

Daily Devotions

Michigan Lutheran Seminary, Saginaw, Michigan

July 31–August 3, 2023

Tuesday morning	2
Tuesday afternoon	5
Wednesday morning	8
Wednesday afternoon	11
Thursday morning	13
Serving at worship	16
Acknowledgments	16

Tuesday morning

O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth shall declare your praise.

Hasten to save me, O God;
O Lord, come quickly to help me.

Jesus Christ is Lord of all:
praise and thanks to God!

Reading

Revelation 5:6–14

⁶Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing at the center of the throne, encircled by the four living creatures and the elders. The Lamb had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. ⁷He went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who sat on the throne. ⁸And when he had taken it, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp and they were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of God's people. ⁹And they sang a new song, saying:

“You are worthy to take the scroll
and to open its seals,
because you were slain,
and with your blood you purchased for God
persons from every tribe and language and people and nation.

¹⁰You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God,
and they will reign on the earth.”

¹¹Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. ¹²In a loud voice they were saying:

“Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain,
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength
and honor and glory and praise!”

¹³Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying:

“To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb
be praise and honor and glory and power,
for ever and ever!”

¹⁴The four living creatures said, “Amen,” and the elders fell down and worshiped.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

When Will I Walk

CW 837

The cantor sings the first verse and first refrain.



1 When will I walk the shin - ing streets of gold
2 When will I wear the robe of bril - liant white
3 When will I win what Je - sus won for me—



which lie be - hind the mas - sive gates of pearl,
and raise a - loft the vic - tor's branch of palm,
a par - a - dise of rest - ful, won - drous peace,



where saints tri - um - phant live in bliss un - told,
where long - for - got - ten is the no - ble fight
where day is bright and night will nev - er be,



and all a - round the al - le - lu - ias swirl?
and glass - y seas be - tray a per - fect calm?
and joy - ful - ness will ev - er - more in - crease?



Refrain
My days, O Lord, are trou - ble - filled and few, and



I'm not home un - til I'm home with you.

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

Prayer for Grace

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger. And in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

Amen.

Let us praise the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Amen.

Tuesday afternoon

Jesus Christ is the light of the world,
the light no darkness can overcome.

Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,
and the day is almost over.

Be our light and scatter the darkness,
and hear our evening prayer and praise.

Reading

Revelation 7:9–17

⁹After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰And they cried out in a loud voice:

“Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.”

¹¹All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²saying:

“Amen!

Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor
and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever.

Amen!”

¹³Then one of the elders asked me, “These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?”

¹⁴I answered, “Sir, you know.”

And he said, “These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵Therefore,

“they are before the throne of God
and serve him day and night in his temple;
and he who sits on the throne
will shelter them with his presence.

¹⁶‘Never again will they hunger;
never again will they thirst.

The sun will not beat down on them,
nor any scorching heat.

¹⁷For the Lamb at the center of the throne
will be their shepherd;

‘he will lead them to springs of living water.’

‘And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.’ ”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Behold a Host, Arrayed in White

CW 883



1 Be - hold a host, ar - rayed in white, like thou - sand
 2 De - spised and scorned, they so - journed here; but now, how
 3 O bless - ed saints in bright ar - ray, now safe - ly



snow - clad moun - tains bright! With palms they stand; who is
 glo - rious they ap - pear! Those mar - tyrs stand, a priest -
 home in end - less day, ex - tol the Lord, who with



this band be - fore the throne of light? These are the
 ly band, God's throne for - ev - er near. So oft in
 his Word sus - tained you on the way. The steep and



saints of glo - rious fame, who from the great af - flic - tion
 trou - bled days gone by, in an - guish they would weep and
 nar - row path you trod; you toiled and sowed the Word a -



came and in the flood of Je - sus' blood are cleansed from
 sigh; at home a - bove the God of love for - e'er their
 broad; re - joice and bring your fruits and sing be - fore the



guilt and blame. Now gath - ered in the ho - ly place,
 tears shall dry. They now en - joy the Sab - bath rest,
 throne of God. Swing high your palms, lift up your song,



their voic - es they in wor - ship raise; their an - thems
 the heav'n - ly ban - quet of the blest; the Lamb, their
 yes, make it myr - iad voic - es strong! Let heav - en



rise where God re - sides, mid an - gels' songs of praise.
 Lord, at fes - tive board him - self is host and guest.
 ring— to Christ the King all praise and thanks be - long!

