



Now when Jesus had entered  
Capernaum, a centurion came  
to Him, pleading with Him,  
saying, "Lord, my servant is  
lying at home paralyzed,  
dreadfully tormented."

-- Matthew 8:5-6  
(NKJV)

## EPIPHANY THREE

Luther Memorial Church . . . . . January 26, 2025

# LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH

A Congregation of the Church of the Lutheran Confession

134 21<sup>st</sup> Street • Fond du Lac, Wisconsin • [fdllutheran.com](http://fdllutheran.com)



Bible Study/Sunday School. . . . . 9am

Divine Worship . . . . 10am

Andrew A. Schaller, Pastor

Church: (920) 922-7421

Cell: (605) 880-7886

## EPIPHANY THREE

January 26, 2025

### PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP:

**PSALM: 15** (TLH Pg. 124);

**PRAYERS: 57** (Pg. 107); **56** (Pg. 107).

**HYMNS: 757 783 785 784**

### OPENING PRAYER

**OPENING HYMN: 757** *“Christ Triumphant, Ever Reigning”*

### A SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

(WS. Pg. 12)

**Pastor:** In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Congregation:** Amen.

**Pastor:** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

**Congregation:** Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.

**C: Amen.**

- C:     ♪ Lord, have mercy on us.  
          Christ, have mercy on us.  
          Lord, have mercy on us.
- C:     ♪ Glory to God, we give You thanks and praise;  
          Of heav'nly joy and peace on earth we sing.  
          We worship You, to You our hearts we raise,  
          Lord God, almighty Father, heav'nly King.
- ♪ Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's only Son,  
          You bore for us the load of this world's sin.  
          O Lamb of God, Your glorious vict'ry won,  
          Receive our prayer, grant us Your peace within.
- ♪ Alone, O Christ, You only are the Lord,  
          At God's right hand in majesty most high:  
          Who, with the Spirit worshiped and adored,  
          With all the heav'n-ly host we glorify.

**Pastor:** Let us pray...

"...through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever."

### **OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:**

### **ISAIAH 61:1-6**

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; <sup>2</sup>to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; <sup>3</sup>to grant to those who mourn in Zion— to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified. <sup>4</sup>They shall build up the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. <sup>5</sup>Strangers shall stand and tend your flocks; foreigners shall be your plowmen and vinedressers; <sup>6</sup>but you shall be called the priests of the Lord; they shall speak of you as the ministers of our God; you shall eat the wealth of the nations, and in their glory you shall boast. \*

## **EPISTLE LESSON:**

**ACTS 4:23-31**

<sup>23</sup> When they were released, they went to their friends and reported what the chief priests and the elders had said to them.

<sup>24</sup> And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said, "Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them, <sup>25</sup> who through the mouth of our father David, your servant, said by the Holy Spirit,

" 'Why did the Gentiles rage,  
and the peoples plot in vain?

<sup>26</sup> The kings of the earth set themselves,  
and the rulers were gathered together,  
against the Lord and against his Anointed' —

<sup>27</sup> for truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, <sup>28</sup> to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place.

<sup>29</sup> And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness, <sup>30</sup> while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus." <sup>31</sup> And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness. \*

## **GOSPEL LESSON:**

**LUKE 4:16-30**

<sup>16</sup> And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. <sup>17</sup> And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,

<sup>18</sup> "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to proclaim good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives  
and recovering of sight to the blind,  
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,  
<sup>19</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

<sup>20</sup> And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup> And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." <sup>22</sup> And all spoke well of him and marveled at the gracious words that were coming from his mouth. And they said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" <sup>23</sup> And he said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Physician, heal yourself.' What we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well.'" <sup>24</sup> And he said, "Truly, I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown. <sup>25</sup> But in truth, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heavens were shut up three years and six months, and a great famine came over all the land, <sup>26</sup> and Elijah was sent to none of them but only to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. <sup>27</sup> And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian." <sup>28</sup> When they heard these things, all in the synagogue were filled with wrath. <sup>29</sup> And they rose up and drove him out of the town and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff. <sup>30</sup> But passing through their midst, he went away. \*

### **THE ALLELUIA:**

**Pastor:** Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.

**Congregation:**

♪ Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

### **CONFESSION OF FAITH:**

### **THE APOSTLES CREED**

**HYMN: 783** *"Jesus, Shepherd of the Sheep"*

### **THE SERMON:**

### **MATTHEW 8:1-13**

When Jesus came down from the mountain, large crowds followed him. <sup>2</sup> Just then, a leper came to him and bowed down to him, saying, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean." <sup>3</sup> Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean." Immediately he was healed of his leprosy.

