

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

November 5, 2023

"The Hope of the Children of God"

AS WE GATHER

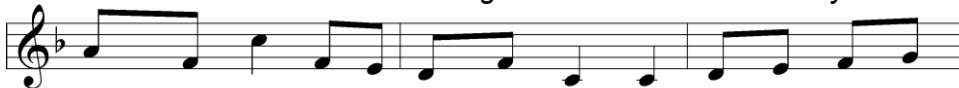
There are different types of hope. The hope some people have is no more than wishful thinking. Others rely on their own plans and intellect to provide a measure of hope during times of difficulty. But for those of us who have been blessed with the gift of faith in our Lord Jesus, hope is sure. For His sake, our heavenly Father has forgiven all our sins and now calls us His own children, brothers and sisters of our Lord. We shall join those who have gone before us to sing God's eternal praises, even as we join "angels and archangels and all the company of heaven" in the Sanctus before receiving His body and blood in the Holy Communion.

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive that we may love as He forgives and loves us.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a belief different from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked to first speak with the pastor. For further study, see: Matthew 5:23f, 10:32f, 18:15-35, 26:26-29, 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

THE WELCOME

THE OPENING HYMN #671 "Sing with All the Saints in Glory"



1 Sing with all the saints in glo - ry, Sing the res - ur -
2 Oh, what glo - ry, far ex - ceed - ing All that eye has
3 Life e - ter - nal! Heav'n re - joic - es: Je - sus lives who



rec - tion song! Death and sor - row, earth's dark sto - ry,
yet per - ceived! Ho - liest hearts for a - ges plead - ing
once was dead. Shout with joy, O death - less voic - es!



To the for - mer days be - long. All a - round the
Nev - er that full joy con - ceived. God has prom - ised,
Child of God, lift up your head! Life e - ter - nal!



clouds are break - ing; Soon the storms of time shall
Christ pre - pares it; There on high our wel - come
Oh, what won - ders Crowd on faith; what joy un -



cease; In God's like - ness we a - wak - en,
waits. Ev - 'ry hum - ble spir - it shares it,
known, When, a - mid earth's clos - ing thun - ders,



Know - ing ev - er - last - ing peace.
Christ has passed the e - ter - nal gates.
Saints shall stand be - fore the throne!

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(please stand)

THE INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: We are made saints by the blood of Jesus. We acknowledge, however, that we remain sinners in thought, word, and deed. Let us then confess our sins with the saints around us and before our forgiving God.

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

P: Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

C: Holy God, You have called us to obey You in all things and to live according to Your commands. We have failed to be obedient, even though You have set us apart to be holy. We have been sinful in our thoughts, words, and actions. We confess our faults and seek Your cleansing forgiveness.

P: Saints of God, know that even as you confess your sins, you are forgiven by our God, the Holy One who has called you to be holy. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, and in the stead and by the command of our 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.

THE INTROIT (Psalm 31:1, 3, 5; *antiphon Revelation 7:14b*)

P: These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.

C: They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

P: In You, O LORD, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame;

C: deliver me in Your righteousness.

P: Since You are my Rock and my Fortress,

C: for the sake of Your name lead and guide me.

P: Into Your hands I commit my spirit;

C: redeem me, O LORD, the God of truth.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.**

P: These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.

C: They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: (spoken) And also with you.

P: Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, You knit together Your faithful people of all times and places into one holy communion, under the headship of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Grant us so to follow Your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that comes from faith, that together with them, we may come to the unspeakable joys You have prepared for those who love You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

(please be seated)

THE FIRST READING Revelation 7:9-17 (ESV)

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." Then

one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore 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. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their Shepherd, and He will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: *(spoken)* **Thanks be to God.**

THE EPISTLE 1 John 3:1-3 (ESV)

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know Him. Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when He appears we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who thus hopes in Him purifies himself as He is pure.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: *(spoken)* **Thanks be to God.**

(please stand)

THE ALLELUIA AND VERSE (page 205 in the hymnal)

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

These things are written that you may believe

That Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 5:1-12 (ESV)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the fifth chapter.

C: *(spoken)* **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Seeing the crowds, [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when He sat down, His disciples came to Him. And He opened His mouth and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on My account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: *(spoken)* Praise to You, O Christ.

