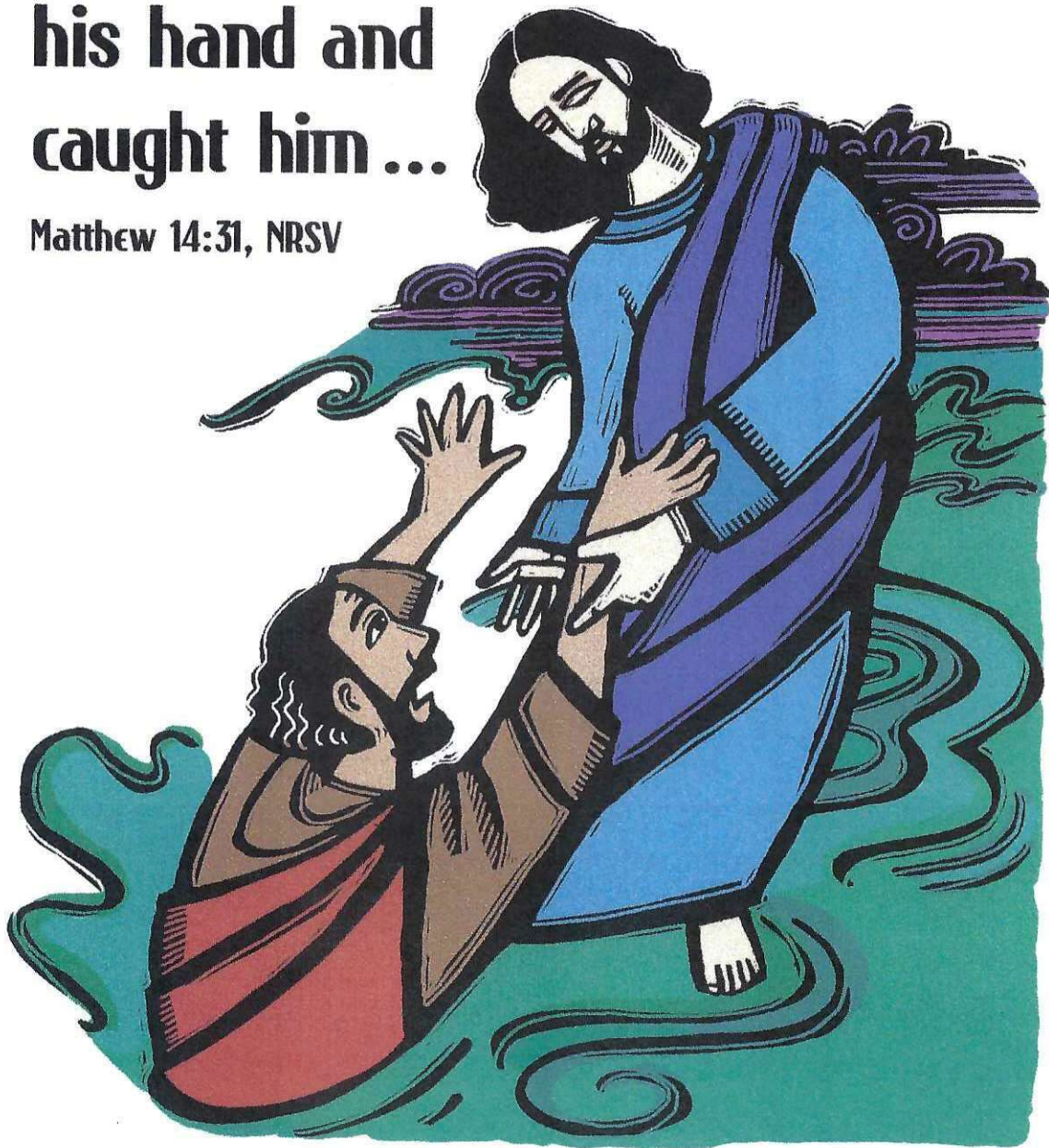


Christ Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
Hillsboro, Texas

**Jesus immediately reached out
his hand and
caught him ...**

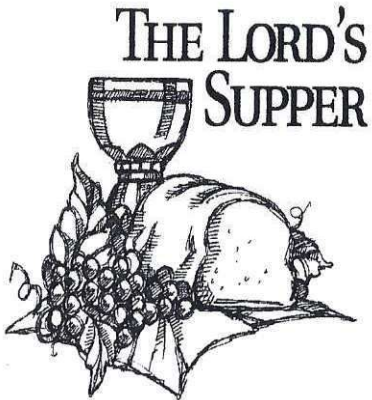
Matthew 14:31, NRSV



11th Sunday after Pentecost
THE HAND OF THE LORD IN THE STORMS OF LIFE
August 9, 2026

TODAY'S MESSAGE: THE HAND OF THE LORD IN THE STORMS OF LIFE

Today's message from God's Word is about keeping our eyes, our mind and our heart on Jesus at all times and in all circumstances. Peter kept his eyes on Jesus as he walked on the water. When Peter looked away from Jesus, he began to sink into the water, but he looked to Jesus again and cried out to Him for help. And then, after returning to the boat, Peter and the other disciples kept their eyes on Jesus as they worshiped Him. When, by faith, we keep our eyes, our mind and our heart on Jesus (that is, as we continue to hear His words, receive His forgiveness and worship Him), then we can be certain that He will lead us (and already is leading us) through the storms of this life and into the eternal peace and calm of heaven.



In the Lord's Supper, Jesus gives us His body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins. The Lord's Supper is also a very sacred and intimate proclamation of fellowship among those who confess the same faith (doctrine, teachings) concerning God's Word and the Gospel of His Son Jesus Christ. Therefore, we practice close communion and ask that those who are not confirmed members of an LC-MS congregation receive instruction prior to receiving the Lord's Supper.

Whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself.

1 Corinthians 11:27-29

Before receiving the Lord's Supper, we need to examine ourselves in the following way:

(1) Am I truly repentant (sorry) for all of my sins and do I truthfully desire to change my sinful life? (2) Do I believe that Jesus is my Lord and Savior and that in the Lord's Supper I receive His body and His blood for the forgiveness of all my sins? And (3) Have I been instructed in the Scriptures and have I publicly confessed my belief that the teachings of this church and the LC-MS are faithful to God's Word and the Gospel of His Son Jesus Christ?