<sup>4</sup>Jesus said to him, "See that you tell no one. Instead, go, show yourself to the priest and offer the gift that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them."

<sup>5</sup>When he entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him and pleaded with him, <sup>6</sup>"Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed and suffering terribly." <sup>7</sup>Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him." <sup>8</sup>The centurion answered, "Lord, I am not worthy for you to come under my roof. But only say the word, and my servant will be healed. <sup>9</sup>For I am also a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

<sup>10</sup>When Jesus heard this, he marveled. He said to those who were following him, "Amen I tell you: I have not found such great faith in anyone in Israel. <sup>11</sup>I tell you that many will come from the east and the west and will recline at the table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>12</sup>But the children of the kingdom will be thrown out into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

<sup>13</sup>Jesus said to the centurion, "Go. Let it be done for you as you have believed." And his servant was healed at that very hour. \*

## **WILLING...AND ABLE**

Jesus is willing to cleanse

Jesus is able to deliver

## **THE OFFERTORY**

♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence. Take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation. Uphold with Your Spirit free.

## **THE OFFERINGS OF THANKFUL HEARTS**

We express our thanksgiving for what the Savior Jesus has done for us by supporting His Work with our time, talents and gifts. Should you wish to leave a gift, there are offering plates in the rear of the sanctuary. As our gifts are brought forward to His Altar, we sing His Praise.

## **THE OFFERING HYMN**

♪ As with gladness men of old Did the guiding star behold; As with joy they hailed its light, Leading onward, beaming bright, So, most gracious Lord, may we Evermore be led by Thee!

♪ As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to Thy lowly bed, There to bend the knee before Thee whom heaven and earth adore, So may we with willing feet Ever seek Thy mercy-seat!

♪ As they offered gifts most rare At Thy cradle, rude and bare, So may we with holy joy, Pure and free from sin's alloy, All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heavenly King!

## **PRAYER(S) THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**HYMN: 785** *"Children of the Heavenly Father"*

**THE BENEDICTION:** (Pastor) **CONGREGATION:** "Amen."

**CLOSING HYMN: 784** *"Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me"*

Welcome to all of our guests and visitors this morning in Jesus' name. We are glad that you have come to worship with us this morning, and hope that you will return and join us again. If you have any questions about our church or are interested in learning more about the Scriptures, please either speak with the pastor or with an usher on the way out.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

January 26, 2025

## **THIS MORNING AFTER WORSHIP:**

† *Sunday School Teachers Meeting, Conference Room.*

## **THIS WEEK**

**Tuesday:** Elders Meeting 6:00pm

**Sunday:** Bible Study/Sunday School 9am; Worship 10am;

## **COOPERATIVE BUDGET PLEDGE**

*Please keep our Cooperative Budget Pledge needs in mind when giving thanks to the Savior for all of His gifts to you. We have pledged to send \$22,000 to support the work of the LORD in our church body, the Church of the Lutheran Confession from July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025. Thus far we have received \$10,245.00 toward that pledge. In our Annual Meeting last Sunday, we pledged to send \$22,000 from July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026.*

## **GENERAL BUDGET**

*The 2025 General Budget was set at \$130,000.00. We have thus far received \$6,793.00 toward that pledge.*

## **FEBRUARY MISSION BREAKFAST**

*The Mission Committee is planning a Mission Breakfast for Saturday February 8<sup>th</sup> at 9am. The Mission Breakfast includes a mission presentation to help us become more effective witnesses. The Breakfast will be a potluck style meal. Please bring something and join us!*

## **FAMILY FELLOWSHIP HOUR 2025**

*There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board for those who would like to host a Family Fellowship Hour during 2025. Please take a look and sign up when you can host!*

## **2025 CLC MISSION HELPER TRIP TO NEPAL**

*Applications are now being accepted for the 2025 Mission Helper Trip to Nepal. Space is limited for this trip, so please apply early. Find more information at: <https://mht.lutheranmissions.org/>*

## **LM FAMILY GAME NIGHT**

*The 2025 Game Nights are scheduled for February 14<sup>th</sup>, March 14<sup>th</sup> April 11<sup>th</sup> and May 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. Join us for snacks and games!*

