold, unified in act and song.
- 5 Restrain, O Lord, the human pride
That seeks to thrust Your truth aside
Or with some man-made thoughts or things
Would dim the words Your Spirit sings.
- 6 Stay with us, Lord, and keep us true;
Preserve our faith our whole life through—
Your Word alone our heart's defense,
The Church's glorious confidence.

Text: tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001, alt.; (st. 1): Philipp Melancthon, 1497–1560; (st. 1): German version
Geistliche Psalmen, 1611, Nuremberg; (sts. 2–6): Nicolaus Selnecker, 1532–92
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Stand

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

The Dismissal

LSB 199

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and
preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart † in peace.
- C** Amen.

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

- C** Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according

to Thy word,
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast
prepared before the face of all people,
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world
without end. Amen.

Thanksgiving

LSB 200

- A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth forever.

Post-Communion Collect

- A** Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us
through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy
You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and
in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son,
our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one
God, now and forever.
C Amen.

Salutation

LSB 201

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And with thy spirit.

Benedicamus

LSB 202

- A** Bless we the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 202

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.
C Amen, amen, amen.

685 Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

- 1 Let us ever walk with Jesus,
Follow His example pure,
Through a world that would deceive us
And to sin our spirits lure.
Onward in His footsteps treading,
Pilgrims here, our home above,

Full of faith and hope and love,
Let us do the Father's bidding.
Faithful Lord, with me abide;
I shall follow where You guide.

2 Let us suffer here with Jesus
And with patience bear our cross.
Joy will follow all our sadness;
Where He is, there is no loss.
Though today we sow no laughter,
We shall reap celestial joy;
All discomforts that annoy
Shall give way to mirth hereafter.
Jesus, here I share Your woe;
Help me there Your joy to know.

3 Let us gladly die with Jesus.
Since by death He conquered death,
He will free us from destruction,
Give to us immortal breath.
Let us mortify all passion
That would lead us into sin;
And the grave that shuts us in
Shall but prove the gate to heaven.
Jesus, here with You I die,
There to live with You on high.

4 Let us also live with Jesus.
He has risen from the dead
That to life we may awaken.
Jesus, You are now our head.
We are Your own living members;
Where You live, there we shall be
In Your presence constantly,
Living there with You forever.
Jesus, let me faithful be,
Life eternal grant to me.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626-81; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.
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