If you have questions about what God's Word says concerning the Lord's Supper, please speak with the pastor and/or pick up our brochure titled "Fellowship in the Lord's Supper".

Those not confirmed are welcome to come to the altar, keep your hands down and folded and receive a blessing. For those who will be communing: **Non-alcoholic** wine is located in the center of each tray for those who have concerns with alcohol. We offer the **chalice** as well as individual cups. If you desire the chalice, do not take an individual cup from the tray and the pastor will serve you from the chalice. Christ is present in both to grant you forgiveness.

✚ ORDER OF SERVICE WITH COMMUNION

[“Divine Service: Setting Three” from LSB p.184]

Please silence – or turn off – your phones and refrain from using them during the service.

Welcome

Announcements

Opening Hymn

“Draw Us to Thee”

LSB 701

**Draw us to Thee, for then shall we, walk in Thy steps forever,
And hasten on, where Thou art gone, to be with Thee dear Savior.**

**Draw us to Thee, Lord, lovingly. Let us depart with gladness.
That we may be, forever free, from sorrow, grief and sadness.**

**Draw us to Thee, O grant that we, may walk the road to heaven!
Direct our way, lest we should stray, and from Thy paths be driven.**

**Draw us to Thee, that also we, Thy heav’nly bliss inherit,
And ever dwell, where sin and hell, no more can vex our spirit.**

**Draw us to Thee, unceasingly, into Thy kingdom take us.
Let us fore’er, Thy glory share, Thy saints and joint heirs make us.**

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b

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

C: *(sung)* **A - - - men**

Confession of Sins

Hebrews 10:22; 1 John 1:8-9

P: Beloved in the Lord. Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, imploring him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

Psalms 124:8

C: *(sung)* **Who made heaven and earth.**

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.
C: *(sung)* **And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.**

Psalm 32:5

ALL: O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended you and justly deserved your punishment now and forever. 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.