## **CHILI LUNCH – FEBRUARY FFH**

*The Ladies of Luther Memorial have scheduled a Chili Lunch in conjunction with the Family Fellowship Hour on February 2<sup>nd</sup> following worship. A signup sheet has been placed on the bulletin board for those who would like to prepare and bring chili.*

## **A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE ANNUAL MEETING**

*The LM Annual Meeting was called to order by Chairman David Bernthal and Pastor Schaller was given the floor to read his opening devotion from the Annual Report, page 3.*

*Recording Secretary/Treasurer Michael Sippert was given the floor to read the minutes from the previous Voters Meeting. The minutes were approved as read.*

*Pastor Schaller was given the floor for his report. Copies of that report are available in the standing file in the entryway.*

Zach Phillips was received as a communicant member by his confession of faith. Zach's membership was ratified by motion and he was officially received as a communicant member. Pastor Schaller also reported that Madelyn (Gescheidle) Lutz has requested to be transferred from Messiah in Hales Corners.

**Pastor Schaller reported on Christian Education, Ministry and Outreach.** A Study Conference in Hales Corners is scheduled for Thursday February 6<sup>th</sup> from 11am to 4pm. The Board of Trustees CBP Presentation was made in video form and the Voters of Luther Memorial established the 2025-26 CBP Pledge at \$22,000 (matching the 2024-25 pledge). Pastor Schaller reported that he will be travelling to Uganda February 11-20 to complete a face-to-face colloquy on behalf of the Board of Doctrine. This will mean that he will be unable to attend some regular meetings, some of which will be rescheduled.

**Financial Secretary Kevin Kern** presented his report (note: the report in the Annual Report is the previous year. Copies of the updated 2024 report are inserted in mailboxes and additional copies are in the standing file. The computer was blamed for this error, though it is more likely Pastor's error).

**Treasurer/Recording Secretary Michael Sippert** presented his report printed in the Annual Report.

**Mission Committee Chairman Mike Schwersinske** presented the report of the Mission Committee.

**Elders Report** - There is no elected chairman of the elders but the elders report is in the Annual Report.

**Building and Grounds** – There is an incomplete list of completed projects in the 2024 Annual Report. Chairman Bernthal noted the projects that are upcoming in 2025.

**Chairman David Bernthal noted that the School Committee report in the Annual Report is a summary of the close of the 2024 school year.** He noted that the Voters of Luther Memorial have committed to continue the call process. Once the incoming Council is organized, a date will be set.

**A motion was made to accept all reports.** The motion passed.

**New Business** – Treasurer/Recording Secretary Michael Sippert presented a Council supported budget recommendation for 2025. The budget is a decrease to the 2024 Budget in large part because there is no school teacher. This would change in 2026 should a teacher accept our call. The 2025 Budget is well under the three-year average (\$142,000) and includes a new teacher from August-December should one accept our call. The budget was set at \$130,000 by motion.

**Elections** – Pastor Schaller expressed confusion over the LM Constitution (revised 2012) and the process of determining who is and who is not a Voter at Luther Memorial. It was noted that a number of changes were made in 2019 and 2020 which have not been made to the Constitution. A couple of men have served three consecutive terms and the constitution would have them take a year off...but there seems to be few willing voters to take a council position as we currently have open positions on the council. Once the Council is organized, a constitution committee will be appointed by the council to take a look at the LM Constitution.

**Kevin Kern and Chris Sabel** were reelected to serve a second term on the LM Council.

**Gunnard Sippert and Jesse Ude** were elected to the LM Council.

A motion was made to suspend the term limits required by the LM Constitution until the LM Constitution can be resolved.

**David Bernthal and Mike Schwersinske** were elected to the LM Council. Once the LM Council is organized (Meeting Set: 2/9/25), a date will be set for the Teacher Call Meeting.

**The meeting was adjourned by motion.**

These are not the official minutes, but the recollection of Pastor Schaller.

## **WEBSITE CALENDAR CONTEST**

The Mission Committee is excited to announce a Website Calendar Contest! The winners, chosen by the Mission Committee, will have their artwork featured on the church website and as part of our official calendar.

✓ **The contest is open to all members of the church and all artwork must be original.** Themes should reflect the spirit and teachings of our faith. Draw inspiration from Bible Stories, Christian Holidays (Christmas, Easter, etc.), Symbols of faith (cross, dove, etc.) Acts of kindness or service, Bible verses.