Lord, Have Mercy

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Prayer for Peace

Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies, that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins,

as we forgive those

who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours

now and forever. Amen.

Let us praise the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Amen.

Wednesday morning

Hasten to save me, O God.

O Lord, come quickly to help me.

Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise him in the heights above.

Sing to the Lord a new song,
his praise in the assembly of his faithful people.

Praise God in his sanctuary;
praise him in his mighty heavens.

Reading

Revelation 12:7–17a

⁷Then war broke out in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. ⁸But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. ⁹The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.

¹⁰Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say:

“Now have come the salvation and the power
and the kingdom of our God,
and the authority of his Messiah.

For the accuser of our brothers and sisters,
who accuses them before our God day and night,
has been hurled down.

¹¹They triumphed over him
by the blood of the Lamb
and by the word of their testimony;
they did not love their lives so much
as to shrink from death.

¹²Therefore rejoice, you heavens
and you who dwell in them!
But woe to the earth and the sea,
because the devil has gone down to you!
He is filled with fury,
because he knows that his time is short.”

¹³When the dragon saw that he had been hurled to the earth, he pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child. ¹⁴The woman was given the two wings of a great eagle, so that she might fly to the place prepared for her in the wilderness, where she would be taken care of for a time, times and half a time, out of the serpent’s reach.

¹⁵Then from his mouth the serpent spewed water like a river, to overtake the woman and sweep her away with the torrent. ¹⁶But the earth helped the woman by opening its mouth and swallowing the river that the dragon had spewed out of his mouth. ¹⁷Then

the dragon was enraged at the woman and went off to wage war against the rest of her offspring—those who keep God’s commands and hold fast their testimony about Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Rise, Shine, You People

CW 744



1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered
2 See how he sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;
3 Come, cel - e - brate, your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,
4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent his Son to save us.



our hu - man sto - ry; God in him is cen - tered.
he brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing.
your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark - ness hurl - ing.
Tell of the Son, who life and free - dom gave us.



He comes to us, by death and sin sur -
All men and wom - en, who by guilt are
To all the world go out and tell the
Tell how the Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry



round - ed, with grace un - bound - ed.
driv - en, now are for - giv - en.
sto - ry of Je - sus' glo - ry.
na - tion his new cre - a - tion.

Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance.

Govern and uphold them now and always.

Day by day we bless you.

We praise your name forever.

Keep us today, Lord, from all sin.

Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.

Lord, show us your love and mercy,

for we have put our trust in you.

In you, Lord, is our hope:

let us never be put to shame.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

Let us praise the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Blessing

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine on us.
May God bless us still, so that all the ends of the earth will fear him.

Wednesday afternoon

O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth shall declare your praise.

Hasten to save me, O God;
O Lord, come quickly to help me.

Jesus Christ is Lord of all:
praise and thanks to God!

Reading

Revelation 14:6–7

⁶Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth—to every nation, tribe, language and people. ⁷He said in a loud voice, “Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come. Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water.”

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Preserve Your Word, O Savior

CW 874



1 Pre - serve your Word, O Sav - ior, to us this lat - ter
2 Pre - serve your Word and preach - ing, the truth that makes us
3 Pre - serve in wave and tem - pest your storm-tossed lit - tle



day, and let your king - dom flour - ish; en - large your
whole, the mir - ror of your glo - ry, the pow'r that
flock; as - sailed by wind and weath - er, may it en -



Church, we pray. O keep our faith from fail - ing, keep
saves the soul. Oh, may this liv - ing wa - ter, this
dure each shock. Come take the helm, our pi - lot, and



hope's bright star a - glow; let noth - ing turn us
spring of heav'n - ly grace, sus - tain us while here
set the course a - right; then we will reach the



from you while wan - d'ring here be - low.
liv - ing un - til we see your face.
har - bor in your e - ter - nal light.

Lord, Have Mercy

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Prayer for Peace

Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies, that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,**

your will be done on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Let us praise the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Blessing

The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Amen.

Thursday morning

Hasten to save me, O God.

O Lord, come quickly to help me.

The Mighty One, God, the Lord, speaks and summons the earth
from the rising of the sun to where it sets.

From Zion, perfect in beauty,
God shines forth.

God says, "Call upon me in the day of trouble;
I will deliver you, and you will honor me."

Prayer

Almighty God, you divide the day from the night. Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet in the way of peace. And having done your will with cheerfulness while it is day, grant that when evening comes, we may rejoice in giving you thanks.

Amen.