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

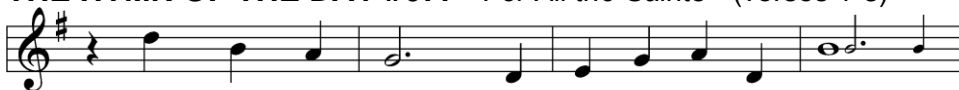
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THE BIBLE MEMORY VERSE FOR NOVEMBER ~ 1 Thessalonians 5:11

“Encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.”

THE CHILDRENS' MESSAGE

THE HYMN OF THE DAY #677 “For All the Saints” (verses 1-3)



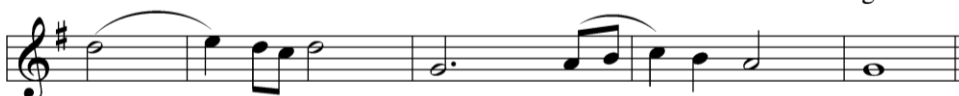
1 For all the saints who from their labors rest,
2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
3 Oh, may Thy soldiers, faithful, true, and bold,



Who Thee by faith be - fore the world con - fessed, Thy
Thou, Lord, their cap - tain in the well - fought fight;
Fight as the saints who no - bly fought of old And



name, O Je - sus, be for - ev - er blest.
Thou, in the dark - ness dwell, their one true light.
win with them the vic - tor's crown of gold!



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

THE COMMEMORATION OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

P: Holy Scripture says in Psalm 116:15: "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints." On this All Saints' Day, we remember and give thanks and praise to God for the life and for the death of His saints. We rejoice with those who rejoice, and that includes rejoicing with those whose happiness now knows no end in the kingdom of glory. During the past year, families in our congregation and our extended church family have been impacted greatly by the death of ones we love. As those who trust in Jesus Christ, we do not grieve as the rest of the world grieves. We grieve in hope, we pray with confidence, and we live with certainty that those who have died in Christ are secure in His presence. We also rejoice that one day we shall join them in their heavenly joy, which knows no end.

Larry G. Clausen

Date of Death: February 9, 2023

Ethan P. Zavitz

Date of Death: March 4, 2023

Judie A. Clausen

Date of Death: May 11, 2023

Curtis H. Schultz

Date of Death: July 27, 2023

Lois A. Ernst

Date of Death: August 19, 2023

Colton L. Clausen

Date of Death: September 10, 2023

Kenneth E. Winsor

Date of Death: September 11, 2023

THE SCRIPTURE READING Hebrews 12:1-3 (ESV)

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the Founder and Perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider Him who endured from sinners such hostility against Himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: (spoken) Thanks be to God.

THE PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

C: Merciful Father, whose dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, rose in victory over death and the grave, we remember with thanksgiving Your faithful people who have trusted in Christ, whose tears are gone, and whose sorrows You have turned to joy. We humbly implore You to strengthen us in the confident hope of the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE HYMN OF THE DAY #677 "For All the Saints" (verses 4-8)



4 Oh, blest com - mu - nion, fel - low - ship di - vine!
 5 And when the fight is fierce, the war-fare long,
 6 The gold - en eve - ning bright-ens in the west;
 7 But, lo, there breaks a yet more glo-rious day: The
 Δ 8 From earth's wide bounds, from o - cean's far - thest coast, Through



We fee - bly strug - gle, they in glo - ry shine; Yet
 Steals on the ear the dis - tant tri - umph song, And
 Soon, soon to faith - ful war - riors com - eth rest; The
 saints tri - um - phant rise in bright ar - ray; The
 gates of pearl streams in the count - less host,



all are one in Thee, for all are Thine.
 hearts are brave a - gain, and arms are strong.
 Sweet is the calm of par - a - dise the blest.
 King of Glo - ry pass - es on His way.
 Sing - ing to Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost:



Al - le - lu - ia!	Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!	Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!	Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!	Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!	Al - le - lu - ia!