✓ **Categories** – 1) Drawing/Painting (hand drawn or digitally created); 2) Photography (reflecting our faith); 3) Coloring Pages.

**How to Enter:** 1) **Create Artwork** in the above categories; 2) **Scan or photograph** your artwork If necessary; 3) **Submit your entry by e-mail to [carla@kernhome.org](mailto:carla@kernhome.org) or drop it off at the church office.** 4) **Include your name, age (if under 18) and contact information. All artwork must be family-friendly and respectful of our Christian Values. All must be submitted by February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025.** All entries will be reviewed by the Mission Committee and winners chosen. The selected artwork will be featured on the church website for a month. The winner will receive a special certificate and additional prizes may be awarded for creativity. **Deadline for submission:** Sunday February 23<sup>rd</sup>. **Winner Announcement:** March 2, 2025.

# CLC CALL NEWS

*Pastor Paul Krause, who currently serves Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church (Watertown, SD) and Zion Ev. Lutheran Church (Hidewood Township, SD) has been called by St. Stephen Lutheran Church and School in Mountain View, CA. • Faith Lutheran in Manchester (St Louis) MO has called Sam Naumann of Eau Claire, Wisconsin who was recently reinstated to the CLC Clergy Roster. • Teacher Claire Abbas of Berea Lutheran School, Inver Grove Heights, MN, has been called by Trinity Lutheran Church to serve in Trinity Lutheran School, Watertown, SD.*

<b>Missions/Cooperative Budget Plan Pledge 2025</b>			
<i>The Cooperative Budget Plan (CBP) is a pledge established by the Voters of Luther Memorial to participate in the work of the Church of the Lutheran Confession. This fiscal year runs from July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025.</i>			
<b>Amount Pledged 2024</b>	<b>Received as of 1/19/25</b>	<b>Amount Remaining</b>	<b>Approximate per Sunday (15)</b>
\$22,000	\$10,245.00	\$11,755.00	\$784.00

<b>The Offerings of Thankful Hearts – LM Offerings 1/19/25</b>				
<b>Attendance: 1/19 - 57</b>				
<b>General Fund (Budgetary)</b>	<b>General Missions (CBP)</b>	<b>MDF (Missions)</b>	<b>Project Kinship (Missions)</b>	<b>General School Fund (School)</b>
\$2,491.00	\$355.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$100.00
<b>Total Offerings: \$ 3,046.00</b>				

<b>Luther Memorial General Budget 2025</b>			
<i>The Voters of Luther Memorial established the general budget at the Annual Meeting in January of 2024. All Budgetary offerings are applied to this budget. This fiscal year runs from January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025.</i>			
<b>General Budget</b>	<b>Received as of 1/19/25</b>	<b>Amount Remaining</b>	<b>Remaining Amount (49)</b>
\$130,000.00	\$6,793.00	\$123,207.00	\$2,514.00

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## **HOME DEVOTIONS FOR JANUARY 27-FEBRUARY 1, 2025**

**Monday – Matthew 4:12-17** When John is imprisoned, Jesus takes up the call to repentance and begins His ministry. He makes His headquarters in Capernaum, proclaims the kingdom of heaven, and the light shines!

**Tuesday – Romans 8:1-4** Upon those in the shadow of death the light now shines in Christ Jesus, for through Him we have been set free from the law of sin and death (v2). He took on our flesh to bear our condemnation (v3).

**Wednesday – Romans 8:5-11** The fleshly mind is hostile to God, does not want to please Him, and leads to the darkness of death. But the spiritual mind knows of the resurrection in Jesus and walks to life and peace (v6).

**Thursday – Genesis 15:1-7** The LORD promises Abram countless descendants when he has yet to see the first one, but Abram believes the LORD, that He is truly his shield from all danger and his very great reward!

**Friday – Amos 3:1-8** Seven questions the LORD asks His people. They can understand a lot of things in God's creation. Should they not also understand that the LORD means it when He speaks condemnation and salvation?

**Saturday – Acts 8:26-39** The Lord reaches out to an Ethiopian through His servants Isaiah and Philip, and the Light shines for this official on the desert road to Gaza. Baptized, he continues on his way rejoicing!



These devotions are produced by Pastor/Professor Emeritus Paul Schaller and sent out on a weekly basis.

Graphics in the bulletin are taken from Church Art Online via a regular legal subscription.