Reading

Revelation 19:1–9

¹After this I heard what sounded like the roar of a great multitude in heaven shouting:

"Hallelujah!
Salvation and glory and power belong to our God,
²for true and just are his judgments.
He has condemned the great prostitute
who corrupted the earth by her adulteries.
He has avenged on her the blood of his servants."

³And again they shouted:

"Hallelujah!
The smoke from her goes up for ever and ever."

⁴The twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God, who was seated on the throne. And they cried:

"Amen, Hallelujah!"

⁵Then a voice came from the throne, saying:

"Praise our God, all you his servants, you who fear him, both great and small!"

⁶Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting:

“Hallelujah!
 For our Lord God Almighty reigns.
 7Let us rejoice and be glad
 and give him glory!
 For the wedding of the Lamb has come,
 and his bride has made herself ready.
 8Fine linen, bright and clean,
 was given her to wear.”

(Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of God’s holy people.)

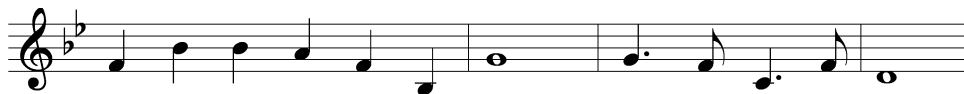
9Then the angel said to me, “Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!” And he added, “These are the true words of God.”

The Word of the Lord.
 Thanks be to God.

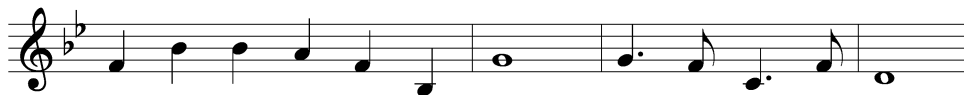
He Will Hold Me Fast

CW 813

The vocalists sing the first verse and first refrain.



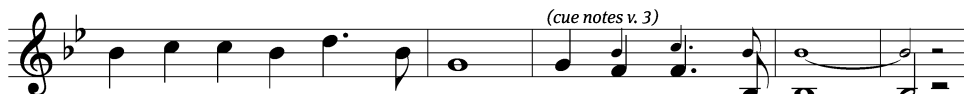
1 When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
 2 Those he saves are his de - light; Christ will hold me fast;
 3 For my life he bled and died; Christ will hold me fast;



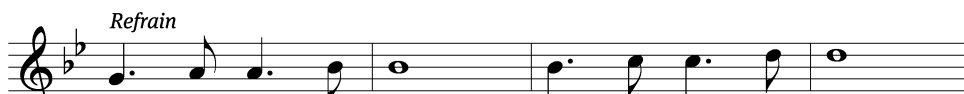
when the tempt - er would pre - vail, he will hold me fast.
 pre - cious in his ho - ly sight, he will hold me fast.
 jus - tice has been sat - is - fied; he will hold me fast.



I could nev - er keep my hold thro' life's fear - ful path,
 He'll not let my soul be lost; his prom - is - es shall last;
 Raised with him to end - less life, he will hold me fast



for my love is of - ten cold— he must hold me fast.
 bought by him at such a cost, he will hold me fast.
 till our faith is turned to sight when he comes at last! (Refrain 2X)



He will hold me fast; he will hold me fast;



for my Sav - ior loves me so, he will hold me fast.

Apostles' Creed

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

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there 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.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being. We humbly pray that you would so guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

**Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Doxology

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the Church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever!

Amen.

Serving at worship

Tuesday Morning

Minister: Rev. Aaron Boehm, Shepherd of the Hills, La Mesa, Calif.

Pianist: Jennifer Boeder

Cantor: Prof. Carl Boeder

Tuesday Afternoon

Minister: Rev. Paul Horn, Lamb of God, West Lafayette, Ind.

Organist: Prof. Joshua Wendt

Wednesday Morning

Minister: Rev. Brian Hackmann, Grace, Milwaukee, Wis.

Organist: Prof. Joshua Wendt

Wednesday Afternoon

Minister: Rev. Timothy Spiegelberg, Carbon Valley, Firestone, Colo.

Organist: Arianna Siegler

Thursday Morning

Minister: Rev. Aaron Mueller, St. Paul, Howards Grove, Wis.

Pianist: Prof. Joshua Wendt

Vocalists: Prof. Carl Boeder, Jennifer Boeder

Violin: Megan Buth

Acknowledgments

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All devotions are abbreviated from those found in CW21, pages 235ff.

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