P: Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to 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.

John 20:19-23

C: *(sung)* **A - - - men.**

Entrance Psalm [ESV]

Psalm 18:1-19

P: I love you, O LORD, my strength.

C: **The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.**

P: I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies.

C: **The cords of death encompassed me; the torrents of destruction assailed me; the cords of the grave entangled me; the snares of death confronted me.**

P: In my distress I called upon the LORD; to my God I cried for help.

C: **From his temple he heard my voice, and my cry to him reached his ears.**

P: Then the earth reeled and rocked; the foundations also of the mountains trembled and quaked, because he was angry.

C: **Smoke went up from his nostrils, and devouring fire from his mouth; glowing coals flamed forth from him.**

P: He bowed the heavens and came down; thick darkness was under his feet.

C: **He rode on a cherub and flew; he came swiftly on the wings of the wind.**

P: He made darkness his covering, his canopy around him, thick clouds dark with water.

C: **Out of the brightness before him hailstones and coals of fire broke through his clouds.**

- P: The LORD also thundered in the heavens, and the Most High uttered his voice,
hailstones and coals of fire.
- C: **And he sent out his arrows and scattered them; he flashed forth lightnings and
routed them.**
- P: Then the channels of the sea were seen, and the foundations of the world were laid
bare at your rebuke, O LORD, at the blast of the breath of your nostrils.
- C: **He sent from on high, he took me; he drew me out of many waters.**
- P: He rescued me from my strong enemy and from those who hated me, for they were
too mighty for me.
- C: **They confronted me in the day of my calamity, but the LORD was my support.
He brought me out into a broad place; he rescued me, because he delighted in me.**
- ALL: **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.**

Hymn of Praise

"Thy Word is a Lamp"

[LSB 973]

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. (2X)

**When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way, still you're there right beside me.
And nothing will I fear as long as you are near. Please be near me to the end.**

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. (2X)

**I will not forget, your love for me and yet, my heart forever is wandering.
Jesus, be my guide and hold me to your side, and I will love you to the end.**

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. (2X)

Opening Prayer

P: Let us pray.

ALL: **Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, who walked the mountaintops and the cresting
waves, stay by our side in sunshine and in storm, and help us to walk and even
run in faith with our eyes fixed on you; for you live and reign with the Father
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind and said: "Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Dress for action like a man; I will question you and you make it known to me. Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements – surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone, when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy? Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb, when I made clouds its garment and thick darkness its swaddling band, and prescribed limits for it and set bars and doors, and said, 'Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stayed'?"

"Have you commanded the morning since your days began, and caused the dawn to know its place, that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth, and the wicked be shaken out of it? It is changed like clay under the seal, and its features stand out like a garment. From the wicked their light is withheld, and their uplifted arm is broken. Have you entered into the springs of the sea, or walked in the recesses of the deep? Have the gates of death been revealed to you, or have you seen the gates of deep darkness? Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth? Declare, if you know all this."

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Your Word (O Lord) is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.** Psalm 119:105

Epistle Reading [ESV]

Hebrews 12:1-3

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.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Your Word (O Lord) is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.** Psalm 119:105

Gospel Reading [ESV]

Matthew 14:22-33

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 14th chapter.

C: *(sung)* **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."

And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: *(sung)* Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Children's Message

Sermon Hymn

"Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me"

LSB 722

**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.**

**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, in peace I go.**

**Lord, when the shadows lengthen, and night has come,
I know that You will strengthen, my steps toward home.
Then nothing can impede me, O blessed Friend.
So take my hand and lead me, unto the end.**

Sermon

THE HAND OF THE LORD IN THE STORMS OF LIFE

Confession of Faith

Apostles' Creed

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.

Offertory *(sung)*

Psalm 51:10-12

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.

Offering *(Greet those seated near you. You may say, "The peace of the Lord be with you.")*

[If you are a guest, please feel under no obligation to give anything, but receive this worship service as our gift to you. For the members and friends of this congregation, our mission and ministry is dependent upon your generous giving, a significant act of our worship.]