# **HYMN SHEET**

## **PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

## **PSALM 15**

<sup>1</sup> O Lord, who shall sojourn in your tent? Who shall dwell on your holy hill?

<sup>2</sup> He who walks blamelessly and does what is right and speaks truth in his heart; <sup>3</sup> who does not slander with his tongue and does no evil to his neighbor, nor takes up a reproach against his friend; <sup>4</sup> in whose eyes a vile person is despised, but who honors those who fear the Lord; who swears to his own hurt and does not change; <sup>5</sup> who does not put out his money at interest and does not take a bribe against the innocent. He who does these things shall never be moved. \*

## **PRAYERS BEFORE WORSHIP**

### **FOR AID AGAINST TEMPTATION**

Heavenly Father, you declare the unrighteous by faith in Your Son and do not desire the death of the sinner. We humbly ask that you would assist us with Your aid and shield us with Your protection that we may be separated by no temptation to sin from You and may serve you without ceasing; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

### **FOR GRACE TO LOVE AND SERVE GOD**

O God, who through the gracious working of Your holy Spirit pour the gifts of love into the hearts of Your faithful people, grant to your servants health of mind and body that they may love You with all their strength and with their whole heart do those things pleasing to You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

## **HYMN**

## **CHRIST TRIUMPHANT, EVER REIGNING**

**1. Christ triumphant, ever reigning, Savior, Master, King! Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining, hear us as we sing: Yours the glory and the crown, the high renown, the eternal name!**

**2. Word incarnate, truth revealing, Son of Man on earth! Power and majesty concealing by Your humble birth: Yours the glory and the crown, the high renown, the eternal name!**

**3. Suffering servant, scorned, ill-treated, victim crucified! Death is through the cross defeated, sinners justified: Yours the glory and the crown, the high renown, the eternal name!**

4. Priestly king, enthroned forever high in heaven above! Sin and death and hell shall never stifle hymns of love: Yours the glory and the crown, the high renown, the eternal name!

5. So, our hearts and voices raising through the ages long, Ceaselessly upon You gazing, this shall be our song: Yours the glory and the crown, the high renown, the eternal name!

**HYMN:** **JESUS, SHEPHERD OF THE SHEEP**

1. Jesus, shepherd of the sheep, Who Your Father's flock does keep, Safe we wake and safe we sleep, Guarded still by You.

2. In Your promise firm we stand; None can take us from Your hand. Speak! We hear! At Your command, We will follow You.

3. By Your blood our souls were bought; By Your life salvation wrought; By Your light our feet are taught, Lord, to follow You.

4. Father, draw us to Your Son; We with joy will follow on Til the work of grace is done, There to live with You.

5. We, in robes of glory dressed, Join the' assembly of the blest, Gathered to eternal rest In the fold with You.

**OFFERING HYMN** **AS WITH GLADNESS MEN OF OLD**

As with gladness men of old Did the guiding star behold; As with joy they hailed its light, Leading onward, beaming bright, So, most gracious Lord, may we Evermore be led by Thee!

As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to Thy lowly bed, There to bend the knee before Thee whom heaven and earth adore, So may we with willing feet Ever seek Thy mercy-seat!

As they offered gifts most rare At Thy cradle, rude and bare, So may we with holy joy, Pure and free from sin's alloy, All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heavenly King!

**HYMN** **CHILDREN OF THE HEAVENLY FATHER**

1. Children of the heavenly Father Safely in His bosom gather; Nestling bird nor star in heaven Such a refuge ne'er was given.

2. God His own doth tend and nourish, In His holy courts they flourish; From all evil things He spares them, In His mighty arms He bears them.

3. Neither life nor death shall ever From the Lord His children sever; Unto them His grace He showeth, And their sorrows all He knoweth.

4. Though He giveth or He taketh, God His children ne'er forsaketh; His the loving purpose solely To preserve them pure and holy.

## **HYMN**

## **LORD, TAKE MY HAND AND LEAD ME**

1. Lord, take my hand and lead me Upon life's way; Direct, protect, and feed me From day to day. Without Your grace and favor I go astray; So take my hand, O Savior, And lead the way.

2. Lord, when the tempest rages, I need not fear; For You, the Rock of Ages, Are always near. Close by Your side abiding, I fear no foe, For when Your hand is guiding, I n peace I go.

3. Lord, when the shadows lengthen And night has come, I know that You will strengthen My steps toward home, And nothing can impede me, O blessed Friend! So take my hand and lead me Unto the end. Amen.