THE SERMON "The Hope of the Children of God" Text: 1 John 3:1-3

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERINGS

THE HYMN #678 "We Sing for All the Unsung Saints"



1 We sing for all the un-sung saints, That count-less, name-less throng,
2 Though un-in-scribed with date or place, With ti-tle, rank, or name,
3 So we take heart from un-known saints Be-reft of earth-ly fame,



Who kept the faith and passed it on With hope stead-fast and strong
As liv-ing stones their sto-ries join To form a hal-lowed frame
Those faith-ful ones who have re-ceived A more en-dur-ing name:



Through all the dai-ly griefs and joys No chron-i-cles re-cord,
A-round the mys-t'ry in their midst: The Lamb once sac-ri-ficed,
For they re-veal true bless-ing comes When we our pride ef-face



For-get-ful of their lack of fame, But mind-ful of their Lord.
The Love that wrest-ed life from death, The wound-ed, ris-en Christ.
And of-fer back our lives to be The ves-sels of God's grace.

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(please stand)

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. *(brief silence)* For the poor in spirit, who gather this day to receive the grace and mercy by which we are made rich in Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For those who mourn, that they may receive abundant comfort in the promises of Jesus Christ, who makes all things new, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the meek, including all who patiently and lovingly speak the Gospel to others, that the Holy Spirit may work through the Word they speak to create faith in many who will inherit the new creation in Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, that in faithfulness they may approach the altar, trusting the words of Christ, to receive His body and blood for the sustenance of their bodies and souls, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the merciful, including the pastors and teachers who speak of God's mercy to His people, and including missionaries Pastor David and Rachel Baker, Pastor Pedro and Paquita Lopez, Judy Newhouse, Pastor Vance and Linda Becker, Pastor Eric and Johanna Stinnett, Pastor John Duitsman and the African Radio Ministry, Jim Kaiser and the work of the Lutheran Bible Translators, and Mission Development Counselors Gary Thies and

Pastor Steve Schulz. that they may remain steadfast in the Word and live in the grace and mercy they proclaim, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peacemakers, including all in authority, that they may be blessed in working toward peace, especially that the peace of God in Christ may continue to be proclaimed freely, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, that they may be upheld and strengthened in the one true faith even in the face of suffering, and that all God's people may boldly confess the name of Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the sick and the recovering, including . . . , and all those we remember in our hearts [*silent prayer*], that they may be granted health and healing according to God's wisdom, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For farmers and all who work together in the harvest, that the Lord would provide weather, safety, and all that is needed for the work of this season to be completed and support us in thankfulness for His goodness, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For all the saints who rest from their labors, that we may remember them with thanksgiving and joy, even as we look forward to seeing them again at the throne of the Lamb, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For all this and for whatsoever else You know that we need, we ask of Your great mercy, O Lord. Salvation belongs to You who sits on the throne and to the Lamb! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, forever and ever.

C: Amen.

THE PREFACE (*responses are spoken*) (*page 208 in the hymnal*)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. In the communion of all Your saints gathered into the one body of Your Son, You have surrounded us with so great a cloud of witnesses that we, encouraged by their faith and strengthened by their fellowship, may run with perseverance the race that is set before us and, together with them, receive the crown of glory that does not fade away. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

THE SANCTUS ~ *Holy, Holy, Holy (page 208 in the hymnal)*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing Hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Tru-ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(printed inside the back cover of the hymnal)*

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE PAX DOMINI ~ *The Peace of the Lord*

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

(please be seated)

THE DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

#628 *"Your Table I Approach"*



1 Your ta - ble I ap - proach; Dear Sav - ior, hear my prayer.
2 Lord, I con - fess my sins And mourn their wretch - ed bands;
3 Your bod - y and Your blood, Once slain and shed for me,
4 Search not how this takes place, This won - drous mys - ter - y;



Let not an un - re - pen - tant heart Prove hurt - ful to me there.
A con - trite heart is sure to find For - give - ness at Your hands.
Are tak - en at Your ta - ble, Lord, In blest re - al - i - ty.
God can ac - com - plish vast - ly more Than what we think could be.

**5 O grant, most blessèd Lord,
That earth and hell combined
May not about this sacrament
Raise doubt within my mind.**

**6 Oh, may I never fail
To thank You day and night
For Your true body and true blood,
O God, my peace and light.**

#673 "Jerusalem, My Happy Home"



1 Je - ru - sa - lem, my hap - py home,
2 O hap - py har - bor of the saints,
3 Thy gar - dens and thy gal - lant walks
4 There trees for - ev - er - more bear fruit



When shall I come to thee? When shall my sor - rows
O sweet and pleas - ant soil! In thee no sor - row
Con - tin - ual - ly are green; There grow such sweet and
And ev - er - more do spring; There ev - er - more the



have an end? Thy joys when shall I see?
may be found, No grief, no care, no toil.
pleas - ant flow'rs As no - where else are seen.
an - gels dwell And ev - er - more do sing.