Offering Prayer

[LSB 781 (v.1-2)]

P: We give Thee but Thine own, whatever the gift may be. All that we have is Thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from Thee.

C: May we Thy bounties thus, as stewards true receive. And gladly, as Thou blessest us, to Thee our first-fruits give! Amen.

Prayers

✠ THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION ✠

VISITORS and MEMBERS

Please read the message inside the first page of this bulletin re: participation in the Lord's Supper.

P: The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C: *(sung)* And with thy spirit.

P: Lift up your hearts.

Colossians 3:1

C: *(sung)* **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

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

Psalms 136

C: *(sung)* **It is good and right so to do.**

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, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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 *(sung)*

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

**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

Matthew 6:9-13

**ALL: 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.**

Words of Our Lord

Mt. 26:26-28; Mk. 14:22-24; Lk. 22:19-20; 1 Cor. 11:23-25

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 A 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 is my A blood of the new testament, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

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

John 20:19

C: *(sung)* **A - - - - men.**

Agnus Dei (*sung*)

John 1:29

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.... A - - - - men.

Distribution Hymns

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

LSB 702

**My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine.
Now hear my while I pray. Take all my guilt away.
O let me from this day, be wholly Thine!**

**May Thy rich grace impart, strength to my fainting heart. My zeal inspire!
As Thou hast died for me, Oh, may my love to Thee,
Pure, warm and changeless be, a living fire!**

**While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs around me spread, be Thou my guide.
Bid darkness turn to day. Wipe sorrow's tears away.
Nor let me ever stray, from Thee aside.**

**When ends life's transient dream, when death's cold sullen stream, shall o'er me roll
Blest Savior, then in love, fear and distrust remove.
O bear me safe above, a ransomed soul!**

"I am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus"

LSB 729

**I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus, trusting only Thee.
Trusting Thee for full salvation, great and free.**

**I am trusting Thee for pardon, at Thy feet I bow.
For Thy grace and tender mercy, trusting now.**

**I am trusting Thee for cleansing, in the crimson flood.
Trusting Thee to make me holy, by Thy blood.**

**I am trusting Thee to guide me. Thou alone shalt lead.
Ev'ry day and hour supplying, all my need.**

**I am trusting Thee for power. Thine can never fail.
Words which Thou Thyself shalt give me, must prevail.**

**I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus. Never let me fall.
I am trusting Thee forever, and for all.**

"Jesus, Lead Thou On"

LSB 718

**Jesus, lead Thou on, till our rest is won.
And although the way be cheerless, we will follow calm and fearless.
Guide us by Thy hand, to our fatherland.**

**If the way be drear, if the foe be near,
Let not faithless fears o'er take us. Let not faith and hope forsake us.
For through many a woe, to our home we go.**

**When we seek relief, from a long felt grief,
When temptations come alluring, make us patient and enduring.
Show us that bright shore, where we weep no more.**

**Jesus, lead Thou on, till our rest is won.
Heav'nly leader, still direct us, still support, console, protect us,
Till we safely stand, in our fatherland.**

"Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"

LSB 685

**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.**

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.

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.

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.

Nunc Dimittis (*sung*)

Luke 2:29-32

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.

P: Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.

Psalms 107:1

C: (*sung*) And His mercy endureth forever.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

ALL: 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. Amen.

P: The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C: (*sung*) And with thy spirit.

P: Bless we the Lord.
C: *(sung)* **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 103:1

Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
C: *(sung)* **A - men, A - men, A - - men.**

Closing Hymn

“Christ be My Leader”

LSB 861

**Christ be my Leader by night as by day,
Safe through the darkness, for He is the way.
Gladly I follow, my future His care.
Darkness is daylight when Jesus is there.**

**Christ be my Teacher in age as in youth,
Drifting or doubting, for He is the truth.
Grant me to trust Him, though shifting as sand,
Doubt cannot daunt me, in Jesus I stand.**

**Christ be my Savior in calm as in strife.
Death cannot hold me, for He is the life.
Nor darkness nor doubting nor sin and its stain,
Can touch my salvation. With Jesus I reign.**