**5 Apostles, martyrs, prophets, there
Around my Savior stand;
And soon my friends in Christ below
Will join the glorious band.**

**6 O Christ, do Thou my soul prepare
For that bright home of love
That I may see Thee and adore
With all Thy saints above.**

#672 "Jerusalem the Golden"



1 Je - ru - sa - lem the gold - en, With milk and hon - ey blest—
2 With-in those walls of Zi - on Sounds forth the joy - ful song,
3 A - round the throne of Da - vid, The saints, from care re - leased,
△ 4 O sweet and bless - ed coun - try, The home of God's e - lect!



The prom - ise of sal - va - tion, The place of peace and rest—
As saints join with the an - gels And all the mar - tyr throng.
Raise loud their songs of tri - umph To cel - e - brate the feast.
O sweet and bless - ed coun - try That faith - ful hearts ex - pect!



We know not, oh, we know not What joys a - wait us there:
The Prince is ev - er with them; The day - light is se - rene;
They sing to Christ their lead - er, Who con - quered in the fight,
In mer - cy, Je - sus, bring us To that e - ter - nal rest



The ra - dian - cy of glo - ry, The bliss be - yond com - pare!
The cit - y of the bless - ed Shines bright with glo - rious sheen.
Who won for them for - ev - er Their gleam - ing robes of white.
With You and God the Fa - ther And Spir - it, ev - er blest.

#632 "O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee"



1 O Je - sus, bless - ed Lord, to Thee My heart - felt
2 Break forth, my soul, for joy and say: What wealth is



thanks for - ev - er be, Who hast so lov - ing -
come to me this day! My Sav - ior dwells with -



ly be - stowed On me Thy bod - y and Thy blood.
in my heart: How blessed am I! How good Thou art!

(please stand)

THE DISMISSAL

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.**

THE POST COMMUNION COLLECT

P: 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.**

THE BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up His countenance on you and ✠ give you peace.

C: *(spoken)* **Amen.**

(please be seated)

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Acknowledgments

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Concerning the Saints
From the Augsburg Confession of 1530

“Our people teach that the saints are to be remembered so that we may strengthen our faith when we see how they experienced grace and how they were helped by faith. Moreover, it is taught that each person, according to his or her calling, should take the saints’ good works as an example. . . . However, it cannot be demonstrated from Scripture that a person should call upon the saints or seek help from them. ‘For there is only one single Reconciler and Mediator set up between God and humanity, Jesus Christ’ (1 Timothy 2:[5]). He is the only Savior, the only High Priest, the Mercy Seat, and Intercessor before God (Romans 8:[34]). He also has promised to hear our prayers. According to the Scripture, in all our needs and concerns it is the highest worship to seek and call upon this same Jesus Christ with our whole heart. ‘But if anyone does sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, the Righteous . . . [1 John 2:1]’”
(The Augsburg Confession, Article XXI)



Behold A Host, Arrayed in White

Behold a host, arrayed in white, Like thousand snow-clad mountains bright!

With palms they stand; Who is this band Before the throne of light?

These are the saints of glorious fame, Who from the great affliction came

And in the flood Of Jesus’ blood Are cleansed from guilt and shame.

They now serve God both day and night; They sing their songs in endless light.

Their anthems ring As they all sing With angels shining bright.

Despised and scorned, they sojourned here; But now, how glorious they appear!

Those martyrs stand, A priestly band, God’s throne forever near.

On earth they wept through bitter years Now God has wiped away their tears,

Transformed their strife To heav’nly life, And freed them from their fears.

They now enjoy the Sabbath rest, The heav’nly banquet of the blest;

The Lamb, their Lord, At festive board Himself is host and guest.

O blessèd saints in bright array Now safely home in endless day,

Extol the Lord, Who with His Word Sustained you on the way.

The steep and narrow path you trod; You toiled and sowed the Word abroad;

Rejoice and bring Your fruits and sing Before the throne of God.

The myriad angels raise their song; O saints, sing with that happy throng!

Lift up one voice; Let heav’n rejoice In our Redeemer’s song!

Text: Hans Adolf Brorson, 1694-1764; translation: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; LSB #676